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Subject: Running IDL daily as an automatic task

Posted by [cedgar3@alaska.edu](mailto:cedgar3@alaska.edu) on Wed, 27 Jun 2012 00:41:29 GMT

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Can't find much about this, perhaps someone can help. Have a few IDL procedures which need to run daily, feed to website. At one point there was a command line version for windows, what happened to it? I am now running IDL 8 on a Windows server 2008/R2 box, so can't implement some of the suggestions found on this forum, such as create a linux cron task. Rather not use the IDL 'wait' feature, would complicate other work. Many thanks!

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Subject: Re: Running IDL daily as an automatic task

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 17 Dec 2012 14:41:42 GMT

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greg.addr@gmail.com writes:

> I tried to do a similar thing, but using idlrt.exe with a compiled .sav file:  
>  
> idlrt.exe -rt=prog.sav  
>  
> It works fine from the windows command line, but if I set it to run when I'm not at the computer, it seems to change behaviour, producing a splash screen like the virtual machine. Of course, it gets stuck, because there's no-one to click it.  
>  
> Is it supposed to do this? Is there a way to run a .sav file using idl.exe?

The run-time version of IDL always displays a splash screen.  
There is no way around it, except to pay to remove it with  
a "development" license.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

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Subject: Re: Running IDL daily as an automatic task

Posted by [greg.addr](#) on Mon, 17 Dec 2012 16:09:30 GMT

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I have a development licence (at least, I think that's what I have!) So if I type that command at the windows command prompt, it runs fine with no splash. If I put the same command in the windows 'scheduled tasks' list, I come back in the morning to find the splash waiting on my desktop.

Maybe it has something to do with the owner of the process? When I run it myself, it's obviously mine. Perhaps as a scheduled task, it's a system user, and the licence doesn't like that?

I'm afraid it's probably something meaner than that, though. I discovered today that if I log in remotely (via RDP), I also can't run idl.exe from the command prompt. The licence seems to block anything running when I'm not physically at the computer (I have a MAC address-locked licence).

greg

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Subject: Re: Running IDL daily as an automatic task  
Posted by [Heinz Stege](#) on Mon, 17 Dec 2012 16:48:58 GMT  
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Hi Greg,

can you try

idlrt.exe prog.sav

instead of

idlrt.exe -rt=prog.sav

? (Insert pathes and double quotes as necessary.) This should start the runtime-mode instead of the virtual machine. The runtime-mode needs a license file, but doesn't popup a splash screen.

Cheers, Heinz

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Subject: Re: Running IDL daily as an automatic task  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 17 Dec 2012 17:00:58 GMT  
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greg.addr@gmail.com writes:

> I have a development licence (at least, I think that's what I have!)

Unless you paid about \$25K for it, it's doubtful. :-)

> So if I type that command at the windows command prompt, it runs fine  
> with no splash. If I put the same command in the windows 'scheduled  
> tasks' list, I come back in the morning to find the splash waiting  
> on my desktop.

I think Heinz is right. Your Windows version of IDL has

a run-time license built into it, so you can run IDL run-time files without a splash screen. But, anyone else running a run-time license will have to run it on the IDL Virtual Machine (which is also installed in a typical Windows install), which ALWAYS throws up a splash screen.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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Subject: Re: Running IDL daily as an automatic task  
Posted by [greg.addr](#) on Mon, 17 Dec 2012 17:59:44 GMT

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> Unless you paid about \$25K for it, it's doubtful. :-)

It was pretty expensive, but not *\*that\** expensive!

Well, how about that - removing the "-rt=" seems to have done the trick! I wasn't expecting that to work. Thanks very much, Heinz - I'm really happy about it!

Fortunately, this program is just for my use, so on this occasion I don't need to worry about flash screens elsewhere.

cheers,  
Greg