
Subject: Re: Printing PS Files on Windows Machines
Posted by [Brad Gom](#) on Mon, 24 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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davidf7203@my-dejanews.com wrote:

> Hi Folks,
>
> I wanted to follow up on a discussion last week about
> printing PostScript files on Windows machines. Here is
> the URL to a small freeware utility program named
> PrintFile that I think is terrific. You can set it up
> to be a drag and drop operation, or you can simply
> Spawn the program from within IDL (use the "start"
> command if you are on Windows NT to avoid the program
> blocking the IDL command line).
>
> <http://hem1.passagen.se/ptlerup/prfile.html>
>
> The author of this program, Peter Lerup, also wrote
> the useful PS2EPS program for the Macintosh.
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>

This is a great program. I just hacked XWINDOW.PRO and PS_FORM.PRO a little bit to add print buttons which spawn PrintFile. PrintFile in turn spawns GhostScript and sends the converted file to a non PS printer. This lets me use all the great features of xwindow to create a predictable postscript file, as well as printing the file directly to a non postscript printer. This way I get an immediate hardcopy, and a saved file. I've never had reliable results with other ways of dumping a plot to a printer without alot of extra code in my plotting programs.

yippee.

Subject: Re: Printing PS Files on Windows Machines
Posted by [Stubbe Faurschou Hvii](#) on Tue, 25 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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Hi

If you simply want to dump a file to the printer (PS or otherwise) here is a small IDL program that does the job:
(without using the spawn procedure)

```
PRO print_file, filename, PORT=PORT
```

```
    if n_elements(PORT) eq 0 then PORT='lpt1'

    ; *** read file into buffer
    openr, unit_read, filename, /GET_LUN
    fs = fstat(unit_read)
    buffer=bytarr(fs.size)
    readu, unit_read, buffer
    close, unit_read, /all
    free_lun, unit_read

    print, 'sending ', fs.size, ' bytes to ', PORT

    ; *** write buffer to PORT
    openw, unit_write, PORT, /GET_LUN
    writeu, unit_write, buffer
    close, unit_write
    free_lun, unit_write
END
```

You set the print port using the keyword PORT='port name'. The default port is 'lpt1' but it can be set to anything.

Stubbe

davidf7203@my-dejanews.com wrote:

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>
> -----== Posted via Deja News, The Leader in Internet Discussion ==-----
> http://www.dejanews.com/rg_mkgrp.xp Create Your Own Free Member Forum
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