
Subject: Re: Printing within Windows environment
Posted by [Stubbe F. Hviid](#) on Wed, 19 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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William,

Try

```
copy <filename> <port> /b
```

where port is the printer port, i.e. LPT1: or
\\computer\shared_printer or ...

(replace computer and shared_printer with the names
found on your own local network)

Stubbe

William Thompson wrote in message <6ren47\$m40@post.gsfc.nasa.gov>...
>
> Folks:
>
> I know this question has been asked before, but how does one send a file to
the
> printer within IDL for Windows. In Unix, one would spawn the lpr command.
> I've tried spawning "PRINT <filename>", but that doesn't seem to work.
>
> Thank you,
>
> William Thompson

Subject: Re: Printing within Windows environment
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 20 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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Bill Thompson (thompson@orpheus.nascom.nasa.gov) writes:

> I know this question has been asked before, but how does one send a file to the
> printer within IDL for Windows. In Unix, one would spawn the lpr command.
> I've tried spawning "PRINT <filename>", but that doesn't seem to work.

Here is a little routine that I use to print PostScript files
from within IDL on my Windows NT machine. My printer is
attached directly to my computer. The command will have
to be different, probably, for networked printers.

The other day, however, I picked up a piece of freeware software called PrintFile from the Internet. It is great. Nice interface (drag and drop if you like), can print encapsulated PostScript files too, will work with networked printers as well as non-networked, etc. Unfortunately, the URL and other information is on my computer in the office and I am on the road teaching this week. I'll post the reference here when I get back to my office.

Cheers,

David

PRO PrintFile, filename

Catch, error

IF error NE 0 THEN BEGIN

 ok = Dialog_Message("Sorry. Problem printing file.")

 Catch, /Cancel

 RETURN

ENDIF

; Send a PostScript file to the printer.

IF N_Params() EQ 0 THEN BEGIN

 title = 'Open a file for PRINTING...'

 filter = '*.ps'

 filename = Dialog_Pickfile(Title=title, Filter=filter)

ENDIF

; Out of here if user canceled.

IF filename EQ " THEN RETURN

; Print it.

SPAWN, 'Copy ' + filename + ' LPT1'

END

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