
Subject: Re: call_external with PASCAL calling convention
Posted by [Eddie Breeveld](#) on Fri, 02 Oct 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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Oops - error in the Reply-to field of my last message, and no signature either. sorry.
Eddie

--
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Subject: Re: call_external with PASCAL calling convention
Posted by [rivers](#) on Tue, 06 Oct 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <3614D696.8B3EDE4C@mssl.ucl.ac.uk>, "E. Breeveld" <erb@mssl.ucl.ac.uk> writes:

> Any call_external gurus out there?

>

> We have a windows DLL that interfaces with a PC card and
> we'd like it to be incorporated (via call_external) into IDL, but
> can't make it work. The equivalent C program does work however!
> We are using IDL Version 5.1 Win32 (x86) with windows 98.

...

> The test idl program is:

>

> card = 0b ; Byte
> basadd2 = 0 ; Int
> irq1 = 0b ; Byte
> ; test without cdecl
> result = call_external('7200.dll', 'W_7200_Initial', \$
> card, basadd2, irq1, val=[1, 0, 0])
> help, result, basadd2, irq1
> end

>

> The C program that works looks like:

>

> #include <windows.h>
> #include <stdio.h>
> #include "c:\7200\include\7200.h"

>

> unsigned char irq1;
> unsigned short base_address2;
> long status4;

>

> void main(void)

```
> {  
> status4 = W_7200_Initial(0, &base_address2, &irq1);  
> printf("Status= %ld\n"  
>      "Base Address= 0x%X\n"  
>      "IRQ= %d\n", status4, base_address2, irq1);  
> }
```

...

> We could write a C wrapper for 7200.dll, but this is messy. Is there
> any other solution, or is there a bug in IDL with the /cdecl switch?

The problem here is clear: you cannot call this function `W_7200_Initial` directly from IDL because it does not use the (argc, argv) argument passing mechanism which IDL uses with `CALL_EXTERNAL`. You must write a wrapper routine to convert IDL's (argc, argv) calling convention to the parameter list your function needs.

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