

Java Sample Program

The Java sample program demonstrates bidirectional communication with a Boca printer through a Boca driver. We used the new drivers with the spooler and printer monitor in play. We developed, on a Windows 7 32 bit PC, the Java program using the IDE editor "Eclipse Luna", which is a free download. It is very similar to Eclipse running on MAC's with which we have some familiarity. We are sure that Java developers are familiar with this. This application demonstrates Open, Close, Write and Read as low level functions. From this, a full blown system can be written.

What we have provided here is a Java front end program, which makes calls to a C# DLL using a C++ wrapper. The C++ wrapper and the C# DLL applications should be invisible to the Java programmer. Both C projects were developed using Visual Studio 2010. We have included the source code for all three projects. The Java programmers will probably not need to modify either of the C projects. They should be able to concentrate on developing Java code that calls the C routines just as shown in my Java program.

Our Java sample program as currently written expects to find the files BocaWorld.dll and BocaBidi.net module in a folder named c:\boca\java. The zip file has the entire java folder zipped up in it. When you unzip it, extract everything to c:\boca. The java sub-folder will be created under c:\boca and populated with all three project folders, two test text files, two test bmp files, BocaWorld.dll and BocaBidi.net module.

When the end user opens the BidiSWT java project with Eclipse they will have access to the java code. Assuming they have a Boca printer and driver installed they should be able to run this application right out of the box. When started it will look like the picture below. The user needs to select a printer first and then write and/or read with the printer.

Folder names

BidiSWT - Java front end sample Project which performs high level functions (as shown below). BocaBidi - C# Project which performs all the low level bidi communication functions needed to write to the printer and read status back.

BocaWorld - C++ Wrapper Project which provides communication between the Java and C# projects.

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Our programmers have put massive amounts of in-line comments in the Java sample code to help the developers understand what they have done. Please have them read the comments in detail. There is a lot more information there that is not covered in this document.

We demonstrate how to write **strings** for FGL commands as well as how to write **byte arrays** for things like BMP or PCX image files. We demonstrate how to perform a **status read manually**. We also demonstrate how to start/stop a background read thread to **perform reads automatically**. All status read is nicely decrypted and displayed as strings in the editor console screen.