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Subject: How to look up the directory tree for calling external DLLs?

Posted by [James\[2\]](#) on Wed, 02 Mar 2011 01:56:56 GMT

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I have some IDL functions that call external C programs. My compiled C DLLs are located in a different folder from the IDL programs, in the same parent directory but several folders deep. For example, the DLL is located in /Project/Cutils/ProgName/Bin/ while the IDL function that calls it is in /Project/Toolbox/.

I would like the IDL file to be able to reach the DLL file and call it, even if the parent directory gets moved around, copied to a different machine, etc.

I was hoping I could just do this by creating a file path string with ../ in it to go up the directory tree: for this example, ../Cutils/ProgName/Bin. But this is not working for me. CALL\_EXTERNAL says "The specified module could not be found."

Does anyone know how to solve this problem? I messed around with FILE\_SEARCH and FILEPATH a bit, but they have not helped so far. FILE\_SEARCH has a and FILEPATH only works for files that are within the IDL root folder.

Thanks,  
James

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