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Subject: Re: write unix textfile with windows idl

Posted by [Norbert Hahn](#) on Wed, 21 Jan 2004 16:56:32 GMT

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Klemens Barfus <klemens.barfus@forst.tu-dresden.de> wrote:

> Hello together,  
> it seems to be a quite easy problem but I would like to write unix text  
> files with idl operating under windows.

HM, I played a little and came up with some text the online help:

"The Windows-Only keywords BINARY and NOAUTOMODE are now obsolete. Input/Output on Windows is now handled indentially to Unix, and does not require you to be concerned about the difference between "text" and "binary" modes. These keywords are still accepted for backwards compatibility, but are ignored."

Those keywords are ignored causing lines written with the printf command are terminated by carriage return and line feed when Windows is the OS and line feed only for Unix. Thus "handled indentially to Unix" is at least hard to understand.

>  
> How can I manage these ?

A work-around is to use writeu in stead of printf and use the string procedure to format the text, i.e. to write some text and a number, the following code works

```
writeu, 1, String( "Hello word, the year is", 2004), 10B
```

but looks ugly. Any other ideas?

Norbert

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Subject: Re: write unix textfile with windows idl

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Wed, 21 Jan 2004 18:31:02 GMT

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> A work-around is to use writeu in stead of printf and use the string  
> procedure to format the text, i.e. to write some text and a number, the  
> following code works  
>  
> writeu, 1, String( "Hello word, the year is", 2004), 10B  
>  
> but looks ugly. Any other ideas?

You can use the format keyword of the string function to add a C-style control character to the string. For UNIX, just add \n (newline) to the end of your string. For Windows, add \r\n (carriage return and newline).

```
; UNIX version
writeu, 1, string('Hello World', format = '("%"%"s\n")')
```

```
; Windows version
writeu, 1, string('Hello World', format = '("%"%"s\r\n")')
```

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Subject: Re: write unix textfile with windows idl  
Posted by [Klemens Barfus](#) on Thu, 22 Jan 2004 07:54:01 GMT  
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OK, I will try your suggestions.  
Thanks for your help !

Klemens

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Subject: Re: write unix textfile with windows idl  
Posted by [Klemens Barfus](#) on Thu, 22 Jan 2004 09:09:17 GMT  
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Hi Michael,  
testing your code I got:

```
% "(%"%"s\n")"
% ^
% Unexpected text in format.
```

I am not familiar with C-style format code, any suggestions ?

Thanks in advance !

Klemens

Michael Wallace wrote:

```
>> A work-around is to use writeu in stead of printf and use the string
>> procedure to format the text, i.e. to write some text and a number, the
>> following code works
>>
```

```
>> writeu, 1, String( "Hello word, the year is", 2004), 10B
>>
>> but looks ugly. Any other ideas?
>
>
>
> You can use the format keyword of the string function to add a C-style
> control character to the string. For UNIX, just add \n (newline) to the
> end of your string. For Windows, add \r\n (carriage return and newline).
>
> ; UNIX version
> writeu, 1, string('Hello World', format = '("%"%"s\n")')
>
> ; Windows version
> writeu, 1, string('Hello World', format = '("%"%"s\r\n")')
>
```

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Subject: Re: write unix textfile with windows idl  
Posted by [Pepijn Kenter](#) on Thu, 22 Jan 2004 09:53:46 GMT  
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Klemens Barfus wrote:

```
> Hi Michael,
> testing your code I got:
>
> % "(%"%"s\n")"
> % ^
> % Unexpected text in format.
>
```

Because you want a string with quotes in it, you must use single and double quotes mixed:

```
'("%"%"s\n")'
```

Pepijn.

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Subject: Re: write unix textfile with windows idl  
Posted by [Klemens Barfus](#) on Thu, 22 Jan 2004 10:00:59 GMT  
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Thanks, but I got the answer now - I am using an old version of IDL, which does not support c-style format :-(

Klemens

Pepijn Kenter wrote:

```
>
>
> Klemens Barfus wrote:
>
>> Hi Michael,
>> testing your code I got:
>>
>> % "(%"%s\n)"
>> % ^
>> % Unexpected text in format.
>>
>
> Because you want a string with quotes in it, you must use single and
> double quotes mixed:
>
> '("%"%"%s\n")'
>
> Pepijn.
>
```

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Subject: Re: write unix textfile with windows idl  
Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Thu, 22 Jan 2004 17:11:52 GMT  
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```
> % "(%"%s\n)"
> % ^
> % Unexpected text in format.
>
> I am not familiar with C-style format code, any suggestions ?
>
```

Here's a techtip explaining the basics of how to use C printf-style  
escape sequences: <http://www.rsinc.com/services/techtip.asp?ttid=3616>

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Subject: Re: write unix textfile with windows idl  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 22 Jan 2004 18:08:13 GMT  
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Michael Wallace writes:

> Here's a techtip explaining the basics of how to use C printf-style  
> escape sequences: <http://www.rsinc.com/services/techtip.asp?ttid=3616>

The tip reads:

```
IDL> PRINT,'I','like','Interactive','Data','Language', $  
      FORMAT='(% "%s %s\t%1s",a1,a1)'
```

Which results in the following output:

I like IDL

IDL is getting like Microsoft, doing all the thinking  
for you. How did it know I wanted to abbreviate "Interactive  
Data Language" to IDL!? Amazing. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: [david@dfanning.com](mailto:david@dfanning.com)  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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Subject: Re: write unix textfile with windows idl  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 22 Jan 2004 18:16:42 GMT  
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David Fanning writes:

> IDL is getting like Microsoft, doing all the thinking  
> for you. How did it know I wanted to abbreviate "Interactive  
> Data Language" to IDL!? Amazing. :-)

What's really amazing is how much faster my mouth works  
than my brain. :-)

On re-reading the tip, I find I am really, REALLY  
impressed with C style formatting. I've got to start  
brushing up on that language....

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say REGEX is on my list.

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

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