
Subject: Re: launching web browser?

Posted by [Mark Guagenti](#) on Fri, 21 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

All I know is that the default browser is stored in the registry in windows systems. So you would have to call in external program that reads that value from the registry and then executes that value.

Well that my 2 cents,
Mark

On Thu, 20 Jul
2000, tb wrote:

> Anybody got a good solution of how to launch the system default
> web browser? Just doing
>
> spawn, "iexplore.exe"
> or
> spawn, "netscape.exe"
>
> is no good because I don't know if that's their browser, or even
> if those are loaded on the system. They may use some other browser that
> I'm not aware of.
>
> Or.. launch *any* (non-shell, i.e. windowing) app, e.g. Excel.
>
> Sooo.. any suggestions?
>
> thanks
> t
>
>
>

-- Mark

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
1 Cor. 1:3

Subject: Re: launching web browser?

Posted by [Mark Rivers](#) on Sat, 22 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

tb wrote in message <8l7cql\$fsi\$1@ra.nrl.navy.mil>...

> Anybody got a good solution of how to launch the system default

> web browser? Just doing
>
> spawn, "iexplore.exe"
> or
> spawn, "netscape.exe"
>
> is no good because I don't know if that's their browser, or even
> if those are loaded on the system. They may use some other browser that
> I'm not aware of.
>
> Or.. launch *any* (non-shell, i.e. windowing) app, e.g. Excel.

You spawn the command
"start <URL>" where <URL> is the Web page you want to display.
This is actually quite simple and elegant.
- The start command makes it run in the "background" so that IDL does not wait for the browser to exit
- It launches whatever application is associated with URLs, i.e. the default browser. Note that the browser must be correctly installed for this to work.
- If there is already a browser running it displays the page on that running browser. If there is not already a browser running it will start a new one.
for example:
spawn("start http://cars.uchicago.edu/software/mca.html")

Mark Rivers
