

Macros

Can I submit DOS commands from SAS and see the results in the LOG?

One method for passing a DOS command to the host system is to use the PIPE option in a FILENAME.

A utility macro programme to issue a DOS Command might look like this:

```
%macro dos_cmd (cmd) ;
  %local f_ref rc rc2 cmd_scrape ;
  *** Generate a FILEREF using a DOS PIPE *** ;
  %let rc = %sysfunc (filename (f_ref, &cmd, pipe)) ;
  %if &rc = 0 %then
    %do ;
      *** Open the FILEREF using Sequential Access *** ;
      %let rc2 = %sysfunc (fopen (&f_ref, s)) ;
    %if &rc2 ne 0 %then
      %do ;
        *** Read a record from the FILEREF into a File Data Buffer *** ;
        %do %while(%sysfunc(fread(&rc2)) = 0) ;
          *** Copy data from the File Data Buffer into a variable, then write the line into the LOG *** ;
          %let rc3 = %qsysfunc(fget(&rc2,cmd_scrape,400)) ;
          %put &cmd_scrape ;
        %end ;
        *** Close the FILEREF *** ;
        %let rc2 = %sysfunc (fclose (&rc2)) ;
      %end ;
    %else
      %do ;
        %put ERROR: The Command could not be executed: %sysfunc(sysmsg()).
      ;
    %end ;
  *** De-assign the FILEREF *** ;
  %let rc = %sysfunc (filename (fileref)) ;
  %end ;
  %else
    %do ;
      %put ERROR: The Command Box could not be accessed. ;
    %end ;
  %mend dos_cmd;
```

Passing the DOS Command as a macro parameter may require Macro Quoting to mask special characters:

```
%dos_cmd(%nrstr(cd c:\ && dir /og))
```

Macros

This is a double, conditional command: firstly `cd c:\` causes the directory to change from the default to the C: Drive, a single `&` would then execute the next DOS Command, the double `&&` will only execute the next command on successful completion of the first. The second command `dir /og` lists the directory contents in alphabetical (O)rder (G)rouped by type.

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