
Subject: Re: DLL Interfacing; MOMENT comments
Posted by [wbiagiot](#) on Thu, 02 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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In article <MPG.12afa8d9d262cda99899ac@news.frii.com>,
davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) wrote:

> Uh, no. I was waiting for you to send me the notes, Bill,
> so I could include it in the new 2000 update. :-)
>

So that's the trick to being a consultant!

--
"They don't think it be like it is, but it do."

Oscar Gamble, NY Yankees

Sent via Deja.com <http://www.deja.com/>
Before you buy.

Subject: Re: DLL Interfacing; MOMENT comments
Posted by [justin_ashmall](#) on Fri, 03 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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[posted and mailed]

You don't need any extra layer to call the functions in a DLL from Windows IDL, just use `call_external`. The following is the IDL code to call a function in a dll I wrote to play .wav files (seems IDL 5.3 does that now.):

```
dll='D:\Test Code\Play_Sound.dll'  
wav_file = 'C:\test.wav'  
result=call_external (dll, '?Play_Sound@@YAHHQAPAX@Z', wav_file, /ALL_VALUE)
```

The `/ALL_VALUE` switch is needed since I'm passing a string. Depending on the types of data you're sending and whether you're passing by value or reference you'll want to check the documentation. If it makes no sense send me some more details and I'll point you in the right direction.

Note the strange name of the function in the DLL, `'?Play_Sound@@YAHHQAPAX@Z'`. The function names get 'decorated' when they are exported in a DLL (in my code it was originally just called `'Play_Sound'`). This isn't the case if you use a .DEF file when compiling the DLL, but here I didn't bother. You can find out the names of the

functions in a DLL (whether decorated or not) by 'Quick-View'ing the DLL (right-click on the file and select Quick-View) - you may have to look through a few pages.

Hope this helps,

Justin

wbiagiot@suffolk.lib.ny.us wrote in <824qn2\$g8q\$1@nnrp1.deja.com>:

> Hi Fellow IDLers,

>

> I've been working concurrently with IDL, MS C, and the National

> Instruments VISA library for awhile now. It never occurred to me until

> now to ask if anyone has interfaced IDL with NI-VISA. The task actually

> boils down to the topic that I've been avoiding learning due to my

> current workload - having IDL utilize an external predefined DLL. I'm

> suspecting that there needs to be an intermediate layer between the two

> - something of the 'DLM' form. If anyone can advise, please do.
