
Subject: Create iTool save file programmatically

Posted by [Kenneth Bowman](#) on Tue, 04 Dec 2007 14:48:39 GMT

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I am trying to set up a program to generate some 3-D visualizations automatically. I can save images of the iTool contents, but I would also like to generate iTool save files (.isv) to put on a web page so that people can download the isv files and view and manipulate them in all of their 3-D glory.

It seems there are at least two ways to do this. The first is to use the aptly named IDLitWriteISV. (Not sure if I have all the caps right on the that one. :-))

My problem is that I cannot find a single example of how to *use* an IDLitWriter, although there are many pages in the docs about how to *write* an IDLitWriter. If I knew enough to actually write OO programs, I could probably figure it out from the IDLitWriteISV source code, but there are no examples (or even variable definitions) in the source code, so I am at a loss.

If anyone can enlighten me on this option, I would appreciate it. This is probably a one-line thing that will make me feel stupid (or at least ignorant).

The other alternative is to use the "Save As" command built into the iTool. I can almost do what I want with code like this

```
save_as_op_id = itool_obj -> FindIdentifiers('*SAVEAS*', /OPERATIONS) ;Get Save As operator
identifier
save_as_op_obj = itool_obj -> GetByIdentifier(save_as_op_id)           ;Get Save As operator
object reference
save_as_op_obj -> SetProperty, SHOW_EXECUTION_UI = 0, $                ;Turn off Save As
operator user interface
FILENAME = isvfile ;Set ISV output file name
rc = itool_obj -> DoAction(save_as_op_id) ;Save ISV file
```

But this still requires me to click the OK button in the dialog box. (I'm not sure why the dialog box is showing up with SHOW_EXECUTION_ID set to zero, but there you go.) As with most of the iTools, I can never figure out where to find information about the myriad of interconnected objects that comprise an iTool.

So option one seems to be the simpler, but I'll take anything that works.

BTW, I am running IDL 6.4. Is the iTool documentation any better in 7.0?

Thanks for any help,

Ken Bowman
