
Subject: Re: IDL PostScript Landscape Mode (Not!) Fixed
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 07 Aug 2009 04:36:05 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

- > I have been able to write an IDL
- > program, named FixPS, that appears to fix IDL PostScript
- > Landscape mode output and rearrange it so it is
- > right-side up, finally!
- >
- > I'll have an article written soon that will provide
- > all of the details. But for the moment, you might want
- > to test this program with your landscape files. I
- > imagine it won't be as simple as we all hope it will be,
- > and the program will have to be tweaked a little. You
- > can find the file here:
- >
- > <http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fixps.pro>

The new article that describes the details of how to modify your IDL PostScript landscape file to allow a PostScript viewer to view the file right-side-up can be found here:

http://www.dfanning.com/ps_tips/landscapeup.html

I have made a few significant changes in the FixPS file already. Among them are these. (1) If an output filename is not provided, the input PostScript file is modified in place. (2) The program checks for non-landscape mode files and files that have already been modified, and leaves these files untouched.

You can find the file that implements the changes to the file here:

<http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fixps.pro>

I have re-written parts of the code to eliminate any dependence on the Coyote Library. I thought this might make the file more useful to a larger audience.

At the moment, the program will only work with single page landscape output. Perhaps if there is need, I will upgrade it to multiple page landscape output as well.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: IDL PostScript Landscape Mode (Not!) Fixed

Posted by [MarioIncandenza](#) on Fri, 07 Aug 2009 15:33:42 GMT

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On Aug 6, 9:36 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> David Fanning writes:

>> I have been able to write an IDL

>> program, named FixPS, that appears to fix IDL PostScript

>> Landscape mode output and rearrange it so it is

>> right-side up, finally!

When I started working with PS output, I took the advice to always use /ENCAPSULATED and never both with the landscape/portrait fiasco. I had actually assumed that advice came from David. Maybe it did!

Is there some case where you cannot use /ENCAPSULATED ?

Subject: Re: IDL PostScript Landscape Mode (Not!) Fixed

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Fri, 07 Aug 2009 18:15:35 GMT

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On Aug 7, 11:33 am, Edward Hyer <ejh...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Aug 6, 9:36 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

>

>> David Fanning writes:

>>> I have been able to write an IDL

>>> program, named FixPS, that appears to fix IDL PostScript

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> had actually assumed that advice came from David. Maybe it did!

>

> Is there some case where you cannot use /ENCAPSULATED ?

/ENCAPSULATED works pretty well except for one annoying thing: it doesn't place the Postscript 'showpage' command, so you can't actually print the resulting .eps file. While it might have been the case that in the stone ages, you weren't allowed to put 'showpage' in an encapsulated PS file, that requirement hasn't existed for ~10-15 years.

Craig

Subject: Re: IDL PostScript Landscape Mode (Not!) Fixed
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 09 Aug 2009 13:34:20 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

- > At the moment, the program will only work with single
- > page landscape output. Perhaps if there is need, I will
- > upgrade it to multiple page landscape output as well.

The FixPS program will now support multiple page landscape output, fixing all of the landscape pages in the file.

Also, the program is now compatible with other PostScript utilities in the Coyote Library, which means in addition to US letter and European A4 page sizes, it now support US legal and ledger page sizes as well. Because it *is* compatible, if you use PS_Start and PS_End to configure and close the PostScript device, then PostScript landscape mode output is fixed automatically for you. You never have to think about this again. (Except, of course, when ITTVIS gets around to fixing the underlying problem. But I wouldn't hold my breath.)

Making everything compatible involved small changes to a number of files, listed here:

http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fsc_ps_setup__define.pro
http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fsc_psconfig__define.pro
<http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fixps.pro>
http://www.dfanning.com/programs/ps_start.pro
http://www.dfanning.com/programs/ps_end.pro

You can find all five of these PostScript utility files, as well as a number of other Coyote Library files required to run them, in this zip file:

http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fsc_psconfig.zip

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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