
PROGRAMCHAT

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DESCRIPTION

PROGRAMCHAT is a Lisp function that invokes a windowless Chat process to execute a single command line on a remote host. PROGRAMCHAT requests a *login* if one has not been made recently to the remote host. After execution of the command, a normal *logout* is performed, and the Chat connection is closed.

PROGRAMCHAT was written by Eric Schoen to allow initiation of remote computation from Lisp workstations. It works with both VMS and Unix operating systems on the remote host.

To use:

Load the module with:

```
(LOAD 'PROGRAMCHAT.LCOM)
```

Invoke the function with:

```
(PROGRAMCHAT hostname commandString windowFlg) [Function]
```

where

hostname is the network name of the remote host,

commandString is a string which is the exact format of the command to be run from the command line interpreter of a VAX/VMS host (or from the shell of a VAX/Unix host), and

windowFlg is a variable that, when T, opens a window and displays a log of data transferred between the PROGRAMCHAT process and the remote host. PROGRAMCHAT is normally invoked with *windowFlg* = NIL.

Warnings:

1. When loaded, PROGRAMCHAT resets the variable NETWORKLOGINFO.
2. PROGRAMCHAT provides no error handling. If the connection to the remote host is broken, no error message is returned.