

## ctools - Bug #358

### openSolaris does not accept -n option in echo command

07/21/2012 11:37 PM - Knödlseeder Jürgen

<b>Status:</b>	New	<b>Start date:</b>	07/21/2012
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assigned To:</b>	Knödlseeder Jürgen	<b>% Done:</b>	0%
<b>Category:</b>		<b>Estimated time:</b>	1.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>			

#### Description

On openSolaris, echo -n does not work. The echo command simply ignores the option and prints -n.

From the man file on openSolaris one reads:

Portable applications should not use -n (as the first argument) or escape sequences.

The printf(1) utility can be used portably to emulate any of the traditional behaviors of the echo utility as follows:

- o The Solaris 2.6 operating environment or compatible version's /usr/bin/echo is equivalent to:

```
printf "%b\n" "$**"
```

- o The /usr/ucb/echo is equivalent to:

```
if [ "X$1" = "X-n" ]
then
  shift
  printf "%s" "$**"
else
  printf "%s\n" "$**"
fi
```

New applications are encouraged to use printf instead of echo.

We should probably use printf instead of echo to get things working properly on openSolaris. Note that this is only cosmetics anyhow.