
Subject: Re: copying text to the system clipboard
Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Sun, 20 Feb 2005 20:49:39 GMT
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Benjamin Hornberger wrote:

- > is it possible to copy text from an IDL variable to the system
- > clipboard? Specifically, I would like to copy a string array into a
- > multi-line text which can be pasted into Notepad or wherever.
- >
- > I found David's 'clipboard' routine, which does it for graphics windows.

To the best of my knowledge there is no way to copy text to the clipboard directly from an IDL program. (Obviously the IDLDE command line and console window can communicate with the clipboard, but these can't be accessed from a program.)

Over the years, I have employed helper applications written in other programming languages for this purpose. My first one, as I recall, involved a helper application written in Visual Basic with data transferred by DDE. But that was a long time ago...

I think your best bet is to write your string array to a temporary file, then open that file in your text editor with a call to SPAWN. From there you can copy and paste to your heart's content.

I have some code lying around that does this. It's not robust or versatile enough for general release, but I could send you a copy. But it's not too hard to write your own...

--

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Subject: Re: copying text to the system clipboard
Posted by [Ken Mankoff](#) on Sun, 20 Feb 2005 21:23:57 GMT
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On Mon, 21 Feb 2005, Mark Hadfield wrote:

- > Benjamin Hornberger wrote:
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- > SPAWN. From there you can copy and paste to your heart's content.

Yes on OS X. Use the pbcopy & pbpaste system utilities. You can either open a pipe and write directly to them, or write to a tmp file as suggested above and then spawn another command piping/cat-ing the tmp file to pbcopy.

I would guess Linux has similar command line interface to the clipboard. I don't know about Win.

-k.
