
Subject: Re: Postscript settings

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Fri, 19 Aug 2011 18:18:28 GMT

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A possible problem with switching from vector to postscript fonts is if you are using the CHARTHICK keyword. I don't know if this is a long-standing IDL bug, or a long-standing problem with the documentation. The V8.1 documentation about scalable hardware fonts (e.g. the XYOUTS help) reads as follows:

"One example of hardware fonts which can be scaled are PostScript fonts. If you are using PostScript fonts, the keywords CHARTHICK and CHARSIZE will have an effect on a call to XYOUTS. Of the devices we provide that support hardware fonts, only the PostScript device uses scalable PostScript fonts for its "hardware" font system. All other devices use a bitmapped font technology."

In reality, IDL ignores the CHARTHICK keyword for postscript fonts. The CHARSIZE keyword *does* work under postscript with proportional scaling (so the thickness is also increased).

To summarize, the documentation should read:

"With postscript fonts, the CHARSIZE keyword will proportionately scale the characters (including the thickness). The CHARTHICK keyword is ignored."

--Wayne
