

# Quotes and spaces within the AT command

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.cmdprompt.admin/2006-02/msg00093.html>

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I have a complex AT command I'd like to put on one line to avoid having to use a batch file.

For comparison, I have successfully scheduled the following:

```
AT 22:38 "c:\Program Files\Mozilla Firefox\Firefox.exe"  
http://bugzilla.mozilla.org/attachment.cgi?id=212413
```

But it turns out that before I invoke Firefox in this fashion I should temporarily set an environment variable:

```
SET MOZ_NO_REMOTE=1
```

Therefore, I believe I want something like (in the final version the /INTERACTIVE will be gone and the /K will become a /C):

```
AT 00:58 /INTERACTIVE %comspec% "/K SET MOZ_NO_REMOTE=1 && ""c:\Program  
Files\Mozilla Firefox\Firefox.exe"" -p system  
http://bugzilla.mozilla.org/attachment.cgi?id=212413
```

Unfortunately, when I type AT to see what I got, it is something like:

```
1 Today 12:58 AM  
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe "/K SET MOZ_NO_REMOTE=1 && "c:\Program"  
Files\Mozilla Firefox\Firefox.exe -p system  
http://bugzilla.mozilla.org/attachment.cgi?id=212413
```

So the whole process falls over because of that space in Program Files. I've tried varying the number of quotes and using ^ but I just haven't figured out the AT quoting mechanism. It would be great if someone could shore up my approach.

Thanks for any tips.  
Csaba Gabor from Vienna

Explanation of where this is coming from: I want to schedule Firefox (FF) hidden. I can do this if I schedule it via AT without the /INTERACTIVE switch, and in that case it runs as a separate (hidden) process with a User Name of SYSTEM. However, this only works per the

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top AT command if there are no instances of FF when the scheduled task runs. If there is already an FF instance, the scheduled task will hang.

The trick is to get FF to start up in a separate process without hanging, and that means with a distinct user profile (prefs.js file). That MOZ\_NO\_REMOTE environment variable needs to be set so that FF will utilize another profile (they (Mozilla) have a really bad way of doing this – they create a temporary physical file in the profile directory called parent.lock, so you must have that other profile in a separate directory). If the environment variable is not set and FF does start up a separate process, FF will hang.

Therefore, I figured to invoke %comspec%, have it set the environment variable (which would thus be temporary), and then have it invoke FF on a distinct profile (which I called 'system' and set up via the instructions at [http://the-edmeister.home.comcast.net/advice-html/simul-profiles\\_batch-file.html](http://the-edmeister.home.comcast.net/advice-html/simul-profiles_batch-file.html)). Unfortunately, I can't figure out how to preserve those quotes within the %comspec% argument. The explanation for what that first AT command is doing is at: [https://bugzilla.mozilla.org/show\\_bug.cgi?id=327849](https://bugzilla.mozilla.org/show_bug.cgi?id=327849)

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