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Subject: Re: Can one close only one of STDIN and STDOUT when using SPAWN with the UNIT keyword?

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 27 Mar 2013 19:02:08 GMT

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On Tuesday, March 26, 2013 6:30:04 PM UTC-4, Tom Grydeland wrote:

> Hi all,

>

> Some commands only produce output after all of the input has been consumed. For such a command, the usual approach when given input and output streams is to open both, feed the process all its input, close the input stream and then read the result on the output stream.

>

> In IDL, when using SPAWN with the UNIT keyword, one file unit is supposed to be used for both directions. Is it possible to do the above from IDL?

This is the standard race condition that exists for bidirectional pipes. I don't think you can work around it with IDL. You might be better off redirecting the output of your program to a file, and then reading the file when the SPAWN'd process is complete.

Craig

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