
Subject: Using LINKIMAGE with IDL 4.0.1 runtime license
Posted by [Karl Krieger](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 1997 07:00:00 GMT
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The subject says it all. Has anybody successfully used LINKIMAGE with a runtime license? I have no problems to link external routines with the full version of IDL.

If I start the respective program with the runtime version of IDL (version 4.0.1 BTW), it complains that the routines are not available so I guess LINKIMAGE does not what it's supposed to do.

I suspect that it has to do with the different calling procedures for full version and runtime version.

In the full version, I start my program with

```
"idl startscript"
```

where startscript contains the IDL commands to start the precompiled program:

```
linkimage, ...  
restore,"program.sav"  
start_prog
```

For the runtime version, this is not possible. In that case you have to include a "main" procedure in the program save file, which is used by the runtime version to start the program (idl -rt="program.sav"):

```
PRO main  
linkimage, ...  
start_prog  
END
```

The natural way to access the external routines in this case is to include the linkimage calls in the "main" routine.

Unfortunately, this doesn't work with the runtime version of IDL and neither with the full version.

Apparently linkimage has to be used from the top level command line and can't be used in subroutines. Any idea how to circumvent this with IDL runtime?

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