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Subject: Running IDL through CGI-Perl on the web (Win NT)

Posted by [mila](#) on Fri, 20 Nov 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Hello,

I need some help with a project where I am trying to run an IDL program (.exe file located on a WIN NT disk) through CGI-Perl. The perl program I wrote successfully calls the idelde.exe, or idlrt.exe or a .sav file and creates a .GIF file which is my objective; but when I call that perl program through a CGI form on the web, it does not run the IDL executable. The CGI form does indeed call the Perl correctly, as I can pass it some variables and it returns those, but seems to ignore and pass over the idelde.exe (or even .sav or idlrt.exe) file. Do you know how I can make the CGI run the .exe file? I know people have successfully run IDL from the web on Unix machines. The catch is I am doing this on Windows NT. Does anyone have any ideas on what the problem could be ?

The line I have in Perl (trial.pl) is something like:

```
open IDL, "c:\rsi\idl51\idlrt.exe @trial.sav ";  
close IDL;
```

The line in CGI form that calls the Perl program is:

```
<FORM ACTION="http://www.ssmi.com/cgi-bin/mila/trial.pl" METHOD="post">
```

Please let me know if you have any suggestions . I would really appreciate it! The main problem is Perl calls the program (IDL as well as others like say, paintshop.exe) through the DOS command line correctly (perl trial.pl\_, but when I call the same problem through CGI form, it runs the perl program but ignores the IDL executable program to be called.

Thanks in advance,  
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