

# e-POSIX

The definitive and complete Eiffel to Standard C and POSIX 1003.1 binding

written by Berend de Boer

# Contents

1 1	Requirements and installation	1
1.1	Requirements	1
1.2	Compiling the C code	1
1.2.1	Compiling on Unix	1
1.2.2	Compiling on Windows	2
1.2.3	Library naming conventions	3
	Using e-POSIX	4
2.1	Using library.xace	4
2.2	Vendor specific notes	5
2.2.1	Gobo Eiffel	5
2.2.2	ISE Eiffel	5
2.2.3	SmartEiffel	5
2.3	Platform specific notes	6
2.3.1	Linux	6
2.3.2	FreeBSD	6
2.3.3	Cygwin	6
2.3.4	Solaris	6
2.3.5	Win32	6
	Design notes	7
3.1	Why an entire reimplementation?	7
3.2	Goals and guidelines	7
3.3	Class structure	8
3.4	Clients of this library	10
3.5	Forking	10
3.6	Books	12
4 ]	Layers	13
4.1	Layers architecture	13
4.2	Standard C	13
4.3	Windows	13
4.3.1	Writing portable programs	13
4.3.2	1 0 1 0	14
4.3.3		14
4.4	Introduction to the next chapters	16
	Working with memory	17
5.1	Introduction	17
5.2	Allocating memory	17
5.3	Allocating memory	18
5.4	Using shared memory	18
5.5	Memory maps	19

6	Working with files	21
6.1	Introduction	21
6.2	Standard C notes	21
6.3	Compatibility with Gobo	21
6.4	Working with streams	21
6.5	Working with streams using Standard C only	26
6.6	Working with file descriptors	27
6.7	Windows systems: binary mode versus text mode	30
7	Working with files: advanced topics	32
7.1	Redirecting stderr to stdout	32
7.2	Talking to your modem	32
7.3	Non-blocking I/O	34
7.4	Asynchronous I/O	34
8	Working with the file system	36
8.1	Portability	36
8.2	Standard C	36
8.3	POSIX	38
9	Working with processes	42
9.1	Introduction	42
9.2	Executing a child command	42
9.3	Reading stdout of a child process	42
9.4	Catching a signal with Standard C	45
9.5	Catching a signal with POSIX	46
9.6	General wait for child handler	47
9.7	Forking a child process	48
10	Querying the operating system	51
10.1	Current time	51
10.2	Accessing environment variables	52
10.3	Capabilities	53
11	Working with the network	54
11.1	MIME parsing	54
11.2	Sockets	54
11.3	Echo client	54
11.4	Echo client and server	56
12	Working with the network: advanced topics	59
12.1	Introduction	59
12.2	FTP client	59
12.3	HTTP client	60
12.4		61
12.5		65
12.6		66
12.7		67
12.7.	O -	67
12.7.		69
12.7.	.3 Sending both text and HTML email	70

12.7.4	Sending attachments	72
12.8	LDIF parser	73
13 W	Vriting daemons	74
13.1	Introduction	74
13.2	Windows	74
13.3	Creating a daemon	74
13.4	Logging messages and errors	75
13.5	ULM based logging	76
14 W	riting CGI programs	79
	rror handling	86
15.1	Error handling with exceptions	86
15.2	Manual error handling	88
16 Se	ecurity	91
16.1	Denial of service attacks	91
16.2	Authorization bypass attacks	92
	ccessing C headers	93
17.1	Making C Headers available to Eiffel	93
17.2	Distinction between Standard C and POSIX headers	94
17.3	C translation details	95
A Po	osix function to Eiffel class mapping list	96
T	o do	102
	$ABSTRACT\_DIRECTORY$	102
	EPX_FILE_SYSTEM	102
	STDC_FILE	102
	STDC_LOCALE_NUMERIC	102
	STDC_PATH	102
	STDC_TIME	102
	POSIX_DAEMON	102
	POSIX_EXEC_PROCESS	102
	POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR	103
	POSIX_MEMORY_MAP	103
	POSIX_SEMAPHORE	103
	POSIX_SIGNAL	103
	POSIX_STATUS	103
	POSIX_MQUEUE	103
	Security	103
	Windows code	104
	Other	104
	Known bugs	104
В	ibliography	105

iv

Index 106

# Introduction

It has been a great pleasure for me when I could announce the first public alpha release of this manual. And then came the betas and the first release. Writing libraries like this is boring stuff. Every Eiffel programmer should have had access to all those Standard C and POSIX routines long ago. Anyway, now you and me have. Whatever a C programmer can do, you can. And even more safe as this library protects you of inadvertently calling routines that are not portable (because they're simply not there :-) ).

Writing libraries like this also seems to be a never ending story, as we now are at version 3.0. And my to do list hasn't shrinked, so stay tuned!

I actively support this library, so bug reports and wishes are gladly accepted. Planned extensions are 64 bit integer support in every place, so you won't be limited to files of 2GB in size. And of course, more and more support for the remaining functions in the Single Unix Specification not yet covered, such as poll. On the protocol side I like to have NNTP server support. And perhaps one day we'll have native SSL!

Have fun using this library and I like to hear about applications!

# Licensing

This software is licensed under the MIT License. This license can be found in the LICENSE file. Basically this license allows you to do anything with it, i.e. use it for commercial or Open Source software without restrictions. But don't sue me if something goes wrong. And give me some credits.

Also explicitly allowed is copying parts of this library to your own, for example copying certain Standard C or POSIX header wrappings. I prefer linking, but you don't have to retype everything if you don't want to link.

# Support

e-POSIX is a fully supported program. You can send requests for help directly to me. But to help others profit from the discussion, and perhaps to get feedback when I'm short on time, it is suggested that support messages are sent to **eposix@yahoogroups.com**.

Latest versions and announcements are available from http://groups.yahoo.com/group/eposix/.

# Commercial support

I'm available to give companies or organisations a one or two day course using POSIX and in particularly this library. Prices are \$1000 NZD a day, excluding VAT, travel and hotel expenses. Contact me at berend@pobox.com.

# Acknowledgements

I like to thank people who, one way or another, have helped me in creating this library. They're listed in order they have been involved with this library or manual:

- Eugene Melekhov < eugene \_\_melekhov@object-tools.com>: compiled it with Visual Eiffel. As Visual Eiffel is the most strict compiler, he found a great many oversights that SmallEiffel didn't catch.
- mico/E team: I got many ideas for my C interface from the mico/E project. Sometime ago Andreas Schulz wrote me that the micoe team wanted to use e-POSIX in mico/E. Andreas also reportexd problems and suggested improvements, especially in the EPX \_CGI class. Andreas and Robert Switzer, thanks for the bug reports!
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- Eric Bezault: I've had some insightful discussions with Eric regarding architecture of libraries such as e-POSIX. I think we never agreed :-), but the alternative error handling is due to his comments!
- Andreas Leitner: Discussions about using e-POSIX which will lead to even closer integration with Gobo in subsequent releases.
- [sven]: various comments and suggestions.
- Colin Paul Adams: contributed classes such as the resolvers and fixes.
- Till G. Bay: contributed multiplexing support for e-Posix's socket class.

# Colophon

The text of this manual was entered with GNU Emacs 21.4.2 on BLinux. It was typeset with pdfTEX using the ConTEXt macro package, see http://www.pragma-ade.com. BON diagrams were created with METAPOST.

In this chapter:

- 1.1 Requirements
- 1.2 Compiling the C code

# 1 Requirements and installation

# 1.1 Requirements

e-POSIX has three requirements:

- 1. e-POSIX requires Gobo release 3.8 or higher. You can download Gobo at http://www.gobosoft.com/. Gobo must be installed.
- 2. e-POSIX requires that the environment variable EPOSIX is set to the root directory where the e-POSIX are unpacked.
- 3. On Windows, e-POSIX requires that the environment variable GOBO\_CC is set to the name of the C compiler you are using. Failure to do so will result in link errors. Perhaps in a future geant release this will be set automatically.

# 1.2 Compiling the C code

Before e-POSIX can be used, a few C files need to be compiled into a library. The steps differ if you are using a Unix derivative, or a Windows based system.

#### 1.2.1 Compiling on Unix

Before the C files can be compiled, e-POSIX must be configured. If you have just one Eiffel compiler on your system, this should be sufficient:

```
./configure --prefix=$EPOSIX
make
```

If you have multiple Eiffel compilers, you can specify the compiler with:

```
./configure --with-compiler=ve --prefix=$EPOSIX
```

The --prefix switch is a trick to make sure that you can type:

```
make install
```

after the make was successful. With this step the library is installed into the \\$EPOSIX/lib directory. This is the location where e-POSIX's src/library.xace expects it. Without the --prefix switch the library will usually be installed in /usr/local/lib.

If you develop multi-thread applications, enable thread support with:

```
./configure --with-compiler=ise --prefix=$EPOSIX --enable-threads make clean make make install
```

You can install both the multi-threaded library and the single thread library at the same time.

In addition you have to make sure the GOBO\_MT environment variable is defined when generating the .ecf or .ace file. This requires a change to Gobo's eifel.eant file.

In the target for xace add this line:

```
<define name="GOBO_MT" value="mt" if="${GOBO_MT}"/>
```

You can now pass the GOBO\_MT variable like this:

```
geant -D "GOBO_MT=mt" compile_ise
```

In case your applications are always multi-threaded, it might be easier to copy libeposixmt \_ise.a to libeposix\_ise.a so you don't have to bother with this. The sole purpose of GOBO\_MT is to pick libeposixmt\_ise.a or libeposix\_ise.a.

More information about configure options can be displayed with:

```
./configure --help
```

#### 1.2.2 Compiling on Windows

For Windows system, I've supplied a tool —build with e-POSIX— that can build the necessary e-POSIX library for your Eiffel and C compiler.

Type:

```
makelib
```

to get help. Type:

```
makelib -ise -msc
```

to compile the C code with Microsoft's Visual C compiler targeting the ISE Eiffel compiler.

Type:

```
makelib -se -bcb
```

to compile the C code with Borland's C compiler targeting SmartEiffel. It was tested with the free Borland C version 5.5 compiler.

Type:

```
makelib -se -lcc
```

to compile the C code with elj-win32's lcc C compiler.

If you have both the Borland C compiler and lcc installed, make sure the make.exe in your path is the correct one!

The generated library will have the name of the C compiler in its path. Make sure GOBO\_CC has the correct value when compiling an e-POSIX program, see table 1.1.

bcb	Borland C compiler.
msc	Microsoft C compiler.
lcc	lcc-win32 compiler.

 Table 1.1
 Possible values for the

 GOBO\_CC environment variable

If you want to compile the e-POSIX library for use in a multi-threaded application, pass the -mt switch to makelib.exe:

```
makelib -ise -msc -mt
```

You must pass the -mt flag for ISE Eiffel if you are using the Microsoft Visual C compiler. You also will have to copy the multi-threaded library to the single-threaded library:

```
cd lib
copy libmteposix_ise_msc.lib libeposix_ise_msc.lib
```

This is only supported for the ISE Eiffel compiler. e-POSIX is not specifically written for use in multi-threaded programs nor tested much in such environments. There are certain areas (exit handling, signal handling) that are not multi-thread safe.

### 1.2.3 Library naming conventions

The name of this library starts with libeposix. On Unix the name of the Eiffel vendor is appended, so libeposix\_se.a is the library for SmartEiffel. On Windows systems the name of the Eiffel vendor and the C compiler are appended. On Windows different C compilers have incompatible libraries, so they need to be distinguished. On Windows the e-POSIX library for ISE Eiffel compiled with the Microsoft Visual C compiler is called libeposix\_ise\_msc.lib.

The vendor names are derived from the names the Gobo Eiffel package uses, i.e. the GOBO\_EIFFEL environment variable.

The C compiler is derived from the GOBO\_CC environment variable.

```
In this chapter:

2.1 Using library.xace
2.2 Vendor specific notes
2.3 Platform specific notes
```

# $Using\ e ext{-}POSIX$

# 2.1 Using library.xace

Since Gobo 3.0 Eiffel library writes have a new great tool at their dispose: gexace. Eiffel library writers have to write and maintain just a single file, library.xace. You can this file file in the e-POSIX src subdirectory.

Typically, a library.xace is included in a system.xace. A typical example, including all required Gobo files, is:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<system name="eposix_test">
 <description>
 system:
              "eposix example program"
              "Berend de Boer [berend@pobox.com]"
  author:
 copyright:
              "Copyright (c) 2002-2009, Berend de Boer"
  license:
              "The MIT License (see LICENSE)"
  date:
               "$Date: $"
              "$Revision: $"
 revision:
 </description>
 <root class="${ROOT_CLASS}" creation="make"/>
 <option unless="${DEBUG}">
  <option name="assertion" value="none"/>
  <option name="garbage_collector" value="internal"/>
  <option name="finalize" value="true"/>
 </option>
 <option if="${DEBUG}">
  <option name="assertion" value="all"/>
  <option name="garbage_collector" value="internal"/>
  <option name="finalize" value="false"/>
 </option>
  <cluster name="example" location="${EPOSIX}/doc"/>
  <mount location="${EPOSIX}/src/library.xace"/>
 <mount location="${GOBO}/library/xml/library.xace"/>
 <mount location="${GOBO}/library/parse/library.xace"/>
 <mount location="${GOBO}/library/lexical/library.xace"/>
 <mount location="${GOBO}/library/structure/library.xace"/>
 <mount location="${GOBO}/library/kernel/library.xace"/>
 <mount location="${GOBO}/library/string/library.xace"/>
```

```
<mount location="${GOBO}/library/time/library.xace"/>
<mount location="${GOBO}/library/utility/library.xace"/>
<mount location="${GOBO}/library/kernel.xace"/>
</system>
```

# 2.2 Vendor specific notes

#### 2.2.1 Gobo Eiffel

e-POSIX supports the Gobo Eiffel compiler of Gobo version 3.8 or higher. Multi-threading has not been tested with this compiler.

#### 2.2.2 ISE Eiffel

e-POSIX supports ISE Eiffel 6.2 and higher. e-POSIX has been tested under the following conditions:

- 1. I used Microsoft Windows 2000, Service Pack 2.
- 2. I used the included mingw compiler.

Note that you need the multithreaded version of the C binding library if you use ISE Eiffel and the Microsoft Visual C compiler. Else you will get a linker message complaining about the unresolved external symbol \_errno.

You can also use the supplied eposix.ecf which will make inclusion of eposix in your projects much easier.

#### 2.2.3 SmartEiffel

e-POSIX was tested with SmartEiffel 1.2r7 on FreeBSD, Linux, Solaris and Windows.

Because SmartEiffel has a tendency to provide lots of non-ELKS routines in its kernel classes —a bad thing in my opinion— I had to write a new ANY. My ANY renames GENERAL .remove \_file, so I wouldn't get a conflict with POSIX \_FILE \_SYSTEM .remove \_file.

There is no reason for the presence of GENERAL .remove \_file, I expect this to be removed soon<sup>1</sup>, so my ANY can be deleted when this has happened.

If you use lcc-win32 as your C compiler, note that for the Gobo XM \_UNICODE \_CHARACTER \_CLASSES class SmartEiffel generates code that does not compile with lcc-win32 due to some line length limit. This problem was still present with the latest lcc-win32 compiler, version 3.8, compiled on December 23.

If you use SmartEiffel and if you don't use Gobo's gexace tool to generate SmartEiffel's Ace file, you might see a complaint about a routine stdc\_signal\_switch\_switcher not being found when linking. In that case you will need to put a cecil.se file in your directory. The contents of this file should be:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> I wrote that two years ago...

Using e-POSIX 6

```
-- The name of our include C file:
cecil.h
-- The features called from C:
stdc_signal_switch_switcher STDC_SIGNAL_SWITCH switcher
stdc_exit_switch_at_exit_STDC_EXIT_SWITCH at_exit
```

But I strongly suggest to make the switch to Gobo's gexace tool as this tool makes compilation for different Eiffel compilers a lot easier.

# 2.3 Platform specific notes

Although e-POSIX should, in principle, run on every platform that supports Standard C or POSIX, it cannot be tested on every platform by me alone. This section gives details about the platforms I've used. The main thing you might need to do is to edit e-POSIX's src/library.xace to the proper libraries for your platform are linked. The default src/library.xace is suited for Windows and Linux only. If you use any other platform, you will have to edit src/library.xace.

#### 2.3.1 Linux

The latest version of e-POSIX was tested on Ubuntu 8.0.4. and glibc 2.4.

#### 2.3.2 FreeBSD

The latest version of e-POSIX was tested with FreeBSD 6.2-STABLE. FreeBSD doesn't support fdatasync, so we do a fsync there. Cases like that are automatically detected by the configure script.

You have to edit /src/library.xace to link the proper library for FreeBSD. Look at the comments.

After a make clean you have to use gmake instead of make.

#### 2.3.3 Cygwin

The latest version of e-POSIX was tested with Cygwin 1.3.x. Some remarks:

- 1. Locking doesn't seem to be supported.
- 2. fifo's (mkfifo) are not supported.
- 3. No support for fdatasync, so we do a fsync there.

#### **2.3.4** Solaris

e-POSIX was tested against Solaris 10 for Intel. Make sure to add the -std=c99 option to CFLAGS. Solaris seems to require this if the POSIX-1.2001 define is set.

You have to edit /src/library.xace to link the proper library for Solaris. Look at the comments.

#### 2.3.5 Win32

The latest version of e-POSIX was tested with Windows 2000, Service Pack 2. On Win32, Standard C is fully supported. With e-POSIX's abstract layer, parts of POSIX and the Single Unix Specification are also supported. Support isn't as extensive as using the Cygwin tools.

In this chapter:

- 3.1 Why an entire reimplementation?
- 3.2 Goals and guidelines
- 3.3 Class structure
- 3.4 Clients of this library
- 3.5 Forking
- 3.6 Books

# Design notes

# 3.1 Why an entire reimplementation?

One might wonder why I reimplemented the entire Standard C and POSIX library when most vendors also have classes that deal with files, the file system, signals and such. Unfortunately, these classes are nor complete nor very portable between vendors. For someone who wants to compile against all the major vendors —and there are good reasons to do this— there is currently no portable solution. That's why many portable Eiffel programs more or less contain the same code again and again. There are some attempts to write more portable libraries, for example the **Unix File/Directory Handling Cluster** by Friedrich Dominicus, but they also are not complete nor is the implementation satisfactory. For example they usually have much logic at the C level. I wanted only C glue code: all intelligence should be in the Eiffel code.

Another attempt is done by the Gobo cluster: it attempts to provide users with a set of classes that work across all Eiffel vendors by using only the native facilities offered by each implementation. This approach has the advantage that no C compilation is necessary. The disadvantages are:

- 1. The contract for these classes is probably not specifiable: for which platforms and which assumptions are the contracts valid? Are these contracts the same in all implementations?
- 2. It is incomplete, i.e. it doesn't cover most of the POSIX routines.

That's why I started to make the entire Standard C and POSIX routines available to Eiffel programmers. All these routines are nicely wrapped in classes. I spend a lot of time designing and refactoring these, comments and improvements about its structure are very appreciated.

The advantage of making POSIX available to Eiffel programmers is that someone doesn't need to think about creating a set of portable file and directory classes that work on every known operating system. POSIX is available on many platforms and for other systems there either is an emulation or a POSIX mapping available. It's better to reuse that, instead of reinventing work that took years to complete.

# 3.2 Goals and guidelines

The goals and guidelines for this library were:

- 1. A complete Standard C implementation for those who didn't have access to POSIX routines.
- 2. A complete POSIX implementation.

Design notes 8

- 3. Do the job in such a way that it will become the official Eiffel POSIX mapping.
- 4. All classes should satisfy the demands posed by the query–command separation principle.
- 5. The native Standard C and POSIX routines should be available to those who don't want to go through a certain class layer.
- 6. The names in use in the POSIX world like file descriptor or memory map are used as class names. This should make it easy to find a class if one knows the POSIX name.
- 7. If a command fails, an exception code is raised. This differs from the POSIX routines where one is expected to test for error and query the errno variable. The only exception is unlink: when the file does not exist, no exception is raised.
- 8. POSIX assumptions should be made explicit. For Eiffel this means specifying explicit pre– and postconditions.
- Use of constants to influence the way a method should be avoided by providing clearly named methods. So instead of passing a constants to the POSIX \_FILE .open function to open a file read—only, one can also call open \_read.
- 10. Attempt to create non-deferred class that refer to an entity that exists in the POSIX world. Creation of an object is binding to that entity, or creation of that entity.
- 11. Names should be clear, and Eiffel-like. They should not differ in just one character. POSIX names are also made available to ease use of this library for programmers that know POSIX well.

#### 3.3 Class structure

e-POSIX makes available all the Standard C and POSIX headers in classes like CAPI \_STDIO and PAPI \_UNISTD. More details about the header translation are in chapter 17.

However, making the plain C API available is not a very interesting addition to an Eiffel programmer's toolkit. Therefore, this library's second attempt was to make an effective OO–wrapper, while making a careful distinction between what is available in the Standard C and what is available in POSIX. This distinction is reflected in e-POSIX's directory structure, see figure 3.1.



Figure 3.1 e-POSIX directory structure

The raw Standard C API is available in src/capi, the OO-wrapper is available in src/standardc. The raw POSIX API is available in src/papi, the OO-wrapper is available in src/posix.

Every Standard C and POSIX wrapper is derived from a common root, see also figure 3.2:

9 Class structure

1. If a class builds upon facilities available on Standard C, its name starts with the prefix STDC\_ and it inherits from STDC\_BASE.

- 2. If a class builds upon facilities available in POSIX, its name starts with the prefix POSIX and it inherits from POSIX BASE.
- 3. If a class builds upon facilities available in the Single Unix Specification, its name starts with the prefix SUS\_ and it inherits from SUS\_BASE. The support for the Single Unix Specification is not yet complete, but is continually enhanced.
- 4. Because we live in a world dominated by Microsoft Windows, and Microsoft Windows does not do POSIX, this would mean that many users only could use e-POSIX's Standard C facilities. These facilities are extremely limiting, for example there is no change directory command in Standard C. Therefore e-POSIX makes available an abstraction layer that covers routines that have an equivalent in POSIX and the Single Unix Specification. These classes start with the name EPX\_. They always inherit from classes starting with ABSTRACT\_. These abstract classes implement the common code. See chapter 4.3.3 for more details.

Note that by using Cygwin you have a full POSIX emulation layer on Windows. In that specific environment you can use e-POSIX's entire POSIX and Single Unix Specification layer.

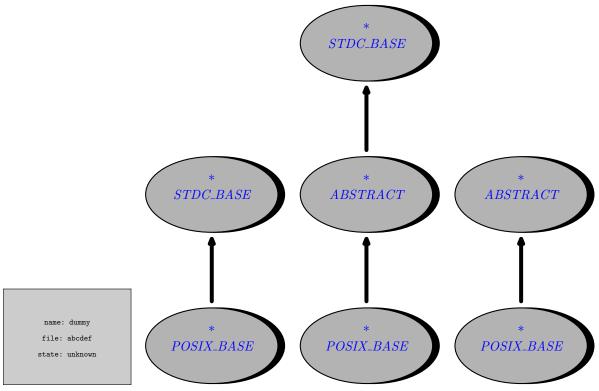


Figure 3.2 Inheritance structure

The wrapper classes should be fully command—query separated and use clear names. Often the POSIX name, if applicable, is also made available as an alias. If this is a good thing, I'm not sure. I hope it facilitates working with the wrapper classes if you already know POSIX.

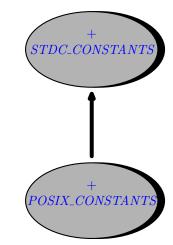
Design notes 10

Besides these directories, e-POSIX provides a number of extensions to the pure Standard C or POSIX routines. These can be found in the subdirectories that start with src/epx. A single letter indicates if the classes only built upon routines available in Standard C or POSIX:

- 1. epxc: Standard C based extensions like URI resolving, a MIME parser and XML generation.
- 2. epxs: Single Unix Specification based extension like an HTTP client.

# 3.4 Clients of this library

For client classes, two important classes are STDC \_CONSTANTS and POSIX \_CONSTANTS, see figure 3.3. The wrapper classes tend to avoid having routines whose behavior drastically depends on passed constants. But if you need to use constants, your client class can just inherit from these classes and every Standard C and POSIX constant is available.



 $\begin{array}{lll} \textbf{Figure 3.3} & \textbf{Standard} & \textbf{C} & \textbf{and} & \textbf{POSIX} \\ \textbf{constants} & & \\ \end{array}$ 

# 3.5 Forking

Implementing forking posed some interesting challenges. I started with the basic idea that every process has a pid:

class PROCESS

#### feature

pid: INTEGER

#### end

I wanted to be able to write two kinds of forking. The first one is forking a child as in:  $class\ PARENT$ 

11 Forking

```
inherit
    POSIX\_CURRENT\_PROCESS
  feature
    make is
      local
         child: POSIX_CHILD_PROCESS
      do
        print ("My pid: ")
        print (pid)
        print ("\%N")
        fork (child)
        print ("child's pid: ")
        print (child.pid)
        print ("\%N")
         child.wait__for (True)
      end
 \mathbf{end}
However, I also wanted to fork myself, because that basically is what forking is!
  class PARENT
 inherit
    POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS
    POSIX CHILD PROCESS
  feature
    make is
      do
        fork (Current)
        wait
      end
    execute is
         -- forked code
      end
```

The above code gives a name clash, because POSIX \_CURRENT \_PROCESS .pid is a call to the POSIX routine getpid, while the child's pid is a variable, which gets a variable after forking. You can solve this name clash yourself, but it is most easy to inherit from POSIX \_FORK \_ROOT, a clash which has solved this clash already.

end

Design notes 12

If you fork a child, you must wait for it. For a child process, you can use POSIX \_CHILD .wait \_for, if you fork yourself, you must use POSIX \_CURRENT \_PROCESS .wait. The variable waited \_child \_pid will be set with the pid of the child process that wait waited for.

# 3.6 Books

Books that have been helpful during the development of e-POSIX where (Xxxxxxxxx, 0000), (Xxxxxxxxxx, 0000) and (Xxxxxxxxxx, 0000), see the biography section at **page 105**.

In this chapter:

- 4.1 Layers architecture
- 4.2 Standard C
- 4.3 Windows
- 4.4 Introduction to the next chapters

# 4 Layers

# 4.1 Layers architecture

e-POSIX is written in such a way that it is possible to write a pure Standard C based application (ANSI/ISO IS 9899: 1990), a pure POSIX application (Standard ISO/IEC-9945-1: 1990), or a pure Single Unix Specification version 3 application (http://www.unix-systems.org/single\_unix\_specification/). Although POSIX and the Single Unix Specification merged there specifications, they are still kept separate in e-POSIX, because the merge happened relatively recently and the pure POSIX functions are more very widely supported.

Based on these standards e-POSIX offers a compatibility layer. This layer offers a common framework for people that want to write code that works on both Unix and Windows systems. The compatibility layer uses all features that an operating system offers. If you use the network compatibility layer for example, you need a system that supports the Single Unix Specification.

#### 4.2 Standard C

All Standard C classes start with STDC\_. They are:

- 1. STDC \_TEXT \_FILE: access text files.
- 2. STDC \_BINARY \_FILE: access binary files.
- 3. STC \_TEMPORARY \_FILE: create a temporary file, a file that is removed when it is closed or when the program terminates.
- 4. STDC \_CONSTANTS: access Standard C constants like error codes and such.
- 5. STDC \_BUFFER: allocate dynamic memory.
- 6. STDC \_ENV \_VAR: access environment variables.
- 7. STDC \_FILE \_SYSTEM: delete and rename files.
- 8. STDC \_SHELL \_COMMAND: pass an arbitrary command to the native shell.
- 9. STDC \_SYSTEM: access information about the system the program is running on.
- 10. STDC \_CURRENT \_PROCESS: access to current process related information like its standard input, output and error streams.
- 11. STDC \_TIME: access current time. Also can format a given time in various formats.

#### 4.3 Windows

#### 4.3.1 Writing portable programs

e-POSIX offers three alternatives to writing programs that run on both Unix and Windows platforms:

Layers 14

1. Write programs that only rely on Standard C. If you use only Standard C classes your program is probably quite portable. Standard C doesn't offer that much however.

- 2. Write programs that are based on POSIX. You use a POSIX emulator to compile and run your program unchanged on Windows. The only thing you have to be aware of is the distinction between binary and text files.
- 3. Write programs that are based upon e-Posix's EPX\_XXXX layer. This layer is based on e-Posix's ABSTRACT\_XXXX classes, that covers code that is common between Windows and a Posix platform.

Previous versions of e-POSIX used a factory class approach to access this common code. This is no longer needed. The ABSTRACT\_XXXX are maded effective through EPX\_XXXX classes when compiling for Windows or for POSIX.

The following sections offer more details about the last two approaches.

#### 4.3.2 Compiling POSIX programs in Windows

You can also use a very large subset of POSIX under Windows with a POSIX emulator. I've tested this using SmartEiffel and Cygwin's freely available emulator. Here the steps:

- 1. Download the Cygwin toolkit from http://sources.redhat.com/cygwin.
- 2. Set the compiler in compiler.se to gcc. Leave the system in system.se to Windows.
- 3. Configure e-POSIX as described in 1.2 and create libeposix\_se.a

A few things are not available under Cygnus' POSIX emulation:

- 1. POSIX \_FILE \_SYSTEM .create \_fifo is not supported. Any attempt to use it will return ENOSYS. I'm not sure if returning an error is the correct solution for applications that require POSIX compatibility, because you are only warned at run-time. Another solution would be to include a call to mkfifo and if you use it, let the linker complain.
- There is no locking, so calls to POSIX \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR .get \_lock and such will fail.
- 3. Certain POSIX tests assume that a more Unix like environment is available, so not all tests will run. For example the standard Cygwin distribution doesn't have a more utility. If you make a symbolic link from less to more the child process test will run.
- 4. The current list of implemented functions is available from http://sources.redhat.com/cygwin/faq/faq\_3.html#SEC17.

#### 4.3.3 Native Windows

Previous versions of e-POSIX used a factory class approach to access Windows or POSIX specific code. This is obsolete.

If you want to write code that is portable between Windows and POSIX use the EPX\_XXXX class layer. For example you can use the EPX \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR to use file descriptors that are completely portable between these two OSes. Use EPX \_FILE \_SYSTEM to have access to file system specific code to change directories or get the temporary directory.

In general you can replace the POSIX\_ prefix with EPX\_ to compile most of the examples presented in the previous POSIX specific chapters. The classes currently available in the EPX\_XXXX layer are:

Windows Windows

- EPX \_CURRENT \_PROCESS.
- EPX \_EXEC \_PROCESS.
- EPX \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR.
- EPX \_FILE \_SYSTEM.
- EPX \_PIPE.

Figure one shows hoe the EPX \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR class is derived from ABSTRACT \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR. Both Windows and POSIX have an effective EPX \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR class. Classes as POSIX \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR implement POSIX specific functionality for a file descriptor.

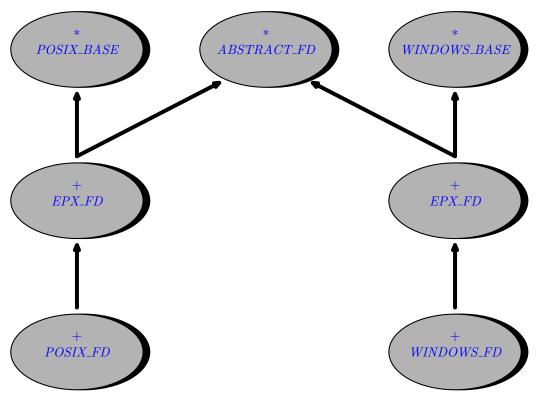


Figure 4.1 How EPX\_XXXX classes are related to the POSIX and Windows classes

An example of using the EPX \_FILE \_SYSTEM class is shown below:

```
 \begin{array}{c} \textbf{class} \ \textit{EX\_EPX1} \\ \textbf{inherit} \\ \hline \textit{EPX\_FILE\_SYSTEM} \\ \textbf{create} \\ \hline \textit{make} \\ \\ \textbf{feature} \end{array}
```

Layers 16

end

In  $^{\bowtie}$  all abstract classes are listed. There deferred features are made effective in the EPX class for the operating system you're compiling for.

# 4.4 Introduction to the next chapters

The following chapters are topic based: they discuss how to work with files for example and show examples for all layers and give hints what is and what isn't supported in each layer.

Instead of describing every class and every feature, I decided to show short and simple examples of common ways to use the various e-POSIX classes. Most examples assume a POSIX or Single Unix Specification environment. If you don't have POSIX available, you can try to replace the POSIX\_ prefix by STDC\_. Most of the time the POSIX classes are based on the Standard C classes.

If you are looking for more examples, you might take a look at the classes in the test\_suite directory. These classes should demonstrate and test almost every feature available in the POSIX classes.

```
In this chapter:
5.1 Introduction
5.2 Allocating memory
5.3 Allocating memory
5.4 Using shared memory
5.5 Memory maps
```

# 5 Working with memory

### 5.1 Introduction

e-POSIX has several classes that allocate memory. The main class is STDC \_BUFFER (or the equivalent POSIX \_BUFFER). This class allocates a memory block that isn't moved by the garbage collector. This is very useful for an Eiffel compiler that has a moving garbage collector.

You can also get access to shared memory using POSIX \_SHARED \_MEMORY.

# 5.2 Allocating memory

You can dynamically allocate memory with STDC \_BUFFER which works just like POSIX \_BUFFER.

```
class EX_MEM2

create

make

feature

make is
 local
 mem: STDC_BUFFER
 byte: INTEGER

do
 create mem.allocate_and_clear (128)
 mem.poke_uint8 (2, 57)
 byte := mem.peek_uint8 (2)
 mem.resize (256)
 mem.deallocate
end
```

end

With the feature STDC \_BUFFER .allocate \_and \_clear memory is allocated and cleared to all zeros.

STDC \_BUFFER contains many routines to read bytes and strings from the memory it manages like peek \_int16, peek \_uint16, or peek \_int32. It supports reading and writing 16 and 32 bit integers in little and big endian order with routines as peek \_int16 \_big \_endian, peek \_int16 \_little \_endian, and poke \_int32 \_big \_endian.

# 5.3 Allocating memory

Allocating dynamic memory is very useful, but not portably available for Eiffel programmers. With POSIX \_BUFFER memory can be allocated, read and written to.

```
class EX_MEM
create
  make
feature
  make is
    local
      mem: POSIX BUFFER
      byte: INTEGER
    do
      create mem.allocate (256)
      mem.poke_uint8 (2, 57)
      byte := mem.peek\_uint8(2)
      mem.resize (512)
      mem.deallocate
    end
end
```

For more information about the dynamic memory class, see section 5.2.

# 5.4 Using shared memory

You can use shared memory to exchange data between different processes. It's dependent on your POSIX version if this is supported, so check for this capability explicitly!

```
class EX_SHARED_MEM1
inherit

POSIX_SYSTEM

POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS

POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM

create
```

19 Memory maps

```
make
feature
  make is
    local
      fd: POSIX_SHARED_MEMORY
    do
      if not supports_shared_memory_objects then
         stderr.puts ("Shared memory objects not supported.%N")
         exit\_with\_failure
      end
      create fd.create_read_write ("/test.berend")
      fd.put_string ("Hello world.%N")
      fd.close
      unlink_shared_memory_object ("/test.berend")
    end
end
```

Make sure you always start a shared memory object with a slash. Else the behaviour is undefined or processes might not be able to find your shared memory.

There is not yet an abstract layer implementing shared memory, but you can use WINDOWS \_PAGING \_FILE \_SHARED \_MEMORY on Windows to get a similar effect.

# 5.5 Memory maps

```
You can map a file to memory using POSIX _MEMORY _MAP.

class EX_MEMORY_MAP1

inherit

POSIX_SYSTEM

POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS

create

make

feature

make is
local
fd: POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR
```

 $map: POSIX\_MEMORY\_MAP$ 

```
byte:\ INTEGER
  correct:\ BOOLEAN
  {f if}\ supports\_memory\_mapped\_files\ {f then}
   -- Open a file.
   create fd.open_read_write ("ex_memory_map1.e")
   -- Create memory map.
   {f create}\ map.make\_shared\ (fd,\ 0,\ 64)
   -- Read a byte from the mapping.
   byte := map.peek\_uint8 (2)
   correct := byte = ('a').code
   if not correct then
    print ("Oops.\%N")
   \mathbf{end}
   -- Cleanup.
   map.close
   fd.close
  \quad \textbf{end} \quad
 end
end
```

There is no equivalent abstract layer class for memory mapping to support Windows yet.

In this chapter:

- 6.1 Introduction
- 6.2 Standard C notes
- 6.3 Compatibility with Gobo
- 6.4 Working with streams
- 6.5 Working with streams using Standard C only
- 6.6 Working with file descriptors
- 6.7 Windows systems: binary mode versus text mode

6 Working with files

### 6.1 Introduction

e-POSIX offers two different file classes: Standard C stream based and POSIX file descriptor classes. The main difference between stream and descriptor based classes is that the stream classes offer read and write caching. Output is not immediately written to disk or network for example.

#### 6.2 Standard C notes

If you don't have access to a POSIX compatible system, you can use the underlying Standard C classes. Standard C is quite restricted in certain respects: you cannot change directories for example. On the other hand, this library gives you access to all Standard C routines, so you can use what's there and write an extremely portable program.

# 6.3 Compatibility with Gobo

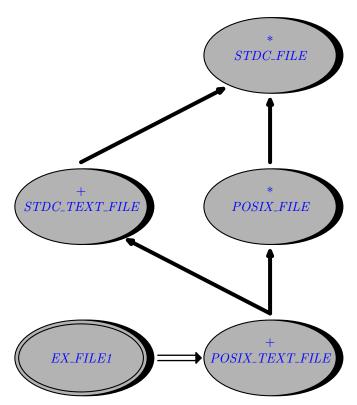
Since version 2.0 e-POSIX is built upon foundations laid in Gobo. e-POSIXŚ STDC \_FILE/POSIX \_FILE and ABSTRACT \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR are implementations of KI \_CHARACTER \_INPUT \_STREAM and KI \_CHARACTER \_OUTPUT \_STREAM.

The e-POSIX class ABSTRACT \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR has support for non-blocking i/o, see section 7.3. Gobo's KI \_CHARACTER \_INPUT \_STREAM expects blocking i/o however. If you call ABSTRACT \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR .read \_string you will call the routine that has support for non-blocking i/o. Due to Eiffel's renaming mechanism, ABSTRACT \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR will behave blocking when it is called as if it was a KI \_CHARACTER \_INPUT \_STREAM.

# 6.4 Working with streams

The basic class for working with files, or streams as they are also called, is POSIX \_FILE. There are two kinds of files: POSIX \_FILE and POSIX \_BINARY \_FILE. According to the POSIX standard, there is no distinction between binary and text files. But on certain systems you must use POSIX programs through an emulation layer. For example, on Windows Cygwin is a well–known POSIX emulator. To maintain compatibility with other Windows programs, Cygwin distinguishes between text and binary files. If you use Cygwin to compile your POSIX programs, this distinction is therefore still important.

The first example shows how to open a text file, see also the corresponding BON diagram in figure 6.1.



 ${\bf Figure~6.1} \quad {\rm BON~diagram~of~opening~a~text~file}.$ 

```
class EX_FILE1
create
make
feature
make is
 local
  file:\ POSIX\_TEXT\_FILE
 do
  create file.open_read ("/etc/group")
  \mathbf{from}
  file.read\_line
  until
  file.end\_of\_input
  loop
   print (file.last_string)
   print ("\%N")
  file.read\_line
  end
```

```
file.close
end
```

#### end

It simply opens a file for reading and prints every line in it. Note that the line read does not include the end-of-line character. This is a change in behaviour from pre 2.0 e-POSIX versions.

[POSIX\_FILE] has two functions that read strings. These are read \_line and read \_string. read \_line only returns when it has read an end-of-line character. It it has to read a 2GB characters to reach that, it will return a 2GB string. read \_string returns a string with the given number of characters, or less if the end of the file is reached. These two functions have one other difference as well: read \_line removes the end-of-line character(s), while read \_string returns the raw string, including end-of-line characters and such.

At the end of the example, the file is closed. You don't need to explicitly close a file as it will be closed when your object is garbaged collected. But I think it's a good thing not to rely or depend on this, but to close your external resources as soon as you're done using them. For example many systems have easily reached limits on the number of files a process can have open.

Reading binary files is almost the same loop, only you read it in chunks:

```
class EX FILE2
create
make
feature
chunk size: INTEGER is 512
make is
 local
  file: POSIX BINARY FILE
  buffer: POSIX_BUFFER
 do
  create file.open_read ("/bin/sh")
  create buffer.allocate (chunk_size)
  file.read_buffer (buffer, 0, chunk_size)
  until
   file.end\_of\_input
  file.read buffer (buffer, 0, chunk size)
  end
  file.close
 end
```

#### end

This example uses a more safe version of buffer reading, POSIX \_FILE .read \_buffer. There is an untyped variant POSIX \_FILE .read which accepts a pure pointer. There is no need to mention that you need to watch buffer overflows carefully with this last one!

Correctly looping through files, takes care. For example the following loop is wrong:

```
class EX_WRONG1
create
make
feature
make is
 local
  file: POSIX_TEXT_FILE
  create file.open_read ("/etc/group")
  from
  until
  file.end of input
  loop
  file.read_string (256)
  print (file.last_string)
  end
  file.close
 end
end
```

After POSIX \_TEXT \_FILE .read \_string, end \_of \_input might be True. But the precondition for last \_string is that end \_of \_input is false. You will make an unnecessary extra loop. The correctly coded variant is:

```
class EX_WRONG2
create

make
feature

make is
local
  file: POSIX_TEXT_FILE
  do
    create file.open_read ("/etc/group")
  from
    until
```

```
file.end_of_input
loop
file.read_string (256)
if not file.end_of_input then
print (file.last_string)
end
end
file.close
end
end
```

I myself prefer the first example, as the check is only in the **until** part, and not repeated in the loop.

The following examples shows how a binary file is created and a string is written to it.

```
class EX_FILE3
inherit

POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM

create

make

feature

make is
    local
        file: POSIX_BINARY_FILE
        do
            create file.create_write (expand_path ("$HOME/myfile.tmp"))
            file.put_string ("hello world.%N")
            file.close
        end

end
```

Depending on the platform you are running a backslash is turned into a slash or vice versa.

This example also demonstrates how path names —file and directory names— can be expanded: if you call POSIX \_FILE \_SYSTEM .expand \_path, any environment variables in the path are expanded. Backslashes and slashes are always translated, but environment variable expansion has to be done explicitly.

You can move the file pointer with two different methods: POSIX \_FILE .seek and set \_position. The seek works with files up to 2 GB, set \_position has no such limits. Use tell to get a position that can be passed to seek. Use get \_position to get a position that can be passed to set \_position.

```
class EX FILE5
```

```
create
  make
feature
  make is
    local
       file: POSIX_BINARY_FILE
       pos1: INTEGER
       pos2: STDC_FILE_POSITION
    do
       {\bf create}\ file.create\_read\_write\ ("test.bin")
       file.put_string ("one")
       pos1 := file.tell
       pos2 := file.get\_position
       file.put_string ("two")
       file.seek (pos1)
       -- or file.set_position (pos2)
       file.read_string(3)
       if not file.last\_string.is\_equal ("two") then
         print ("unexpected read.%N")
       end
       file.close
    end
end
```

# 6.5 Working with streams using Standard C only

Working with text files is equal to the POSIX classes, only you use the STDC prefix.

```
class EX_FILE4

create

make

feature

make is
   local
    file: STDC_TEXT_FILE
   do
        create file.open_read ("/etc/group")
        from
        file.read_line
        until
        file.end_of_input
```

```
loop
  print (file.last_string)
  print ("%N")
  file.read_line
  end
  file.close
  end
```

Its BON diagram, see figure 6.2 is therefore quite equal to the POSIX one, see figure 6.1.

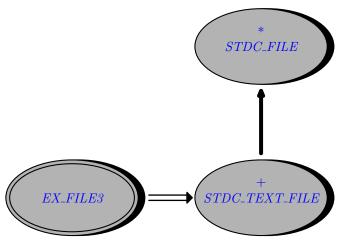


Figure 6.2 BON diagram of opening a Standard C text file.

# 6.6 Working with file descriptors

The file descriptors classes are quite equal to the file classes. The following example opens a file using POSIX \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR and reads the first 64 bytes.

```
class EX_FD1
create

  make

feature

make is
  local
    fd: POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR
  do
    create fd.open_read ("/etc/group")
    fd.read_string (64)
    print (fd.last_string)
```

```
fd.close
end
```

end

Unlike POSIX \_TEXT \_FILE, there is no easy way to detect end of line and end of file conditions. However, a file descriptor can easily be turned into a file as the following example demonstrates.

```
class EX FD2
create
make
feature
make is
 local
  fd: POSIX\_FILE\_DESCRIPTOR
  file: POSIX_TEXT_FILE
  create fd.open_read ("/etc/group")
  \mathbf{create}\ \mathit{file}.\mathit{make\_from\_file\_descriptor}\ (\mathit{fd},\ "r")
  from
   file.read_string (256)
  until
   file.end\_of\_input
  loop
   print (file.last_string)
   file.read_string (256)
  end
  file.close
  fd.close
 end
end
```

A file descriptor can also be used to lock, unlock or test for locks on a given file as the following example demonstrates. See also the accompanying BON diagram in **figure 6.3**.

```
class EX_FD4
create
  make
feature

make is
  local
  some_lock,
```

```
lock: POSIX_LOCK
       fd: POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR
    do
       create fd.create read write ("test.tmp")
       fd.put_string ("Test")
       create lock.make
       lock.set\_allow\_read
       lock.set_start (2)
       lock.set\_length (1)
       some\_lock := fd.get\_lock (lock)
       if some\_lock /= Void then
         print (" There is already a lock? %N")
       end
       -- create exclusive lock
       lock.set\_allow\_none
       lock.set\_start(0)
       lock.set_length (4)
       fd.set_lock (lock)
       fd.close
    end
end
```

POSIX\_FILE\_DESCRIPTOR .get \_lock is command—query separated, that is why it returns a new lock when queried and there is a lock. If there is no lock get \_lock returns Void. The passed lock is not modified.

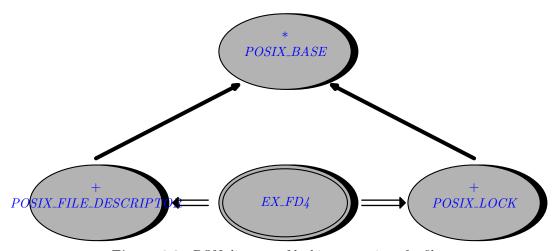


Figure 6.3 BON diagram of locking a portion of a file.

A file descriptor also gives you access to the attached terminal, if any. The following example demonstrates how to read a password without the password appearing on the screen.

```
class EX FD3
inherit
  POSIX CURRENT PROCESS
create
  make
feature
  make is
    do
       print ("Password: ")
       stdout.flush
       -- turn off echo
       fd\_stdin.terminal.set\_echo\_input (False)
       fd\_stdin.terminal.apply\_flush
       -- read password
       fd_stdin.read_string (256)
       -- turn echo back on
       fd stdin.terminal.set echo input (True)
       fd\_stdin.terminal.apply\_now
       print ("%NYour password was: ")
       print (fd\_stdin.last\_string)
    end
end
```

### 6.7 Windows systems: binary mode versus text mode

If you are using Unix exclusively, you can skip this section.

Independent of what layer you use to write Windows programs, you have to deal with binary and text modes. And if you usually write Unix programs and want them to work on Windows too, you have to bother with it too.

On Windows, each line of a text files ends with a carriage return character followed by a line feed character. If you use a C text stream to read a file on Windows, a trick is employed: every occurrence of "%R%N" is replaced by a single "%N". If The same happens when writing to a text stream: you just have to write a single "%N" and the C run-time code replaces this by

So make sure you are using the proper classes if you use streams. Use STDC \_TEXT \_FILE if you want to read and write text files and use STDC \_BINARY \_FILE to read and write binary files.

File descriptors are binary only. So any descendant from ABSTRACT \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR treats input and output as binary and does no translation whatsoever. If you use ABSTRACT \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR .read \_line to read lines, the end-of-line character may either be a "%R%N" or just a end-of-line characters regardless of the platform. So reading a file with Windows end-of-line characters on Windows or Unix will work exactly the same.

There is no explicit support for creating text files using file descriptors with the proper Windows end of file characters. Use either STDC \_TEXT \_FILE to create platform dependent end-of-lines or write the proper end-of-line characters yourself.

This discussion also applies to standard input and output. If you want to use binary standard input or binary standard output, use the file descriptors available in <code>EPX\_CURRENT\_PROCESS</code> as <code>fd\_stdin</code> and <code>fd\_stdout</code>. If you use <code>stdin</code> and <code>stdout</code> you can handle text files only on Windows. On Unix it does not matter.

For Cygwin users the story is somewhat more difficult it seems. File descriptors can be text or binary. The default is binary however. The following information can be helpful to get the binary versus text file distinction correct:

- Mount the volume in binary mode.
- Set the environment variable CYGWIN to 'binary'.

More information about Cygwin and CR/LF handling can be found at http://sources.redhat.com/cygwin/faq/faq\_toc.html#TOC62.

```
In this chapter:

7.1 Redirecting stderr to stdout

7.2 Talking to your modem

7.3 Non-blocking I/O

7.4 Asynchronous I/O
```

# 7 Working with files: advanced topics

### 7.1 Redirecting stderr to stdout

If you want to redirect all output written by your program or any child you spawn to stdout, you can use the POSIX \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR .make \_as \_duplicate call:

```
class EX_REDIRECT1
inherit

POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS

create

make

feature

make is
    do
     -- flush stream buffers, else output may be in wrong order
    stdout.flush
    stderr.flush

    fd_stderr.make_as_duplicate (fd_stdout)
    -- all output written to stderr goes to stdout now
    end
end
```

It's a good idea to call this at the beginning of your program, before you have written anything to stderr or stdout. If you do that, you don't have to flush the stream buffers.

### 7.2 Talking to your modem

With e-POSIX you can talk to your modem. The implementation contains not all the details to write a full–featured program as minicom, but they will be added upon request.

The following example tries to talk to your modem —which is expected to be at /dev /modem— and queries its manufacturer.

```
class EX MODEM
inherit
  POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS
create
  make
feature
  make is
    local
       modem: POSIX FILE DESCRIPTOR
       term:\ POSIX\_TERMIOS
    do
       -- assume there is a /dev/modem device
      create modem.open_read_write ("/dev/modem")
       term := \ modem.terminal
       term.flush\_input
       print ("Input speed: ")
       print (term.speed_to_baud_rate (term.input_speed))
       print ("\%N")
       print ("Output speed: ")
       print (term.speed_to_baud_rate (term.output_speed))
       print ("\%N")
       term.set input speed (B9600)
       term.set\_output\_speed~(B9600)
       term.set\_receive\ (\mathit{True})
       term.set_echo_input (False)
       term.set_echo_new_line (False)
       term.set\_input\_control\ (True)
       term.apply\_flush
       -- expect modem to echo commands
       modem.put\_string ("AT\%N")
       modem.read string (64)
       print ("Command: ")
       print (modem.last_string)
       modem.read_string (64)
       print ("Response (expect ok): ")
       print (modem.last_string)
       modem.put\_string ("ATI0\%N")
       modem.read\_string~(64)
       print ("Command: ")
```

```
print (modem.last_string)
modem.read_string (64)
print ("Response: ")
print (modem.last_string)
modem.close
end

end

*
POSIX_BASE

*
POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTO*

EX_MODEM

*
POSIX_TERMIOS
```

Figure 7.1 BON diagram of talking to a modem.

### 7.3 Non-blocking I/O

e-POSIX supports non-blocking i/o on its file descriptor classes, i.e. the descendants of ABSTRACT \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR. Use is \_blocking \_io to query if the descriptor blocks on read or write if there is no data. Use set \_blocking \_io to change the behavior.

Use supports \_nonblocking \_io to query if the behavior with respect to blocking i/o can be changed. On Windows file i/o must be blocking. Only sockets on Windows can be non-blocking. On Unix all descriptors support non-blocking i/o.

See also **section 6.3** for non-blocking i/o when e-POSIX is used as a plugin for classes that expect a KI \_CHARACTER \_INPUT \_STREAM. In such cases e-POSIX reverts to blocking i/o, even when non-blocking i/o has been enabled.

### 7.4 Asynchronous I/O

e-POSIX supports the asynchronous i/o features of POSIX. Not all Free Unices seem to support this feature, nor does their support seems to be error free.

Take a look at the following example:

```
class EX_ASYNC1
```

create

```
make

feature

make is
local
fd: POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR
request: POSIX_ASYNC_IO_REQUEST
do
create fd.create_read_write ("test.tmp")
create request.make (fd)
request.set_offset (0)
request.put_string ("hello world.")
request.wait_for
fd.close
end

end
```

The basic idea is that each asynchronous request is a separate object, modeled by POSIX \_ASYNC \_IO \_REQUEST. You prepare it through calls like set \_buffer, set \_count and set \_offset. You execute the request by calling read or write.

You can wait for the request to be complete by calling wait \_for. It should be possible to force open requests to be synchronized to the disk with synchronize, but this does give strange results on Linux. So far I haven't got access to a machine that also implements asynchronous i/o to test if my code is correct.

```
In this chapter:

8.1 Portability

8.2 Standard C

8.3 POSIX
```

## $\infty$ Working with the file system

### 8.1 Portability

Use the EPX\_ classes to write code that is portable between POSIX systems and Windows.

### 8.2 Standard C

Standard C doesn't offer much for file systems. You can only delete and rename files.

```
class EX_DIR5
inherit

STDC_FILE_SYSTEM

create

make

feature

make is
    do
        rename_to ("qqtest.abc.tmp", "qqtest.xyz.tmp")
        remove_file ("qqtest.xyz.tmp")
    end

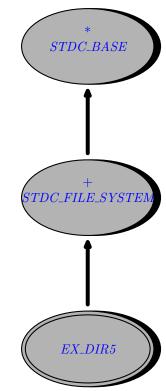
end
```

The BON diagram is shown in figure 8.1.

But you can manipulate filenames including directories, although technically they're not part of Standard C. The following example shows how filenames can be manipulated with STDC \_PATH:

```
class EX_FILENAME1
create
make
```

37 Standard C



 $\begin{array}{ll} \textbf{Figure 8.1} & \text{BON diagram of deleting} \\ \text{and renaming files with Standard C.} \end{array}$ 

### feature

```
make is
local
 path \colon STDC\_PATH
 create path.make_from_string ("/tmp/myfile.e")
 path.parse (<<".e">>>)
 print_path (path)
 \mathbf{create}\ path.make\_expand\ ("\$HOME/myfile.e")
 path.parse~(<<".e">>>)
 print_path (path)
end
print_path (a_path: STDC_PATH) is
do
 print ("Directory: ")
 print (a_path.directory)
 print (", basename: ")
 print (a_path.basename)
 print (", suffix: ")
```

```
\begin{array}{c} print\;(a\_path.suffix)\\ print\;("\%N")\\ \mathbf{end} \end{array}
```

The parse feature is used to parse a path into its components. Give it a suffix list to remove any matching suffices. Suffix matching is case-insensitive. If the suffix list is empty, no suffix matching will be done. This follows standard unix behaviour: if a filename has a dot in it, it does not necessarily mean that what follows after that dot is a suffix.

Create a path with make \_expand to expand any environment variables in the given string to their values.

### 8.3 POSIX

POSIX defines many commands to navigate a file system. They're made available by the POSIX \_FILE \_SYSTEM. The following example navigates to the user's home directory, create a directory and removes it.

```
class EX_DIR1
inherit

POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM

create

make

feature

make is
    do
        change_directory (expand_path ("~"))
        make_directory ("qqtest.xyz.tmp")
        remove_directory ("qqtest.xyz.tmp")
        end
```

is \_modifiable to test if a file is readable and writable.

To get access to the file system, inheriting from the POSIX \_FILE \_SYSTEM class is easiest. There are also lots of functions to test for existence, readability or writability of files. Use

```
 \begin{array}{c} \textbf{class} \ EX\_DIR2 \\ \\ \textbf{inherit} \\ \\ POSIX\_FILE\_SYSTEM \\ \\ \textbf{create} \end{array}
```

39 POSIX

```
make
feature
  make is
    local
       perm: POSIX_PERMISSIONS
    do
       print_info (is_existing ("/tmp"), "existing")
       print_info (is_executable ("/bin/ls"), "executable")
       print_info (is_readable ("/etc/passwd"), "readable")
       print_info (is_writable ("/etc/passwd"), "writable")
       print_info (is_modifiable ("/etc/passwd"), "readable and writable")
       perm := permissions("/etc/passwd")
       if perm.allow_group_read then
         print ("Group is allowed to read /etc/passwd.%N")
         print ("Group is not allowed to read /etc/passwd.%N")
       end
       if perm.allow_anyone_read_write then
         print ("Anyone is allowed to read file.tmp.%N")
         print ("Anyone is not allowed to read file.tmp.%N")
       end
    end
  print_info (ok: BOOLEAN; what: STRING) is
       print ("is__")
       print (what)
       print (" returned ")
       print(ok)
       print (".%N")
    end
end
```

Be aware that POSIX \_FILE \_SYSTEM .is \_readable uses the real user and group IDs instead of the effective ones.

As can be seen in the above example, one can test for the permissions of a file using the POSIX \_PERMISSIONS class. A new permissions class is created for every POSIX \_FILE \_SYSTEM .permissions call, so it is best to cache this object. If the permissions change on the file system, this class does not reflect reality anymore, because it caches the permissions. Use POSIX \_PERMISSIONS .refresh to update the contents. Use set \_allow \_group \_write, set \_allow \_anyone \_read and such to set permissions.

```
e-POSIX also gives you access to the stat function using the POSIX _STATUS class.
  class EX_DIR4
 inherit
    POSIX\_FILE\_SYSTEM
  create
    make
  feature
    make is
      local
         stat:\ POSIX\_STATUS
      do
        stat := status ("/etc/passwd")
        print ("size: ")
        print (stat.size.out)
        print (".\%N")
        print ("uid: ")
        print\ (stat.permissions.uid)
        print (".%N")
      end
  end
The POSIX _STAT, and through it POSIX _PERMISSIONS, are also returned by POSIX _FILE
_DESCRIPTOR .status.
Browsing a directory can be done by allocated a POSIX _DIRECTORY class through the
POSIX _FILE _SYSTEM .browse _directory feature:
  class EX DIR3
 inherit
    POSIX\_FILE\_SYSTEM
  create
    make
  feature
    make is
      local
         dir: POSIX\_DIRECTORY
      do
        from
```

41 POSIX

```
dir := browse\_directory (".")
dir.start
until
dir.exhausted
loop
print (dir.item)
print ("%N")
dir.forth
end
dir.close
end
```

As can be seen, POSIX \_DIRECTORY follows EiffelBase conventions.

When browsing a directory, all entries in that directory are returned. You might want to be interested only in certain files. e-POSIX has the ability to define arbitrary filters. Standard e-POSIX comes with an extension filter that only shows files with a certain extension:

```
class EX_DIR6
inherit
  POSIX FILE SYSTEM
create
  make
feature
  make is
    local
       dir: POSIX\_DIRECTORY
    do
      from
         dir := browse\_directory (".")
         dir.set_extension_filter (".e")
         dir.start
      until
         dir. exhausted \\
      loop
         print (dir.item)
         print ("\%N")
         dir.forth
      end
       dir.close
    end
```

end

```
In this chapter:

9.1 Introduction

9.2 Executing a child command

9.3 Reading stdout of a child process

9.4 Catching a signal with Standard C

9.5 Catching a signal with POSIX

9.6 General wait for child handler

9.7 Forking a child process
```

### Working with processes

### 9.1 Introduction

This chapter discusses starting processes, either by executing new ones or forking the current one. It also describes support for process communication using signals.

### 9.2 Executing a child command

Any command line can be executed by using the POSIX \_SHELL \_COMMAND class. Just pass a command line and execute it.

```
class EX_CMD

create

make

feature

make is
   local
        command: POSIX_SHELL_COMMAND
   do
        create command.make ("/bin/ls *")
        command.execute
        print ("Exit code: ")
        print (command.exit_code)
        print ("%N")
   end

end
```

### 9.3 Reading stdout of a child process

It is possible to read the standard output of a child process or write to its standard input. This is one of the easiest ways to communicate with child processes. The EPX \_EXEC \_PROCESS class makes this possible both under Windows and Unix. For example the

end

creation feature make \_capture \_output makes the standard output of the child available, while make \_capture \_input makes the standard input available.

```
class EX EXEC1
inherit
EPX_CURRENT_PROCESS
create
make
feature
make is
 local
  ls: EPX_EXEC_PROCESS
 do
  -- list contents of current directory
  \mathbf{create}\ ls.make\_capture\_output\ ("ls", <<"-1", ".">>>)
  ls.execute
  print ("ls pid: ")
  print (ls.pid)
  print ("\%N")
  from
   ls.fd\_stdout.read\_string~(512)
  until
   ls.fd\_stdout.end\_of\_input
  loop
   print (ls.fd_stdout.last_string)
   ls.fd stdout.read string (512)
  end
  -- close captured io
  ls.fd\_stdout.close
  -- wait for process
  ls.wait_for (True)
 end
```

The three features that give access to the child's standard input, standard output and standard error pipes are named fd \_stdin, fd \_stdout and fd \_stderr.

It is important to wait for the child that has been executed at some point in time, just like any POSIX aplication would have to do. If you do not wait for a child process, memory in the kernel is not released and eventually you would run out of processes. Also only after the EPX \_EXEC \_PROCESS .wait \_for command is the exit code of the process available.

It is possible to write to standard input and read standard output and standard error at the same time, but this requires extreme care. It usually leads to code that deadlocks, because the parent process is reading the standard output of the child and the child is waiting for the parent to write to its standard input. Or the child is blocked while writing to its standard output, because its output buffer is full. But the parent process isn't reading the child's standard output, because it is trying to write to the child's standard input.

Under POSIX it is possible to use the buffered features stdin, stdout and stderr. The following example is the same as the previous example, but uses the POSIX \_EXEC \_PROCESS class:

```
class EX EXEC2
inherit
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS
create
make
feature
make is
 local
  ls: POSIX_EXEC_PROCESS
 do
  -- list contents of current directory
  create ls.make_capture_output ("ls", <<"-1", ".">>>)
  ls.execute
  print ("ls pid: ")
  print (ls.pid)
  print ("\%N")
  from
   ls.stdout.read\_string~(512)
  until
   ls.stdout.end\_of\_input
  loop
   print (ls.stdout.last string)
   ls.stdout.read_string (512)
  end
  -- close captured io
  ls.stdout.close \\
  -- wait for process
  ls.wait_for (True)
 end
end
```

It is possible to check if a child process has terminated or not. Pass False to the suspend parameter of the <code>EPX\_EXEC\_PROCESS</code> .wait \_for feature and check is \_terminated to see if the child process has stopped or not.

### 9.4 Catching a signal with Standard C

You can catch signals with Standard C. The following example demonstrates a program that can be safely interrupted by pressing Ctrl+C:

```
class EX SIGNAL3
inherit
EPX\_CURRENT\_PROCESS
STDC\_CONSTANTS
STDC\_SIGNAL\_HANDLER
create
make
feature
handled: BOOLEAN
make is
 local
  signal: STDC SIGNAL
  create signal.make (SIGINT)
  signal.set\_handler\ (Current)
  signal.apply
  print ("Wait 10s or press Ctrl+C.%N")
  sleep (10)
  if handled then
   print \; ("\mathit{Ctrl} + C \; pressed.\%N")
   print ("Ctrl+C not pressed.\%N")
  end
 end
 signalled (signal_value: INTEGER) is
 do
  handled := True
 end
end
```

As Standard C doesn't have a sleep command, this program uses EPX \_CURRENT \_PROCESS to get either the sleep from POSIX or from Windows.

More explanation about the program itself can be found in **section 9.5**.

### 9.5 Catching a signal with POSIX

Every class can become a signal handler by inheriting from POSIX \_SIGNAL \_HANDLER. Implement the signalled method as that is the function that is called when the signal occurs. Use POSIX \_SIGNAL .set \_handler to make your class a signal handler and call apply to start receiving signals when they occur.

The following examples demonstrates a program that can be safely interrupted by pressing Ctrl+C:

```
class EX SIGNAL1
inherit
  POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS
  POSIX_CONSTANTS
  POSIX_SIGNAL_HANDLER
create
  make
feature
  handled: BOOLEAN
  make is
    local
      signal: POSIX\_SIGNAL
    do
      create signal.make (SIGINT)
      signal.set\_handler\ (Current)
      signal.apply
      print ("Wait 30s or press Ctrl+C.%N")
      sleep (30)
      if handled then
        print ("Ctrl+C pressed.\%N")
        print ("Ctrl+C not pressed.\%N")
      end
    end
```

```
signalled\ (signal\_value:\ INTEGER)\ \mathbf{is} do handled:=\ True end
```

All precautions and warnings when handling signals in C apply equally well in Eiffel of course. While in a signal handler, the signal will not be delivered again. Call STDC \_SIGNAL \_HANDLER .reestablish to make your signal handler interruptable.

You can write a single signal handler, that handles multiple signals. This makes it possible to have signal handling code in just one place. Create a class that inherits from POSIX \_SIGNAL \_HANDLER. Pass this class to the POSIX \_SIGNAL .set \_handler for every signal you want to catch. The signal value is passed as parameter to POSIX \_SIGNAL \_HANDLER .signalled, so you can write an inspect statement based on the value.

### 9.6 General wait for child handler

If you do not want to wait for every child process explicitly, you can write a simple SIGCHLD handler that just does a wait (I found this idea in (Xxxxxxxxx, 0000)):

```
class EX_SIGNAL2
inherit
  POSIX\_CURRENT\_PROCESS
  POSIX CONSTANTS
  POSIX SIGNAL HANDLER
create
  make
feature
  make is
    local
      signal: POSIX_SIGNAL
    do
      create signal.make (SIGCHLD)
      signal.set\_handler\ (Current)
      signal.apply
      -- spawn child processes here
      -- you dont have to wait for them
    end
```

```
egin{align*} signalled \ (signal\_value: INTEGER) \ \mathbf{is} \ \mathbf{do} \ & wait \ \mathbf{end} \ \end{aligned}
```

### end

In Unix 98 you should be able to set the ignore handler for this signal. In pure POSIX systems the behaviour of the ignore handler is unspecified.

### 9.7 Forking a child process

Forking is very easy with this Eiffel POSIX implementation. The steps:

- 1. Write a child by inheriting from POSIX \_FORK \_ROOT and implementing its execute method.
- 2. The class that will do the forking, should inherit from POSIX \_CURRENT \_PROCESS.
- 3. Pass the child to the inherited feature POSIX \_CURRENT \_PROCESS .fork and the forking has begun.

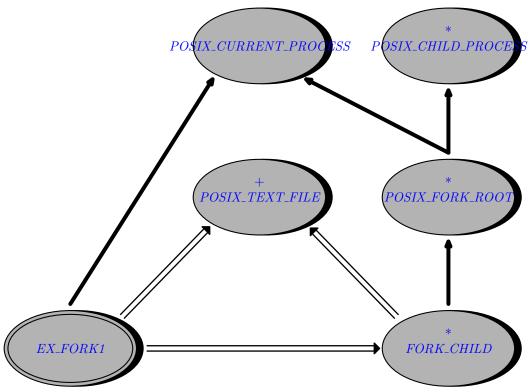


Figure 9.1 BON diagram of forking a child process.

The following class shows the process that forks the child.

class

 $EX\_FORK1$ 

end

```
inherit
  POSIX\_CURRENT\_PROCESS
  POSIX FILE SYSTEM
create
  make
feature
  make is
    local
       reader: POSIX TEXT FILE
      stop\_sign: BOOLEAN
       child: FORK\_CHILD
    do
       -- necessary for SmallEiffel before -0.75 beta 7
       ignore\_child\_stop\_signal
       unlink ("berend.tmp")
       create\_fifo ("berend.tmp", S\_IRUSR + S\_IWUSR)
       create child
      fork (child)
       -- we will now block until file is opened for writing
      create reader.open_read ("berend.tmp")
      from
         stop\_sign := False
       until
         stop\_sign
       loop
         reader.read_string (128)
         print (reader.last_string)
         stop\_sign := equal(reader.last\_string, "stop\%N")
       end
       reader.close
       -- now wait for the writer to terminate
       child.wait_for (True)
       unlink ("berend.tmp")
    end
```

This class just displays anything that the writer, the child class, writes to the FIFO. When it recognizes stop, the reader stops after waiting for the child it has spawned. Note that

this is very important! Wait for any child you have spawned else you might get spurious errors if the process exits and a child has not yet finished.

The following class shows the forked child.

```
class FORK_CHILD
inherit
  POSIX\_FORK\_ROOT
feature
  execute is
    local
       writer: POSIX\_TEXT\_FILE
     do
       create writer.open_append ("berend.tmp")
       writer.put\_string ("first\%N")
       writer.put\_string ("stop\%N")
       writer.close
       -- we give the reader some time to process these messages
       sleep (10)
     \mathbf{end}
end
```

In this chapter:

10.1Current time
10.2Accessing environment variables
10.3Capabilities

### 10 Querying the operating system

### 10.1 Current time

e-POSIXhas a very complete class to work with times. A time can be set from the current time by using POSIX \_TIME .make \_from \_now. Before a time can be printed, it needs to be converted to either local time or UTC. Do this by calling to \_local or to \_utc. Date and times can be printed using features as default \_format, local \_date \_string, local \_time \_string or a custom format through format.

```
class EX TIME1
create
  make
feature
  make is
    local
       time1,
       time2: POSIX\_TIME
    do
       create time1.make from now
       time1.to\_local
       print_time (time1)
       time1.to\_utc
       print_time (time1)
       create time2.make\_time(0, 0, 0)
       print_time (time2)
       create time2.make_date_time (1970, 10, 31, 6, 55, 0)
       time2.to\_utc
       print_time (time2)
      if time2 < time1 then
         print ("time2 is less than time1 as expected.%N")
       else
         print ("!! time2 is not less than time1.\%N")
      end
    end
```

```
print_time (time: POSIX_TIME) is
       print ("Date: ")
       print (time.year)
       print ("-")
       print (time.month)
       print ("-")
       print (time.day)
       print (" ")
       print\ (time.hour)
       print (":")
       print (time.minute)
       print (":")
       print (time.second)
       print ("\%N")
       print ("Weekday: ")
       print (time.weekday)
       print ("\%N")
       print ("default string: ")
       print\ (time.default\_format)
       print ("\%N")
    end
end
```

### 10.2 Accessing environment variables

Standard C supports reading environment variables with STDC \_ENV \_VAR.

```
class EX_ENV2

create

make

feature

make is
 local
 env: STDC_ENV_VAR
 do
 create env.make ("HOME")
 print (env.value)
 print ("%N")
 end
```

The POSIX doesn't add any functionality here:

53 Capabilities

```
class EX_ENV1

create

make

feature

make is
 local
 env: POSIX_ENV_VAR
 do
 create env.make ("HOME")
 print (env.value)
 print ("%N")
 end

end
```

It is not possible in POSIX to set an environment variable. This is possible with the Single Unix Specification classes. Using SUS \_ENV \_VARset\_value it is possible to set environment variables.

### 10.3 Capabilities

Use the portable <code>EPX\_SYSTEM</code> class to query for various system dependent constants like  $max\_open\_files$ . There are operating system dependent queries in <code>POSIX\_SYSTEM</code> and <code>WINDOWS\_SYSTEM</code>.

```
In this chapter:

11.1MIME parsing
11.2Sockets
11.3Echo client
11.4Echo client and server
```

### 11 Working with the network

### 11.1 MIME parsing

Many of the Internet's protocols send data in MIME format. e-POSIX offers a MIME parser in EPX \_MIME \_PARSER to parse such data and MIME message creation in EPX \_MIME \_PART.

MIME messages consist of two parts: a header and a body. The body itself can consist of another header and body. Some examples of using this class are shown in **section 12.7**.

### 11.2 Sockets

e-POSIX currently has fairly complete socket support. Not every option offered by the Single Unix Specification is supported yet, but as always we will attempt in every release to reach full support for every function offered.

As usual the EPX\_XXXX classes are available on both Unix and Windows platform. The SUS\_XXXX classes are available only on Single Unix Specification () systems and extend the EPX\_XXXX classes with Unix specific functionality.

TCP functionality is available for both Windows and Unix. UDP is only available on Unix, as well as Unix streams.

### 11.3 Echo client

The following example demonstrates a simple echo client for TCP. An echo server must be running on your machine:

```
class EX_ECHO_CLIENT_TCP

create

make

feature

hello: STRING is "Hello World.%N"

make is
local
host: EPX_HOST
```

55 Echo client

```
service: EPX_SERVICE
echo: EPX_TCP_CLIENT_SOCKET
sa: EPX_HOST_PORT
do
create host.make_from_name ("localhost")
create service.make_from_name ("echo", "tcp")

create sa.make (host, service)

create echo.open_by_address (sa)
echo.put_string (hello)
echo.read_string (256)
if not echo.last_string.is_equal (hello) then
print ("!! got: ")
print (echo.last_string)
end
end
end
```

The following example demonstrates a simple echo client for UDP. An echo server must be running on your machine:

```
class EX\_ECHO\_CLIENT\_UDP
create
make
feature
hello: STRING is "Hello World. %N"
make is
 local
  host: SUS\_HOST
  service: SUS\_SERVICE
  echo: SUS_UDP_CLIENT_SOCKET
  sa:\ EPX\_HOST\_PORT
 do
  create host.make__from__name ("localhost")
  create service.make_from_name ("echo", "udp")
  create sa.make (host, service)
  create echo.open_by_address (sa)
  echo.put_string (hello)
  echo.read\_string~(256)
  if not echo.last_string.is_equal (hello) then
  print ("!! got: ")
  print (echo.last_string)
```

```
end
end
end
```

### 11.4 Echo client and server

The following class demonstrates an echo server and client in a single class. It uses unix sockets (a fast interprocess communication) to achieve that.

```
class EX ECHO UNIX
inherit
SUS\_FILE\_SYSTEM
SUS CONSTANTS
create
make
feature
make is
  -- Echo client and server, unix style.
  client_socket: SUS_UNIX_CLIENT_SOCKET
  server\_socket: SUS\_UNIX\_SERVER\_SOCKET
  client fd: SUS_UNIX_SOCKET
  correct: BOOLEAN
 do
  if is_existing ("/tmp/eposix") then
  unlink ("/tmp/eposix")
  end
  create server_socket.listen_by_path ("/tmp/eposix", SOCK_STREAM)
  create client_socket.open_by_path ("/tmp/eposix", SOCK_STREAM)
  client\_fd := server\_socket.accept
  client\_socket.put\_string\ (hello)
  client_fd.read_string (256)
  correct := client\_fd.last\_string.is\_equal\ (hello)
  if not correct then
  print ("Oops.\%N")
  end
  client_fd.put_string (berend)
  client\_socket.read\_string~(256)
  correct := client\_socket.last\_string.is\_equal\ (berend)
  if not correct then
  print ("Oops.\%N")
  end
```

```
client\_socket.close
    client\_fd.close
    server\_socket.close
    unlink ("/tmp/eposix")
  feature \{NONE\} -- Implementation
  hello: STRING is "Hello World. \%N"
  berend: STRING is "hello berend%N"
  end
The following class is similar, but uses TCP.
  class EX ECHO TCP
  inherit
  SUS\_CONSTANTS
  create
  make
  feature
  make is
    -- Echo client and server, tcp style.
   local
    host: SUS HOST
    service: SUS SERVICE
    client\_socket: SUS\_TCP\_CLIENT\_SOCKET
    server\_socket: SUS\_TCP\_SERVER\_SOCKET
    sa: EPX HOST PORT
    client\_fd: ABSTRACT\_TCP\_SOCKET
    correct: BOOLEAN
   do
    create host.make_from_name ("localhost")
    create service.make_from_port (port, "tcp")
    create sa.make (host, service)
    create server_socket.listen_by_address (sa)
    create client_socket.open_by_address (sa)
    client\_fd := server\_socket.accept
    client socket.put string (hello)
    client_fd.read_string (256)
    correct := client\_fd.last\_string.is\_equal (hello)
    if not correct then
     print ("Oops.\%N")
    end
    client_fd.put_string (berend)
```

end

```
client_socket.read_string (256)
correct := client_socket.last_string.is_equal (berend)
if not correct then
print ("Oops.%N")
end

client_socket.close
client_fd.close
server_socket.close
end

feature {NONE} -- Implementation

port: INTEGER is 9877
-- Thanks to W. Richard Stevens

hello: STRING is "Hello World.%N"
berend: STRING is "hello berend%N"
```

In this chapter:

12.1Introduction
12.2FTP client
12.3HTTP client
12.4HTTP server
12.5IMAP4 client
12.6IRC client
12.7SMTP client
12.8LDIF parser

Working
with the
network: advanced topics

### 12.1 Introduction

In version 2.0 e-POSIX has introduced the first of a series of classes for writing common Internet clients and servers.

Many of these classes are a work in progress, and might not have the robustness desired for critical applications.

### 12.2 FTP client

The e-POSIX FTP client supports almost all FTP operations, but currently has a fairly basic interface. Read and write operations return a stream for example. Reading and writing files to the file system is left as an exercise for the reader.

The following example demonstrates reading a directory from an FTP server and receiving a file:

```
create

make

feature

make is
local
ftp: EPX_FTP_CLIENT
do
-- ftp://ftp.nlm.nih.gov/nlmdata/sample/serfile/serfilesamp2005.xml
create ftp.make_anonymous (server_name, "guest")
ftp.open
if ftp.is_positive_completion_reply then
ftp.change_directory (directory_name)
ftp.name_list
```

create

```
dump\_data\_connection (ftp.data\_connection)
    ftp.read\_reply
    ftp.retrieve (file_name)
     dump_data_connection(ftp.data_connection)
    ftp.read_reply
    ftp.quit
    ftp.close
    else
    print ("Connect fails.\%N")
    end
   end
   dump\_data\_connection (stream: KI\_CHARACTER\_INPUT\_STREAM) is
    -- Dump stream input.
   require
    stream not void: stream /= Void
   do
    from
    stream.read character
    until
    stream.end\_of\_input
    loop
    print\ (stream.last\_character)
    stream.read\_character
    end
    stream.close
   end
  feature -- Access
  directory_name: STRING is "/pub/FreeBSD"
  file_name: STRING is "README.TXT"
  server_name: STRING is "ftp.freebsd.org"
  end
EXP _FTP _CLIENT also supports creating (make _directory) or deleting directories (remove
_directory), deleting (remove _file), renaming (rename _to), and uploading files (store).
12.3
        HTTP client
The following example demonstrates retrieval of a file through HTTP using the EPX _HTTP
_10 _CLIENT class:
  class EX\_HTTP1
```

61 HTTP server

```
feature

url: STRING is "http://www.freebsd.org/index.html"

make is
local
uri: UT_URI
client: EPX_HTTP_10_CLIENT
do
create uri.make (url)
create client.make (uri.authority) -- www.freebsd.org
client.get (uri.path) -- /index.html
client.read_response
print (client.body.as_string)
end

end
```

It also demonstrates the use of the UT \_URI class to parse an URI into its components.

### 12.4 HTTP server

e-POSIX offers a basic HTTP server in <code>EPX\_HTTP\_SERVER</code>. The following example demonstrates starting such a server and let it listen on the local interface.

```
class EX\_HTTP\_SERVER1
inherit
EPX\_CURRENT\_PROCESS
create
make
feature
make is
 local
  server: EPX\_HTTP\_SERVER
 do
  create server.make (port_to_listen_on, document_root)
  server.set\_serve\_xhtml\_if\_supported~(False)
  server.listen\_locally
  from
  until
  False
  loop
```

```
server.process_next_requests
millisleep (100)
end
end

port_to_listen_on: INTEGER is 5566

document_root: STRING is "/var/www/html"
end
```

EPX \_HTTP \_SERVER will say to clients that it serves XHTML instead of HTML. Or in MIME types: application/xhtml+xml instead of text/html. In case that the HTML pages which are served are not actually XHTML, you will need to turn this option off with a call to set \_serve \_xhtml \_if \_supported.

In the main loop all available requests are served after which a brief sleep follows. Without the sleep the process would use 100% CPU.

The server will return the files under /var/www/html from the file system to the browser. It's also possible to create and register servlets which can respond to requests. A servlet is like a built-in CGI program. A servlet allows maximum control over the response send to the browser, not only the response header, but also the response code send to the client.

A servlet is built after REST principles. A servlet is designed to behave like a resource. You can bind it to a URL and after that it can handle any of the HTTP commands as GET, POST, or PUT that are send to it. By default a servlet will return error code 405, meaning "Method not allowed". The simplest servlet, which always returns 405 is therefore the following:

```
class EX_HTTP_SERVLET1
inherit
    EPX_HTTP_SERVLET
create
    make
end
```

This servlet has to be registered with the HTTP server. The following example shows a virtual HTTP server, one that doesn't have a document root and therefore will never read the file system. It attaches the servlet to the url /customers.

```
class EX_HTTP_SERVER2
inherit
    EPX_CURRENT_PROCESS
create
```

63 HTTP server

```
make
  feature
   make is
   local
    server: EPX\_HTTP\_SERVER
    servlet:\ EX\_HTTP\_SERVLET2
   \mathbf{do}
    {\bf create}\ server.make\_virtual\ (port\_to\_listen\_on)
    {\bf create}\ servlet.make
    server.register_fixed_resource ("/customers", servlet)
    server.listen\_locally
    from
    until
     False
    loop
     server.process\_next\_requests
     millisleep (100)
    end
   \quad \textbf{end} \quad
  port_to_listen_on: INTEGER is 5566
  end
You might have noticed it attached servlet EX _HTTP _SERVLET2. This servlet is shown
below:
  class EX HTTP SERVLET2
  inherit
  EPX\_HTTP\_SERVLET
   redefine
    get\_header
   end
  create
  make
  feature \{EPX\_HTTP\_SERVER\} -- Execution
   get\_header is
   \mathbf{do}
    doctype
    b\_html
    b\_head
    title ("Customers")
```

```
\begin{array}{c} e\_head \\ b\_body \\ p\ ("1.\ John") \\ p\ ("2.\ Luke") \\ p\ ("3.\ Matthew") \\ p\ ("4.\ Pete") \\ e\_body \\ e\_html \\ write\_default\_header \\ add\_content\_length \\ \mathbf{end} \end{array}
```

### end

Only the EX \_HTTP \_SERVLET .get \_header method needs to be overwritten. The format is usually to write the body first and write the header last. This might seem counterintuitive, but for persistent connections you need to supply a Content-Length if you write a body. Another solution would be to use the chunked transfer encoding, but that isn't explicitly supported yet, so you have to do the work yourself here.

So for dynamically created content, you usually write the body in the header, so you can setup the header. There is also a <code>EX \_HTTP \_SERVLET .get \_body</code>, but it is usually not overriden for dynamic content.

The EPX \_HTTP \_SERVER class is responsible for sending the header and the body and to guard against any errors.

In the same manner you can write code to react to PUT, POST or DELETE requests. As browsers usually do not support PUT or DELETE requests, EPX \_HTTP \_CONNECTION will turn a POST request into a PUT or DELETE when it finds a special value. The implementation is in remap \_http \_method. This happens under the following circumstances:

- 1. The request is a POST request.
- 2. The POST request is a submit of form fields (regardless of the chosen encoding).
- 3. There is a form field that starts with the name "http-method:".

In these cases the substring after "http-method:" is taken to override the POST request into whatever is present as substring.

Figure 12.1 shows the BON diagram of the EPX \_HTTP \_SERVER. A server can have zero or more registered servlets and zero or more open connections.



Figure 12.1 BON diagram of *EPX\_HTTP\_SERVER*.

The server supports persistent connections. In  $\mathrm{HTTP}/1.1$  connections are persistent by default. If not requested otherwise, the server will keep the connection open and monitor it to see if any data is coming in. If no data has been send in the last 15 seconds, the connection is forcibly closed.

65 IMAP4 client

The server can have zero or more servlets registered. A single servlet can be connected to multiple URLs by calling EPX \_HTTP \_SERVER .register \_fixed \_resource with the same servlet.

There is also a register \_dynamic \_resource call to register servlets where part of the data is present in the URL. For example the URL /customer/1 looks much better than /customer?id=1. Register a servlet that takes part of the URL as input as follows:

```
server.register_dynamic_resource ("/customer/(id)", servlet)
```

Every name present between parentheses in such a path is appended to EPX \_HTTP \_CONNECTION .request \_form \_fields. To a servlet it does therefore not matter if a query is used to input the data, if it is part of a POST or if it was part of the URL. It all becomes input data.

### 12.5 IMAP4 client

e-POSIX implements an IMAP4 client that supports IMAP4 access. The following example connects to an IMAP4 server and performs various operations:

```
class EX IMAP41
inherit
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS
create
make
feature
make is
 local
  client: EPX_IMAP4_CLIENT
  create client.make (host)
  if client.is_open then
   client.login (login_name, password)
   {f if}\ client.response.is\_ok\ {f then}
    client.list\_subscribed
    client.examine ("INBOX")
    client.fetch\_message (4)
    print (client.response.current_message.message)
    client.close\_mailbox
    client.logout
   else
   print ("Login failed.%N")
   end
   client.close
  else
```

```
print ("Cannot connect to server.%N")
end
end

feature -- Access

host: STRING is "bmach"

password: STRING is
local
  password_env: STDC_ENV_VAR
  once
  create password_env.make ("IMAP4_PASSWORD")
  Result := password_env.value
  ensure
  password_not_void: Result /= Void
  end
end
```

The first operation is reading the list of available folders. Next it examines the standard INBOX folder, i.e. open it for reading only. It reads message 4 and prints it. And finally it closes the mailbox.

The e-POSIX IMAP4 is fairly full featured, it can read and write messages and receive various pieces of information about the email such as just its header ot its size.

#### 12.6 IRC client

e-POSIX also has an IRC client implementation, <code>EPX\_IRC\_CLIENT</code>. The following example demonstrates logging on to the <code>#eiffel</code> channel on <code>irc.freenode.net</code> and printing all the messages.

```
class EX_IRC1

create

make

feature

make is
 local
  irc: EPX_IRC_CLIENT
  eiffel: EPX_IRC_CHANNEL
 do
  create irc.make (host, username, password)
  irc.set_print_response (True)
  irc.set_real_name ("EiffelBot")
  irc.open
```

67 SMTP client

```
if irc.is_open then
   irc.read\_all
   irc.join ("#eiffel")
   eiffel := irc.last\_joined\_channel
   irc.set blocking io (True)
   from
    irc.read
   until
    False
   loop
   irc.read
   end
   -- We wont come here.,,
   irc.close
  end
 end
host: STRING is "irc.freenode.net"
username: STRING is "eiffelbot"
password: STRING
  -- n/a
end
```

The printing is done by calling EPX \_IRC \_CLIENT .set \_print \_response. Not something you probably will use except when debugging. Also we set set \_blocking \_io to True, but real IRC clients will be non-blocking.

Look at the test class <code>TEST \_IRC \_CLIENT</code> for more examples, or download the Eiffel Bot from the e-POSIX page.

### 12.7 SMTP client

EPX \_SMTP \_CLIENT implements support for sending email to an SMTP server. It only supports servers that can receive 8 bit messages. This class cannot convert 8 bit data to 7 bit data.

## 12.7.1 Sending plain text email

The following example demonstrates sending a plain text email with this class:

```
 \begin{array}{l} \textbf{class} \ EX\_SMTP1 \\ \\ \textbf{inherit} \\ \\ EPX\_CURRENT\_PROCESS \\ \\ EPX\_SYSTEM \end{array}
```

```
create
make
feature
make is
 local
  message: EPX MIME EMAIL
  mail: EPX\_SMTP\_MAIL
  smtp: EPX\_SMTP\_CLIENT
  sender_mailbox: STRING
  recipient\_mailbox: STRING
 do
  create message.make
  message.header.set_from ("Berend de Boer", "berend@pobox.com")
  message.header.set_to ("Berend de Boer", "berend@pobox.com")
  message.header.set_subject ("EX_SMTP1")
  message.create singlepart body
  message.text_body.append_string ("Hello!")
  sender\_mailbox := effective\_user\_name
  recipient\_mailbox := effective\_user\_name
  create mail.make (sender_mailbox, recipient_mailbox, message)
  create smtp.make (smtp_server_name)
  smtp.open
  smtp.ehlo (node name) -- node name is usually your domain name
  smtp.mail (mail)
  smtp.quit
  smtp.close
smtp_server_name: STRING is "localhost"
  -- Should work on every Unix system
```

The example sends email from the current user to the current user.

There are three steps in creating an email:

end

- 1. Create the message using EPX \_MIME \_EMAIL, which basically is an EPX \_MIME \_PART. It has and has several convenience routines to quickly create such a message.
- 2. Create the mail using EPX \_SMTP \_MAIL. This class is a container for the sender, the recipients and the actual message that is to be sent.
- 3. Create an instance of the EPX \_SMTP \_CLIENT class. The EPX \_SMTP \_CLIENT .ehlo command identifies the client with the server. Pass as argument the local domain, or if this is not available, the ip address of the client. The actual message is send after calling the mail command. It's argument is the EclassEPX\_SMTP\_MAIL instance created in the previous step.

69 SMTP client

After the message has been sent, EPX \_SMTP \_CLIENT .quit is called to end the session and close is called to close the connection with the SMPT server.

The creation routine of [EPX\_SMTP\_CLIENT] takes as argument the SMTP server. Correctly finding the SMTP server for a given recipient involves querying a DNS server for MX records. e-POSIX does not support this at the moment. However, passing the local SMTP server is usually sufficient as this server knows how to figure this out.

## 12.7.2 Sending HTML email

The following example demonstrates sending an HTML text email with this class:

```
class EX SMTP2
create
make
feature
make is
 local
  type names: expanded EPX MIME TYPE NAMES
  message: EPX MIME EMAIL
  mail: EPX\_SMTP\_MAIL
  smtp: EPX\_SMTP\_CLIENT
  create message.make
  message.header.set\_from~("Berend~de~Boer",~"berend@pobox.com")
  message.header.set_to ("Berend de Boer", "berend@pobox.com")
  message.header.set_subject ("EX_SMTP2")
  message.header.set\_content\_type\_text\_html\_utf8
  message.create\_singlepart\_body
  message.text body.append string (html)
  create mail.make (sender_mailbox, recipient_mailbox, message)
  create smtp.make (smtp_server_name)
  smtp.open
  smtp.ehlo (my\_domain)
  smtp.mail (mail)
  smtp.quit
  smtp.close
 \mathbf{end}
my_domain: STRING is "nederware.nl"
smtp_server_name: STRING is "localhost"
sender_mailbox: STRING is "berend"
recipient_mailbox: STRING is "berend"
```

```
html: STRING is "[ \\ < html > \\ < head > \\ < title > EX\_SMTP2 < / title > \\ < / head > \\ < body > \\ < h1 > Hello < / h1 > \\  HTML email, brought to you by eposix.  \\ < / body > \\ ]"
```

The main difference is setting the content type to be "text/hmtl". And the body must be HTML of course.

#### 12.7.3 Sending both text and HTML email

As not all email clients can display HTML, most mailers send both a text and an HTML version. The following example demonstrates how this can be done in e-POSIX:

```
class EX SMTP3
create
make
feature
make is
 local
  type names: expanded EPX MIME TYPE NAMES
  message: EPX\_MIME\_EMAIL
  ct: EPX\_MIME\_FIELD\_CONTENT\_TYPE
  text_part,
  html part: EPX MIME PART
  mail: EPX\_SMTP\_MAIL
  smtp:\ EPX\_SMTP\_CLIENT
  {\bf create}\ message.make
  message.header.set_from ("Berend de Boer", "berend@pobox.com")
  message.header.set_to ("Berend de Boer", "berend@pobox.com")
  message.header.set_subject ("EX_SMTP3")
  create ct.make_multipart (
  type\_names.mime\_subtype\_alternative,
  "---=\_my-boundary----")
  message.header.add field (ct)
  message.create\_multipart\_body
  text\_part := message.multipart\_body.new\_part
  text_part.header.set_content_type (
```

71 SMTP client

```
type_names.mime_type_text, type_names.mime_subtype_plain,
   "ISO-8859-1")
  text\_part.create\_singlepart\_body
  text_part.text_body.append_string(text)
  html\_part := message.multipart\_body.new\_part
  html\_part.header.set\_content\_type (
   type\_names.mime\_type\_text,\ type\_names.mime\_subtype\_html,
   "ISO-8859-1")
  html\_part.create\_singlepart\_body
  html\_part.text\_body.append\_string\ (html)
  {\bf create}\ mail.make\ (sender\_mailbox,\ recipient\_mailbox,\ message)
  create smtp.make (smtp_server_name)
  smtp.open
  smtp.ehlo (my\_domain)
  smtp.mail (mail)
  smtp.quit
  smtp.close
 end
my_domain: STRING is "nederware.nl"
smtp_server_name: STRING is "localhost"
sender mailbox: STRING is "berend"
recipient_mailbox: STRING is "berend"
html: STRING is "[
< html >
< head >
 < title > EX\_SMTP3 < /title >
</head>
< body >
 <h1>Hello</h1>
 HTML email, brought to you by eposix.
</body>
text: STRING is "Hello%N%NHTML email, brought to you by eposix."
```

We set the content type to be "multipart/alternative", and create two parts. The first part is content type "text/plain" and the second is the content type "text/html".

end

## 12.7.4 Sending attachments

Multipart emails are also the key to sending attachments. The following example demonstrates how this can be done in e-POSIX by attaching the example itself:

```
class EX SMTP4
inherit
EPX FILE SYSTEM
create
make
feature
make is
 local
  message: EPX\_MIME\_EMAIL
  ct: EPX_MIME_FIELD_CONTENT_TYPE
  text\_part,
  file_part: EPX_MIME_PART
 do
  create message.make
  message.header.set_from ("Berend de Boer", "berend@pobox.com")
  message.header.set_to ("Berend de Boer", "berend@pobox.com")
  message.header.set_subject ("EX_SMTP4")
  create ct.make_multipart (
   type\_names.mime\_subtype\_mixed,
   "---=\_my-boundary----")
  message.header.add\_field\ (ct)
  message.create\_multipart\_body
  text part := message.multipart body.new part
  text_part.header.set_content_type (
   type\_names.mime\_type\_text,\ type\_names.mime\_subtype\_plain,
   "ISO-8859-1")
  text part.create singlepart body
  text_part.text_body.append_string ("Here is the file.")
  file\_part := message.multipart\_body.new\_part
  file_part.header.set_content_type (
  type\_names.mime\_type\_text,\ type\_names.mime\_subtype\_plain,\ Void)
  file part.header.content type.set parameter ("name", filename)
  file part.create singlepart body
  file_part.text_body.append_string (file_content_as_string (filename))
  send_message (message)
 end
```

73 LDIF parser

```
send_message (a_message: EPX_MIME_EMAIL) is
local
 mail \colon EPX\_SMTP\_MAIL
 smtp: EPX SMTP CLIENT
 create mail.make (sender_mailbox, recipient_mailbox, a_message)
 {\bf create}\ smtp.make\ (smtp\_server\_name)
 smtp.open
 smtp.ehlo (my\_domain)
 smtp.mail (mail)
 smtp.quit
 smtp.close
end
my_domain: STRING is "example.com"
smtp_server_name: STRING is "localhost"
sender mailbox: STRING is "berend"
recipient_mailbox: STRING is "berend@bmach"
type_names: EPX_MIME_TYPE_NAMES is
do
 create Result
end
filename: STRING is "ex_smtp4.e"
```

The attachment in this case has to be a text file. Anything that has binary data, i.e. characters lower than character code 32, needs to be encoded first. The following extract demonstrates this encoding:

```
file_part := message.multipart_body.new_part
file_part.header.set_content_type (
    type_names.mime_type_application, type_names.mime_subtype_pdf, Void)
file_part.header.content_type.set_parameter ("name", filename)
file_part.create_base64_body
file_part.text_body.append_string (file_content_as_string (filename))
```

All the other code is just the same as in the previous example, just the file part is different.

An even shorter method to add an attachment is by using EPX \_MIME \_EMAIL .attach \_file which basically does what the above lines of code do.

# 12.8 LDIF parser

e-POSIX contains an LDIF (LDAP Data Interchange Format) parser, see RFC 2849.

In this chapter:

13.1Introduction
13.2Windows
13.3Creating a daemon
13.4Logging messages and errors
13.5ULM based logging

# 13 Writing daemons

#### 13.1 Introduction

e-POSIX has several classes that help with writing daemons or services. First of all there is the POSIX \_DAEMON ancestor class. But as daemons have no user interface, there are also classes for error and information logging.

#### 13.2 Windows

On Windows NT (and derivatives) the equivalent of unix daemons are called services. They are a lot harder to write and require an Eiffel compiler with multi-threading. It is not yet possible to write an NT service with e-POSIX.

The logging functionality described in this chapter does work on Windows NT though.

## 13.3 Creating a daemon

Creating a simple daemon is easy if you inherit from POSIX \_DAEMON. Implement the execute method, and you're done. At run-time, call detach to fork off a child. You can call detach as many times as you want to spawn daemons.

```
class EX_DAEMON

inherit

POSIX_DAEMON

ARGUMENTS

create

make

feature -- the parent

make is
 do
 -- necessary under SmallEiffel
 ignore_child_stop_signal
```

```
if argument count = 0 then
   print ("Options:%N")
   print ("-d start daemon\%N")
  else
   if equal(argument(1), "-d") then
    detach
    print ("Daemon started.%N")
    print ("Its pid: ")
    print (last_child_pid)
   print ("\%N")
   end
  end
 end
feature -- the daemon
 execute is
 \mathbf{do}
  -\!\!\!\!- daemon stays alive for 20 seconds
  sleep (20)
 end
end
```

## 13.4 Logging messages and errors

Although POSIX doesn't have logging facilities, the Single Unix Specification does. This specification requires the presence of the <code>syslogd</code> daemon for centralizes logging facilities. The following example shows you to write messages to this daemon

```
class EX_SYSLOG
inherit

SUS_CONSTANTS

SUS_SYSLOG_ACCESSOR

create

make

feature

make is
    do
        syslog.open ("test", LOG_ODELAY + LOG_PID, LOG_USER)

        syslog.debug_dump ("this is a debug message")
        syslog.info ("this is an informational message")
```

Writing daemons

```
syslog.warning ("this is a warning")
syslog.error ("this is an error message")
syslog.close
end
end
```

Always use the SUS \_SYSLOG \_ACCESSOR to access the syslog wrapper class SUS \_SYSLOG. SUS \_SYSLOG is a singleton, it makes no sense to open a connection to the syslog daemon twice.

## 13.5 ULM based logging

e-POSIX has portable routines for logging in Windows NT and Unix. This is build using the ULM (Universal Format for Logger Messages) specification. The specification itself can be found at http://www.hsc.fr/gul/draft-abela-ulm-05.txt. It is a fixed format for logging that makes it easier to extract data with other tools.

On Unix e-POSIX outputs messages to the syslog daemon, see **section 13.4**. On Windows e-POSIX logs to the event log. This makes this kind of logging specific to Windows NT based systems. It will not work on Windows 9x based systems.

Below a short example of using ULM. The first step is to create a handler that does the actual logging. The class EPX \_LOG \_HANDLER is operating system specific. If you compile on Windows it gives NT event log logging, on Unix it gives syslog logging. There is no logging mechanism for Windows 9x, but it should not be hard to write one. Just implement ULM \_LOG \_HANDLER and implement the deferred routines.

The second step is connecting that handler to the class that does ULM logging, the ULM \_LOGGING class. Logging is now set up.

```
class EX_ULM

create

make

feature -- Initialization

make is
 local
 logger: NET_LOGGER
 handler: EPX_LOG_HANDLER
 field: NET_LOGGER_FIELD
 fields: DS_LINKED_LIST [NET_LOGGER_FIELD]
 do
 -- Create handler and logger
 create handler.make (identification)
 create logger.make (handler, system_name)
```

SRC.IP=127.0.0.1

```
-- Log a simple message
    logger.write_msg (logger.levels.warning, "testing", "Hello World.")
    -- Log a message with a custom field
    create fields.make
    create field.make ("myField", "127.0.0.1")
    fields.put (field, 0)
    logger.write (logger.levels.info, "testing", fields)
   end
  feature -- Access
  identification: STRING is "example"
  system_name: STRING is "ex_ulm"
  end
Two messages are written. Below the slightly formatted output Unix:
  Jul 21 21:12:34 dellius example: DATE=20030721091234 \
    HOST=dellius.nederware.nl PROG="ex_ulm.none" LVL=Alert \
    MSG="Hello World."
  Jul 21 21:12:34 dellius example: DATE=20030721091234 \
    HOST=dellius.nederware.nl PROG="ex_ulm" LVL=Usage \
```

The first message is in the default format. This will always log the date, the host where the message originated and the program. The program field, PROG, consists of a system and subsystem name, separated by dots. This subsystem name is the second parameter to ULM \_LOGGING .log \_message. It may be Void, in which case no subsystem is added to the system name. The level field, LVL, contains the importance of the message. It is the first parameter to ULM \_LOGGING .log \_message. The class ULM \_LOG \_LEVELS has the complete list of levels. And in most cases the log ends with a simple message, MSG, that contains the message itself.

Feature ULM \_LOGGING .log \_event allows more control over the fields that are logged. That is demonstrated in the second message. You can pass the fields that are logged. You can use the fields listed in http://www.hsc.fr/gul/draft-abela-ulm-05.txt, or any other field. There is no MSG field if you don't specify one.

An interesting application of the ULM specification is the NetLogger library, see http://www-didc.lbl.gov/NetLogger/. It is a protocol to measure response times for a distributed application.

On Windows NT you can use the supplied  ${\tt messages.dl1}$  file to avoid this message in the event log:

```
The description for Event ID ( some_number4 ) in Source ( some_name ) cannot be found. The local computer may not have the necessary registry information or message DLL files to display messages from a remote computer.
```

Register this DLL under the HKLM/SYSTEM/CurrentControlSet/Services/Eventlog/Application key. Add a new key which should have the name you have supplied to the EPX \_LOG \_HANDLER .make routine. This key should have two values:

- $1. \ \ \text{EventMessageFile, type REG\_SZ. Its value is the full path to this messages.} \\ \text{dll file.}$
- 2. Types Supported, type DWORD. Its value should be 7.  $\,$

In this chapter:

# 14 Writing CGI programs

Although writing a CGI program doesn't really belong to POSIX, they still are very common, so I decided to include a few classes to make this easier. And of course, they build upon the Standard C classes.

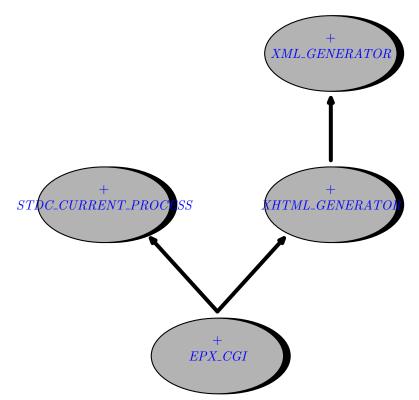


Figure 14.1 BON diagram of *EPX\_CGI*.

You inherit from EPX \_CGI and implement execute. As EPX \_CGI itself inherits from EPX \_XHTML \_WRITER you can call use the features of that class to generate XHTML.

class EX\_CGI1
inherit
EPX\_CGI

create

end

```
make
feature
  execute is
    do
       content\_text\_html
       doctype
       b\_html
       b head
       title \;("e\text{-}POSIX\;CGI\;example.")
       e head
       b body
       p ("Hello World.")
       extend ("you can use your <b>own</b> tags.")
       puts ("or use any tag by using:")
       e\_p
       start_tag ("table")
       set_attribute ("border", Void)
       set_attribute ("cols", "3")
       start_tag ("tr")
       start_tag ("td")
       add_data ("start_tag")
       stop\_tag
       start_tag ("td")
       add_data ("stop_tag")
       stop\_tag
       stop\_tag
       stop\_tag
       e body
       e\_html
    end
```

Output is accumulated in a string and written to stdout after your EPX \_CGI .execute method has finished. The partially built string is accessible with EPX \_XML \_WRITER .unfinished \_xml. Generated output is XHTML, which usually displays fine with older browsers. If strict XHTML is problematic, you can call doctype \_transitional instead of doctype.

It is important not to write to stdout as the output is only written after your <code>EPX \_CGI</code> .execute has finished. If you want to write something to standard output, use the <code>EPX</code>

\_CGI .add \_data feature or its shortcut alias puts. If you want to write real tags, use add \_raw. This last feature allows you to write anything, while puts escapes reserved characters like '>'.

If you use provided features like b \_a, b \_p and such, an attempt is made to produce good looking source. Also your input is somewhat validated against XHTML standards.

It is also easy to write a CGI program that displays a form and accepts submitted values. Even file upload is supported. The following example uses the GET method to submit data:

```
class EX CGI2
inherit
EPX CGI
create
make
feature
 execute is
 do
  content text html
  doctype
  b\_html
  b head
  title ("e-POSIX CGI form example.")
  e\_head
  b\_body
  b__form__get ("ex__cgi2.bin")
  b_p
  puts ("Name: ")
  b_input ("text", "name")
  set_attribute ("size", "32")
  e\_input
  e\_p
  b\_p
  puts ("City: ")
  input_text ("city", 40, "enter city here")
  e\_p
```

```
b\_button\_submit ("action", "GO!")
e\_button\_submit
nbsp
button reset
e\_p
e\_form
hr
p ("In your last submit you entered:")
if not has_key ("name") then
 puts ("!!!!!")
end
puts ("name: ")
puts (value ("name"))
puts (", ")
puts ("city: ")
puts (raw_value ("city"))
e\_p
e body
e\_html
end
```

You can use <code>EPX \_CGI .b \_input</code> to start an input element as shown for the input of a name. Or you can use <code>input \_text</code> to start a simple text input as shown for the input of a city. Below the line you see the value a user has submitted, if any. Use <code>value</code> to get values with certain meta-characters removed. The output is still not save to be passed straight to a Unix Shell though! You can use <code>raw \_value</code> to get the contents as submitted by the user.

In the above example it doesn't matter much if you use <code>b\_form\_get</code> or <code>b\_form\_post</code>. But with the GET method, you cannot upload files. The following example demonstrates how files can be uploaded:

```
class EX\_CGI3
inherit
EPX\_CGI
create
```

end

```
make
feature
execute is
 do
  content\_text\_html
  assert\_key\_value\_pairs\_created
  save\_uploaded\_files
  doctype
  b\_html
  b head
  title ("e-POSIX CGI file upload example.")
  e\_head
  b\_body
  b_form ("post", "ex_cgi3.bin")
  set\_attribute ("enctype", mime\_type\_multipart\_form\_data)
  b\_p
  puts ("Filename: ")
  b_input ("file", "filename")
  set_attribute ("size", "32")
  set_attribute ("maxlength", "128")
  e\_input
  e\_p
  b_{p}
  b\_button\_submit \; ("action", \; "Upload \; file(s)")
  e\_button\_submit
  nbsp
  button\_reset
  e\_p
  e\_form
  e\_body
  e\_html
 end
save\_uploaded\_files is
 local
```

end

```
kv: EPX_KEY_VALUE
\textit{buffer: STDC\_BUFFER}
target\_name: STRING
target: STDC BINARY FILE
create buffer.allocate (8192)
from
 cgi\_data.start
until
 cgi\_data.after
loop
 kv := cgi\_data.item\_for\_iteration
 if kv.file /= Void then
  from
   target\_name := "/tmp/" + kv.value
   create target.create write (target name)
   kv.file.read_buffer (buffer, 0, 8192)
  until
   kv.file.end\_of\_input
  loop
   target.write_buffer (buffer, 0, kv.file.last_read)
   kv.file.read_buffer (buffer, 0, 8192)
  target.close
  kv.file.close
 end
 cqi data.forth
\mathbf{end}
buffer.deallocate
end
```

It is important to set the encoding type. This example accepts a file and writes it to /tmp. Because multiple files can be present, this example just loops over all key value pairs and checks if a file is present. This example isn't fool-proof with multiple users submitting the same file, but you should get the idea.

Note that the first line is <code>EPX \_CGI .content \_text \_html</code>: in case an exception occurs, the web server is still able to output something back to the user.

After that we make sure that the key value pairs are created with assert \_key \_value \_pairs \_created. They are automatically created if you call value, but in this case we want the key value pairs themselves. In EX \_CGI3 .save \_uploaded \_files we use the EPX \_KEYVALUE .file feature to check if that key value pair is an uploaded file: if it is not Void, it points to a temporary file. As this file will be deleted when it is closed or when your program exits, we have to copy it to a new file. The filename is just the value part of this key value pair. The filename is guaranteed to be free of directory parts.

In the last example we just print all key/value pairs to the file list.txt in the temporary directory. We redirect the user to another file.

end

```
class EX_CGI4
inherit
EPX\_CGI
EPX\_FACTORY
create
make
feature
 execute is
  assert\_key\_value\_pairs\_created
  save\_values
  extend ("Location: /mydir/myfile.html")
  new\_line
  new\_line
 \mathbf{end}
 save\_values is
 local
  fout: STDC_TEXT_FILE
  kv: EPX\_KEY\_VALUE
 \mathbf{do}
  create fout.create_write (fs.temporary_directory + "/list.txt")
  from
   cgi\_data.start
  until
   cgi\_data.after
  loop
   kv := cgi\_data.item\_for\_iteration
   fout.puts (kv.key)
   fout.puts ("\%T")
   fout.puts (kv.value)
   fout.puts ("%N")
   cgi\_data.forth
  \mathbf{end}
  fout.close
 end
```

In this chapter:

15.1Error handling with exceptions 15.2Manual error handling

# 15 Error handling

This chapter describes the error handling strategies that are possible with e-POSIX. Basically there are two strategies: using the Eiffel exception mechanism or doing the error handling all yourself.

## 15.1 Error handling with exceptions

The opinion of the author of e-POSIX is that Eiffel's exception mechanism is very well suited to deal with things like files that cannot be opened or directories that do not exist. Others disagree, see **section 15.2**. e-POSIX is designed such that when a POSIX routine returns an error code, an exception is thrown. Here my arguments why I favor this style of error handling:

- 1. We all know that exceptions are to be used for breach of contract. This idea is formulated in (Xxxxxxxxx, 0000) and is the best expressed opinion of exception handling I know.
  - So if you ask an e-POSIX method to open a file, it will do that for you. If it cannot open the file, for whatever reason, it will raise an exception. The same argument hold if you ask it to go to a directory, to start a program, or to open a connection to another machine
  - This approach is also reflected in the names of e-POSIX's features. The name is POSIX TEXT FILE .open read and not POSIX TEXT FILE .attempt open read.
- 2. It is usually not wise to trust clients with error handling. The larger a distance between a software failure and the error report, the more difficult it is to make a correct diagnosis of what went wrong (see (Xxxxxxxxxx, 0000)). e-POSIX uses the fail early, fail hard approach.
- 3. Error handling is often forgotten or left to some global general error handling mechanism. In an interesting article (see (Xxxxxxxxxx, 0000)) James Whittaker describes how he modified certain system calls to return legitimate, but unexpected return codes. Memory allocation failed for example, or opening a file returned with no more file handles. Applications failed within seconds, but it was usually completely unclear why.
- 4. It's a lot easier for programmer's. You don't have to write any error handling. If your program completed, you know that there wasn't a single system call that failed, that you didn't continue despite some error. This will make it possible to write programs that do their work correctly if no errors occur, or else do nothing.

First an example. Let's take a look at the code you have to write in case you want to handle failure of opening a file:

class EX ERROR1

inherit

```
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS
create
  make
feature
  make is
    local
      fd: POSIX FILE DESCRIPTOR
    do
      fd := attempt\_create\_file
    end
  attempt create file: POSIX FILE DESCRIPTOR is
      attempt: INTEGER
      still exists: BOOLEAN
    do
      {f create}\ Result.create\_with\_mode\ ("myfile",\ O\_CREAT+O\_TRUNC+O\_EXCL,
\theta
    rescue
      still\_exists := errno.value = EEXIST
      attempt := attempt + 1
      if still exists and then attempt \leq 3 then
        sleep (1)
        retry
      end
    end
end
```

In this example we try to create a file exclusively. The create will fail if the file already exists. In case this happens, we retry 3 times. Before retrying we wait 1 second. Note that if the error is not EEXIST, we fail directly, without retrying.

In my opinion above's code is just the code you want to write usually: do not worry about errors, if something goes wrong, your application will fail.

My preferred way of error handling is (or sometimes should be) also reflected in the preconditions. For example the POSIX \_FILE \_SYSTEM .browse \_directory has the precondition that the given path should exist and should be a directory. Quite reasonable I think. The argument against such preconditions is that it is somewhat strange: if a client has honoured the precondition by checking that the directory exists, it should be able to assume that it safely can call the routine. But between its own check and the actual call, the directory can be removed by another process.

This is the concurrent precondition paradox (see (Xxxxxxxxxx, 0000)). In my opinion it would not be wise to remove this precondition. It is true that honouring it, will not make sure the contract is not broken. But it still serves a very usefull purpose: documentation.

Error handling 88

For example the routine POSIX \_FILE \_SYSTEM .remove \_file does not have the precondition that the file should exist. That isn't an oversight. This routine does not fail if the file no longer exists for good reason: it honours its postcondition after all. So when you call this routine, the file may or may not exist. The routine doesn't care.

## 15.2 Manual error handling

In spite of the arguments listed in the previous section, automatic error handling is perhaps tedious to use when you expect a lot of errors. And some programmers just do not like Eiffel's exception mechanism. Therefore e-POSIX implements a completely different style of error handling. In this case, e-POSIX continues when an error occurs, but it safes the errorcode, and you can check the errorcode of the first error when you wish. This first errorcode has to be reset by the programmer. An example:

```
class EX ERROR2
inherit
  STDC SECURITY ACCESSOR
create
  make
feature
  make is
    local
       fd: POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR
       security.error\_handling.disable\_exceptions
       create fd.create_write ("myfile")
       if fd.errno.first\_value = 0 then
         fd.put\_string ("1\%N")
         fd.put\_string ("2\%N")
         fd.close
       else
         fd.errno.clear first
       end
    end
```

Exception handling is turned off by a call to STDC \_SECURITY \_ACCESSOR .security .error \_handling .disable \_exceptions. It can be enabled again by calling security .error \_handling .enable \_exceptions. In between, you're on your own, just like a C programmer. If myfile cannot be opened, nothing happens, and the POSIX \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR .put \_string feature is called. Depending if you have enabled precondition checking or not, put \_string will fail. The precondition if put \_string is that the file has to be open. Therefore, at certain points, you're still forced to deal with errors. Every object

has an errno variable. This variable points to the global STDC \_ERRNO object (its a once routine). So there basically is just one first \_value error value. Whatever object caused the error, you can check the errno .first \_value of any e-POSIX object. The last error is still available in errno .value.

If there is no error, the program continues writing. If POSIX \_FILE \_DESCRIPTOR .put \_string failed, the next one is still executed. If there is an error, we reset it with STDC \_ERRNO .clear \_first. This gives us the chance to catch another error value if an error occurs. If this method is not called, first \_value will keep its original value.

The following example is the same as EX \_ERROR1. It shows how to open a file exclusively with manual error handling.

```
class EX_ERROR3
inherit
  POSIX\_CURRENT\_PROCESS
  EXCEPTIONS
create
  make
feature
  make is
    local
      fd: POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR
      security.error\_handling.disable\_exceptions
      fd := attempt\_create\_file
    end
  attempt create file: POSIX FILE DESCRIPTOR is
    require
      manual_error: not security.error_handling.exceptions_enabled
    local
      attempt:\ INTEGER
      still_exists: BOOLEAN
    do
      from
         attempt := 1
         still\ exists := True
      until
        not still exists or else attempt > 3
      loop
         {\bf create}\ Result.create\_with\_mode\ ("myfile",\ O\_CREAT+O\_TRUNC+O\_EXCL,
\theta)
         still\ exists := errno.first\ value = EEXIST
```

Error handling 90

 $\quad \textbf{end} \quad$ 

As you can see, manual error handling does not necessarily translate into less code.

The summary of this section is that you chould check each distinctive step when using manual error handling. You don't have to check intermediate steps.

In this chapter:

16.1Denial of service attacks 16.2Authorization bypass attacks

# 16 Security

e-POSIX is well–suited to write server applications like CGI scripts and daemons. As these applications can be hosted on servers that are attached to the Internet, they could be prone to attack. Applications written with e-POSIX could be misused in a denial of service attack or to gain root access. e-POSIX offers certain protection mechanisms that enable your applications to fend off such penetrations.

This chapter shows you how applications can be misused and what mechanisms e-POSIX offers for certain attacks.

"Programmers typically focus on "positive" aspects of programs, that is, what is the functionality required for the task to be accomplished. Programmers rarely focus on the negative aspects of programs, that is, what functionality is not required for the program to accomplish its task. Attackers take advantage of programmers failure to consider negative functionality. Perhaps a reason that programmers avoid negative functionality is that there is no good way to specify what a program should not be permitted to do."

### 16.1 Denial of service attacks

In a denial of service attack, crackers attempt to deplete one or more finite resources. Resources can be software related like database connections or TCP/IP connections, but ultimately resources are finite because of hardware limitations. This manual distinguishes the following hardware resources:

- Memory.
- CPU.
- Disk space.
- Network bandwidth.

A denial of service attack succeeds if a cracker depletes these resources in such a way that the server cannot handle request anymore, or handles them very slowly. For example, Linux 2.2 is easy to bring to its knees if you keep on allocating memory. In normal situations your application runs fine, and allocates only a limited amount of memory. But an attacker might have found a way to make your application allocate much more memory. Even if you are sure that the code you have written is not prone to such an attack, you might use a library based on e-POSIX that does have code that is exploitable.

e-POSIX has some limited support to set limits on memory, file handle (a memory issue) and cpu usage. When a set limit has been exceeded, an exception is raised.

To limit the amount of memory that can be allocated by the STDC \_BUFFER class, inherit from STDC \_SECURITY \_ACCESSOR and call security .memory .set \_max \_allocation. Currently this limits the amount of memory that can be allocated with STDC \_BUFFER. It does not limit the amount of memory that is allocated by STRING or other classes. You

Security 92

can also limit the amount of memory that can be allocated with a single call by calling security .memory .set \_max \_single \_allocation.

You can limit the number of file handles a program can open by calling <code>security.files.set\_max\_open\_files</code>. This works only with files and sockets opened by e-POSIX classes as <code>STDC\_FILE</code> and <code>POSIX\_FILE\_DESCRIPTOR</code>, not with files opened through other means. In this case you cannot rely on the garbage collection to close your file. Certain garbage collectors do not allow calling other classes in the <code>MEMORY.dispose</code> method. e-POSIX needs to do this to decrement its idea of the number of open handles. Only when you explicitly call <code>STDC\_FILE.close</code> will the e-POSIX decrease its open file handles.

You can limit the amount of CPU time by calling security .cpu .set \_max \_process \_time. It is not possible to automatically halt your application when this time has exceeded. You have to call security .cpu .check \_process \_time to actually check the processor time used.

Currently e-POSIX cannot check disk space or network bandwidth limitations.

Discuss here that decrementing only works for manual deallocations, I'm very sorry about that, but this is a problem of ISE. I'm thinking about ways to work around this.

## 16.2 Authorization bypass attacks

A hacker can bypass authorization if he or she, through your program, can gain the following access:

- Access to more information than your program is written to provide. Security is not breached here, but your program is used in an 'innovative' way. Note that if your program runs within the root security context (suid root), security can be breached!
- Security is breached when your program is used to get more access rights than your program is written to provide. Especially suid root programs are an attractive target here.

Usually Eiffel programs do not allocate buffers on the stack, so they are not prone to the so called 'buffer overflow' attack. As certain vendors might provide some 'native' class that allocate things on the stack, leave precondition checking always on in suid root programs.

Currently e-POSIX doesn't offer much protection for suid root programs. Much better security will be the topic of a next release.

In this chapter:

17.1Making C Headers available to Eiffel
17.2Distinction between Standard C and
POSIX headers
17.3C translation details

# 17 Accessing C headers

This chapter explains the conventions that e-POSIX uses to access the C-headers.

## 17.1 Making C Headers available to Eiffel

The most portable and safest header translation comes when a C function is not called verbatim, but instead a translation function is used. For example to make the Standard C function fopen available within Eiffel a new header file is created which lists an Eiffel compatible way to call this routine:

```
#include "eiffel.h"
#include <stdio.h>

EIF_POINTER posix_fopen(EIF_POINTER filename, EIF_POINTER mode);
```

Instead of using C types, we use Eiffel types here, which are made available by including eiffel.h.

The corresponding C file contains the following implementation:

```
#include "my_new_header.h"

EIF_POINTER posix_fopen(EIF_POINTER filename, EIF_POINTER mode)
{
   return ( (EIF_POINTER) fopen (filename, mode));
}
```

It simply calls the original function, returning the result. Type conversion between Eiffel and C types shouldn't pose problems this way.

To be able to call this function from Eiffel, an **external** feature needs to be written. For example:

```
class HEADER_STDIO

feature {NONE} -- C binding for stream functions

   posix_fopen (path, a_mode: POINTER): POINTER is
      -- Opens a stream
    require
      valid_mode: a_mode /= default_pointer
      external "C"
    end

end
```



Figure 17.1 e-POSIX directory structure

Of course, the Eiffel function can have all Design By Contract features Eiffel programmers are accustomed too.

To recapitulate: every header that is to be translated, needs:

- 1. a new header file, and
- 2. a corresponding C file, and
- 3. an Eiffel class.

For example to translate \$<\stdio.h\\$>\\$ a header file like eiffel\_stdio.h and a C file eiffel\_stdio.c is needed. The Eiffel class could be in header\_stdio.e.

# 17.2 Distinction between Standard C and POSIX headers

However, POSIX sometimes defines extensions to existing Standard C headers. Simply using a translation header file like eiffel\_stdio.h will not work for pure Standard C Eiffel programs, as it can include POSIX specific extensions that might simply not be available on a given platform.

Therefore, e-POSIX divides the C headers in several groups:

- 1. The Standard C headers.
- 2. The Posix headers.
- 3. The Single Unix Specification headers.
- 4. Microsoft Windows headers (as far as they define POSIX functions, this library does not translate Microsoft Windows specific functions).

Every group gets its own translation header with its own prefix. A translated header has a prefix, an underscore and next the original header name. The Standard C translation of \$<\stdio.h\\$>\\$ is done in c\_stdio.h and c\_stdio.c. The POSIX extensions to this header are available in p\_stdio.h and p\_stdio.c.

The corresponding Eiffel class follows similar conventions. It has the group's prefix, next the string 'API', an underscore and next the name of the header. So all \$<\stdio.h\$>\\$ functions are made available in CAPI\_STDIO.

In **table 17.1** all the groups with there translation header prefix and Eiffel class prefix are listed. See also the directory structure in **figure 17.1**.

Group	directory	header prefix	class prefix
Standard C	src/capi	С	CAPI
POSIX	src/[api	р	PAPI
Single Unix Specification	src/sapi	s	SAPI
Windows	src/wapi	W	WAPI

 Table 17.1
 e-Posix prefix conventions

# 17.3 C translation details

This translation wants to do as less as possible at the C level. It attempts to just make available the C constants and C functions and do the actual work in Eiffel.

#### A few details:

- 1. Constants, C macro definitions, are exported in the header file with the prefix 'const\_' and next the macro name. The Eiffel API class exports these constants with the original, uppercased name.
- 2. Struct members are exported with getter and setter functions. The get function has the prefix 'posix', an underscore, the struct name, an underscore and as last the member name. The set function has the prefix 'posix', an underscore, 'set', an underscore, the struct name, an underscore and as last the member name.

In this chapter:

# Posix function to Eiffel class mapping list

The following table defines exactly where a given Posix function is used in a Eiffel class mapping. The table is sorted in alphabetic order. Note that when a STDC\_ class is listed, the feature is also available in the corresponding POSIX\_ class. The same is true for the EPX\_ classes. The EPX\_ classes provide functionality portable between Unix and Windows. The corresponding POSIX\_ or SUS\_ classes extend that functionality for or the Single Unix Specification.

Function	Header	Class	Comm
abort	\$<\$stdlib.h\$>\$	STDC _CURRENT _PROCESS .abort	
accept	\$<\$sys/socket.h\$>\$	EPX _TCP _SERVER _SOCKET .accept	
access	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	ABSTRACT _FILE _SYSTEM .is _accessible	
aio_cancel	\$<\$aio.h\$>\$	POSIX _ASYNC _IO _REQUEST .cancel	
aio_error	\$<\$aio.h\$>\$	POSIX _ASYNC _IO _REQUEST .is _pending	
aio_fsync	\$<\$aio.h\$>\$	POSIX _ASYNC _IO _REQUEST .synchronize	
aio_read	\$<\$aio.h\$>\$	POSIX _ASYNC _IO _REQUEST .read	
aio_return	\$<\$aio.h\$>\$	POSIX _ASYNC _IO _REQUEST .return _status	
aio_suspend	\$<\$aio.h\$>\$	POSIX _ASYNC _IO _REQUEST .wait _for	
aio_write	\$<\$aio.h\$>\$	POSIX _ASYNC _IO _REQUEST .write	
alarm	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _TIMED _COMMAND	
asctime	\$<\$time.h\$>\$	STDC _TIME .default _format	
atexit	\$<\$stdlib.h\$>\$	STDC _EXIT _SWITCH .install	Use ST
			_ACCES
			to acc
bind	<pre>\$&lt;\$sys/socket.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	EPX _TCP _SERVER _SOCKET .listen _by _address	
calloc	<pre>\$&lt;\$stdlib.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	STDC _BUFFER .allocate _and _clear	
cfgetispeed	<pre>\$&lt;\$termios.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	POSIX _TERMIOS .input _speed	
cfgetospeed	<pre>\$&lt;\$termios.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	POSIX _TERMIOS .output _speed	
cfsetispeed	<pre>\$&lt;\$termios.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	POSIX _TERMIOS .set _input _speed	
cfsetospeed	<pre>\$&lt;\$termios.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	POSIX _TERMIOS .set _output _speed	
chdir	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _FILE _SYSTEM .change _directory	
chmod	\$<\$sys/stat.h\$>\$	POSIX _FILE _SYSTEM .change _mode	
chown	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _PERMISSIONS _PATH .apply _owner _and _group	
clearerr	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	STDC _FILE .clear _error	
clock	\$<\$time.h\$>\$	STDC _CURRENT _PROCESS .clock	
clock_getcpuclockid	\$<\$time.h\$>\$		
clock_getres	\$<\$time.h\$>\$	SUS _SYSTEM .real _time _clock _resolution	
clock_gettime	\$<\$time.h\$>\$	SUS _SYSTEM .real _time _clock	
clock_nanosleep	\$<\$time.h\$>\$		
clock_settime	\$<\$time.h\$>\$		
close	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .close	

```
POSIX _DIRECTORY
closedir
                     $<$dirent.h$>$
closelog
                     $<$syslog.h$>$
                                           SUS _SYSLOG .close
confstr
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                     $<$sys/socket.h$>$
                                           EPX _TCP _CLIENT _SOCKET .open _by _address, open _by _name _and _port
connect
                     $<$fcntl.h$>$
                                           EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .create _read _write
creat
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
ctermid
                     $<$time.h$>$
                                                                                                                   Can be
ctime
                                                                                                                   STDC _
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
cuserid
                                                                                                                   see get
                     $<$time.h$>$
daylight
difftime
                     $<$time.h$>$
                                           STDC TIME
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                           EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .make _as _duplicate
dup
dup2
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                           EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .make _as _duplicate
endgrent
                     $<$grp.h$>$
                     $<$netdb.h$>$
endhostent
endnetent
                     $<$netdb.h$>$
endprotoent
                     $<$netdb.h$>$
                     $<$pwd.h$>$
endowent
endservent
                     $<$netdb.h$>$
execl
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                                                                                                   See exe
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                                                                                                   See exe
execle
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                                                                                                   See exe
execlp
execv
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                                                                                                   See exe
                                                                                                                   See exe
execve
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
execvp
                     <\unistd.h$>$
                                           EPX _EXEC _PROCESS .execute
                                           STDC _CURRENT _PROCESS .exit
                     $<$stdlib.h$>$
exit
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
_exit
fchmod
                     $<$sys/stat.h$>$
fchown
                     $<$sys/stat.h$>$
                                           STDC _FILE .close
fclose
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           POSIX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
fcntl
                                                                                                                   attemp
                                                                                                                   set _lo
                                                                                                                   This fu
fdatasync
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                           POSIX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .synchronize _data
                                                                                                                   able on
                                                                                                                   POSIX 8
                                                                                                                   cases i
                                                                                                                   fsync.
fdopen
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           POSIX _FILE .make _from _file _descriptor
feof
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           STDC _FILE .eof
ferror
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           STDC _FILE .error
                                           STDC _FILE .flush
fflush
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           STDC _FILE .get _character
fgetc
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
fgetpos
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           STDC _FILE .get _position
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           STDC _FILE .get _string
fgets
fileno
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           POSIX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .make _from _file
flockfile
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           STDC _FILE
                                                                                                                   various
fopen
                                                                                                                   feature
                                           POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .fork
fork
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
fpathconf
                      $<$unistd.h$>$
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                                                                                                   not app
{\tt fprintf}
fputc
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           STDC _FILE .putc
fputs
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           STDC _FILE .put _string
fread
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           STDC _FILE .read
                                                                                                                   Also re
                                                                                                                   read _
                                           STDC _BUFFER .deallocate
                     $<$stdlib.h$>$
free
freopen
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           STDC _FILE .reopen
```

Also se

Return \_DESCR

See fge

See fge

Also se

See also

Also se\_time.

fseek	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	STDC _FILE .seek
fsetpos	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	STDC _FILE .set _position
fstat	\$<\$sys/stat.h\$>\$	POSIX _STATUS
fsync	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .synchronize
ftell	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	STDC _FILE .tell
ftruncate	<pre>\$&lt;\$unistd.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	
ftrylockfile	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	
funlockfile	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	
fwrite	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	STDC _FILE .write
getc	\$<\$stdioh\$>\$	
getchar	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	DOGTY TITE GYGTEN
getcwd	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM .current_directory
getegid	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .effective _group _id
getenv	\$<\$stdlib.h\$>\$	STDC _ENV _VAR .value
geteuid	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .effective _user _id
getgid	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .real _group _id
getgrgid	\$<\$grp.h\$>\$	POSIX _GROUP .make _from _gid
getgrnam	\$<\$grp.h\$>\$	POSIX _GROUP .make _from _name
getgroups	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .is _in _group
getlogin	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .login _name
getpgrp	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .process _group _id
getpid	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .pid
getppid	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .parent _pid
getpwnam	\$<\$pwd.h\$>\$	POSIX_USER .make _from _name
getpwuid gets	\$<\$pwd.h\$>\$ \$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	POSIX _USER .make _from _uid
gettimeofday	\$<\$sys/time.h\$>\$	
8		
getuid	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .real _user _id
gmtime	\$<\$time.h\$>\$	STDC _TIME .to _utc
inet_ntoa	<pre>\$&lt;\$arpa/inet.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	EPX _IP4 _ADDRESS .out
isatty	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .is _attached _to _terminal
htonl	<pre>\$&lt;\$netinet/in.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	SAPI _IN .posix _htonl
htons	<pre>\$&lt;\$netinet/in.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	SAPI _IN .posix _htons
ioctl	\$<\$stropts.h\$>\$	SAPI _STROPTS .posix _ioctl
kill	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	POSIX _PROCESS .kill
link	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$ \$<\$aio.h\$>\$	POSIX _FILE _SYSTEM .link
lio_listio		
localocany		STDC LOCALE NUMERIC
localeconv	\$<\$locale.h\$>\$	STDC _LOCALE _NUMERIC
localtime	\$<\$locale.h\$>\$ \$<\$time.h\$>\$	STDC _TIME .to _local
	\$<\$locale.h\$>\$	
localtime	\$<\$locale.h\$>\$ \$<\$time.h\$>\$	STDC _TIME .to _local
localtime lseek	\$<\$locale.h\$>\$ \$<\$time.h\$>\$ \$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	STDC _TIME .to _local EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .seek
localtime lseek malloc	<pre>\$&lt;\$locale.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$time.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$unistd.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$stdlib.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	STDC _TIME .to _local EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .seek STDC _BUFFER .allocate
localtime lseek malloc memcpy	\$<\$locale.h\$>\$ \$<\$time.h\$>\$ \$<\$unistd.h\$>\$ \$<\$stdlib.h\$>\$ \$<\$string.h\$>\$	STDC _TIME .to _local EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .seek STDC _BUFFER .allocate
localtime lseek malloc memcpy memchr	<pre>\$&lt;\$locale.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$time.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$unistd.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$stdlib.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$string.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$string.h\$&gt;\$ </pre>	STDC _TIME .to _local EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .seek STDC _BUFFER .allocate STDC _BUFFER .memory _copy
localtime lseek malloc memcpy memchr memcmp	<pre>\$&lt;\$locale.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$time.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$unistd.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$stdlib.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$string.h\$&gt;\$ \$</pre>	STDC _TIME .to _local EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .seek  STDC _BUFFER .allocate STDC _BUFFER .memory _copy  CAPI _STRING .posix _memcmp
localtime lseek malloc memcpy memchr memcmp memmove	<pre>\$&lt;\$locale.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$time.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$unistd.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$stdlib.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$string.h\$&gt;\$ \$</pre>	STDC _TIME .to _local EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .seek  STDC _BUFFER .allocate STDC _BUFFER .memory _copy  CAPI _STRING .posix _memcmp STDC _BUFFER .memory _move
localtime lseek malloc memcpy memchr memcmp memmove memset	<pre>\$&lt;\$locale.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$time.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$unistd.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$stdlib.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$string.h\$&gt;\$ \$</pre>	STDC _TIME .to _local EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .seek  STDC _BUFFER .allocate STDC _BUFFER .memory _copy  CAPI _STRING .posix _memcmp STDC _BUFFER .memory _move STDC _BUFFER .fill _with
localtime lseek  malloc memcpy memchr memcmp memmove memset mkdir	<pre>\$&lt;\$locale.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$time.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$unistd.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$stdlib.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$string.h\$&gt;\$ \$</pre>	STDC _TIME .to _local EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .seek  STDC _BUFFER .allocate STDC _BUFFER .memory _copy  CAPI _STRING .posix _memcmp STDC _BUFFER .memory _move STDC _BUFFER .fill _with POSIX _FILE _SYSTEM .make _directory
localtime lseek  malloc memcpy memchr memcmp memmove memset mkdir mkfifo	<pre>\$&lt;\$locale.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$time.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$unistd.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$stdlib.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$string.h\$&gt;\$ \$</pre>	STDC _TIME .to _local  EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .seek  STDC _BUFFER .allocate  STDC _BUFFER .memory _copy  CAPI _STRING .posix _memcmp  STDC _BUFFER .memory _move  STDC _BUFFER .fill _with  POSIX _FILE _SYSTEM .make _directory  POSIX _FILE _SYSTEM .create _fifo
localtime lseek  malloc memcpy memchr memcmp memmove memset mkdir mkfifo mkstemp	<pre>\$&lt;\$locale.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$time.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$unistd.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$stdlib.h\$&gt;\$  \$&lt;\$string.h\$&gt;\$ \$</pre>	STDC _TIME .to _local EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .seek  STDC _BUFFER .allocate STDC _BUFFER .memory _copy  CAPI _STRING .posix _memcmp STDC _BUFFER .memory _move STDC _BUFFER .fill _with POSIX _FILE _SYSTEM .make _directory POSIX _FILE _SYSTEM .create _fifo SUS _TEMPORARY _FILE .make

```
mlock
                     $<$sys/mman.h$>$
mmap
                     $<$sys/mman.h$>$
                                           POSIX _MEMORY _MAP
mprotect
                     $<$sys/mman.h$>$
mq-receive
                     $<$mqueue.h$>$
                     $<$mqueue.h$>$
mq\_close
mq_getattr
                     $<$mqueue.h$>$
mq_notify
                     $<$mqueue.h$>$
                     $<$mqueue.h$>$
mq_open
mq\_send
                     $<$mqueue.h$>$
mq_setattr
                     $<$mqueue.h$>$
mq\_unlink
                     <\mu_h>\
msync
                     $<$sys/mman.h$>$
munlockall
                     $<$sys/mman.h$>$
munlock
                     $<$sys/mman.h$>$
munmap
                     $<$sys/mman.h$>$
                                           POSIX _MEMORY _MAP
nanosleep
                     $<$time.h$>$
                                           SUS _CURRENT _PROCESS .nanosleep
                     $<$netinet/in.h$>$
                                          SAPI _IN .posix _ntohl
ntohl
                                          SAPI _IN .posix _ntohs
                     $<$netinet/in.h$>$
ntohs
                     $<$fcntl.h$>$
                                           EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .open
open
                                           POSIX _DIRECTORY
opendir
                     $<$dirent.h$>$
                     $<$syslog.h$>$
                                           SUS _SYSLOG .open
openlog
pathconf
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                           POSIX _DIRECTORY .max _filename _length
pause
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                           EPX _CURRENT _PROCESS .pause
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
perror
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                           EPX _PIPE .make
pipe
printf
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
putc
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
putchar
puts
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
raise
                     $<$signal.h$>$
                                           STDC _SIGNAL .raise
rand
                     $<$stdlib.h$>$
                                           STDC _CURRENT _PROCESS .random
read
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                           EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .read
                                           POSIX _DIRECTORY
readdir
                     $<$dirent.h$>$
                                           STDC _BUFFER .resize
realloc
                     $<$stdlib.h$>$
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           POSIX _FILE _SYSTEM .remove _file
remove
                                           POSIX _FILE _SYSTEM .rename _to
rename
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
rewind
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           STDC _FILE .rewind
                                           POSIX _DIRECTORY
rewinddir
                     $<$dirent.h$>$
rmdir
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                           EPX _FILE _SYSTEM .remove _directory
scanf
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
select
                     $<$sys/select.h$>$
                                          EPX _SELECT
sem_close
                     $<$semaphore.h$>$
sem_destroy
                     $<$semaphore.h$>$
sem_getvalue
                     $<$semaphore.h$>$
                     $<$semaphore.h$>$
                                           POSIX _UNNAMED _SEMAPHORE .create _shared
sem_init
sem_open
                     $<$semaphore.h$>$
                                           POSIX _SEMAPHORE .release
                     $<$semaphore.h$>$
sem_post
sem_trywait
                     $<$semaphore.h$>$
                                           POSIX _SEMAPHORE .attempt _acquire
sem_unlink
                     $<$semaphore.h$>$
sem_wait
                     $<$semaphore.h$>$
                                           POSIX _SEMAPHORE .acquire
                     $<$stdio.h$>$
                                           STDC FILE .set buffer
setbuf
                                           POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .set _group _id
setgid
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                           STDC _CURRENT _PROCESS .set _locale
setlocale
                     $<$locale.h$>$
setpgid
                     $<$unistd.h$>$
                                           PAPI _UNISTD .posix _setsid
```

Also or \_read \_write

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setsid	eremiata here	DADI INICID regir cated
	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	PAPI _UNISTD .posix _setsid
setuid	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .set _user _id
setvbuf	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	STDC _FILE .set _no _buffering
shm_open	\$<\$sys/mman.h\$>\$	POSIX _SHARED _MEMORY .open _read _write
shm_unlink	\$<\$sys/mman.h\$>\$	POSIX _FILE _SYSTEM .unlink _shared _memory _object
sigaction	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	POSIX _SIGNAL
sigaddset	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	POSIX _SIGNAL _SET .add
sigdelset	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	POSIX _SIGNAL _SET .prune
sigemptyset	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	POSIX _SIGNAL _SET .make _empty
sigfillset	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	POSIX _SIGNAL _SET .make _full
sigismember	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	POSIX _SIGNAL _SET .has
signal	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	STDC _SIGNAL .raise
sigpending	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	POSIX _SIGNAL _SET .make _pending
sigprocmask	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	POSIX _SIGNAL _SET .add _to _blocked _signals
sigqueue	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	
sigsuspend	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	POSIX _SIGNAL _SET .suspend
sigtimedwait sigwait	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$ \$<\$signal.h\$>\$	
sigwaitinfo	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	
sleep	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .sleep
sprintf	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	
srand	\$<\$stdlib.h\$>\$	STDC _CURRENT _PROCESS .set _random _seed
sscanf	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	
stat	\$<\$sys/stat.h\$>\$	POSIX _STATUS
strftime	\$<\$time.h\$>\$	STDC _TIME .format
sysconf	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _SYSTEM
syslog	\$<\$syslog.h\$>\$	SUS _SYSLOG
system	<pre>\$&lt;\$stdlib.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	STDC _SHELL _COMMAND
tcdrain	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	
tcflow	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	DOCTAL MEDIATOR CT. 1
tcflush	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _TERMIOS .flush _input
tcgetattr	<pre>\$&lt;\$unistd.h\$&gt;\$ \$&lt;\$unistd.h\$&gt;\$</pre>	POSIX _TERMIOS .make
tcgetpgrp tcsendbreak	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	
tcsetattr	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX _TERMIOS .apply _now
	. ,	
tcsetpgrp	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	
time	\$<\$time.h\$>\$	STDC _TIME .make _from _unix _time
timer_create	\$<\$signal.h\$>\$	
timer_create	\$<\$time.h\$>\$	
times	\$<\$times.h\$>\$	GENERAL MEDICINARY DIVIN
tmpfile	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	STDC _TEMPORARY _FILE .make
tmpnam	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	STDC _FILE _SYSTEM .temporary _file _name
ttyname	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$ \$<\$time.h\$>\$	POSIX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .ttyname
tzset umask	\$<\$sys/stat.h\$>\$	
uname	\$<\$sys/utsname.h\$>\$	POSIX _SYSTEM
ungetc	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	STDC _FILE .ungetc
unlink	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM .unlink
utime	\$<\$utime.h\$>\$	POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM .utime
vfprintf	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	
vprintf	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$	
=		

Also re Also se and set And cr \_read,

Also re\_signa\_signa

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or erro

Also ap

Various

See also Not ap Not ap

vsprint	\$<\$stdio.h\$>\$		Not ap
wait	$\sim \$	POSIX _CURRENT _PROCESS .wait	
waitpid	$\sim \$	POSIX _FORK _ROOT .wait _pid	
write	\$<\$unistd.h\$>\$	EPX _FILE _DESCRIPTOR .write	

This tabel does not contain the following category of functions:

- 1. Math functions.
- 2. String functions, including wide character/multibyte string. routines. The memory move/copy functions are included, some of them even supported.
- 3. No type conversion functions.
- 4. No functions from \$<\$ctype.h\$>\$.
- 5. No functions from \$<\setjmp.h\$>\$.
- 6. No functions from \$<\stdarg.h\\$>\\$.
- 7. No string formatting functions like sscanf. I suggest you use the Formatter library for that. You can download this library at http://www.pobox.com/~berend/eiffel/.

Functions in above categories are either not applicable, already present in Eiffel or are better off in a different library.

## To do

#### ABSTRACT DIRECTORY

1. ABSTRACT \_DIRECTORY .forth \_recursive raises an exception when it encounters a symbolic link that does no longer point to a file. Because it tries to retrieve the statistics, and that call fails.

#### EPX FILE SYSTEM

1. Make EPX \_DIRECTORY.

#### STDC FILE

1. read\_integer, read\_double, read\_boolean should perhaps be different for the binary or text files. Now they're satisfy the mico/e definition, so useful for text files only.

#### STDC LOCALE NUMERIC

1. Complete the list of properties

#### STDC PATH

1. make some escape char functionality with '%' or so.

#### STDC TIME

1. Add elapsed seconds

#### POSIX DAEMON

1. Closing the first three file descriptors is not likened by SmartEiffel. So leaves them open. Have to fix this some how.

#### POSIX EXEC PROCESS

- 1. Turn off Eiffel exception handling after the final execvp, else you get back signals not captured by child process as your signals, or so it seems (or perhaps you're killing the Eiffel process, but not the subprocess it generated??)
  - Killing subprocesses works sometimes, but not always.
  - Remove exception handling just before execvp?
- 2. how about capture to /dev/null?

- 3. can we capture i/o for every forked process? If so, move this code to POSIX FORK ROOT.
- 4. Perhaps option to influence environment variables to pass to subprocess?

#### POSIX FILE DESCRIPTOR

- 1. possible to open exclusively and so?
- 2. complete support for nonblocking i/o.

#### POSIX MEMORY MAP

- 1. Cannot change protection.
- 2. No locking.

#### POSIX SEMAPHORE

- 1. not valid for named semaphore I think.
- 2. have to add various close/unlink functions.

#### POSIX SIGNAL

- 1. Add synchronous waiting for signals like sigwait.
- 2. (Re)enable sending Eiffel exception on signal? i.e. set\_exception\_handler or so.
- 3. Resend signal as Eiffel exception in signal handler.

#### POSIX STATUS

- 1. return STDC\_TIME instead of unix time
- 2. Not all stat member fields are currently available.

#### POSIX\_MQUEUE

1. Solaris x86 says it supports it, so have to work on that.

#### Security

Add base security class that specifies programs intent. Default is to allow anything, but security can be tightened:

- 1. Call to open or creat (used?), use real user id, not effective user id.
- 2. Assume we're free from buffer attacks if preconditions are enabled.
- 3. exec/system call only allowed when effective user is not root, unless otherwise specified. Or exec only allowed for specific files.
- 4. Protect against writing specific files/directories. Perhaps substitute vulnerable filenames for other ones.

To do 104

5. Emulate atomic calls. Or add atomic access and open call. Shouldn't be done by setting su??

- 6. When appending/writing to files, check if symbolic link.
- 7. ABSTRACT \_FILE \_SYSTEM .force \_remove \_directory is potentially unsafe because it follows links so it can be used to destroy things not under that directory.
- 8. remove tmpnam function.
- 9. Make sure the once functions in STDC\_BASE are called from within the security initialization, so they're allocated and do not generate an out-of-memory exception themselves.

Idea from 'Remediation of Application Specific Security Vulnerabilities at Runtime' article in IEEE Computer sep/oct 2000.

#### Windows code

- 1. chmod also available on Windows.
- 2. Add permissions to status: read/write.
- set\_binary\_mode should do something for the posix factory, i.e., when compiling with cygwin. Perhaps separate CYGWIN \_API or so in POSIX dir with the window specific stuff.
  - Currently cygwin uses text mode for file descriptors, the windows variant uses binary.
- 4. utime can be supported by using SetFileTime.

#### Other

- 1. remove ugly const\_ prefix from constants. Uppercase should be good enough. Almost done, only const\_EOF remains, not easy to replace perhaps.
- 2. Compare POSIX\_SIGNAL with ISE UNIX\_SIGNAL: They have an is\_caught function, useful? Means this signal generates an exception.

## Known bugs

- The error code is perhaps not always set for every STDC \_BASE .raise \_posix \_error.
- does STRING\_HELPER leak memory in to\_external? How is memory used for these conversions being freed? Is memory used there?
- If a child process is signalled (terminated), the function POSIX \_FORK \_ROOT .is \_terminated \_normally sometimes returns True.

# Bibliography

[ 23, 69	b_form_post
) 54	EPX_CGI 82
abort	$b\_input$
STDC_CURRENT_PROCESS 96	EPX_CGI 82
accept EPX_TCP_SERVER_SOCKET 96	b_p EPX CGI 81
acquire	browse_directory
POSIX SEMAPHORE 99	POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 40, 87
<del>_</del>	
add	cancel
POSIX_SIGNAL_SET 100	POSIX_ASYNC_IO_REQUEST 96
add_data	change_directory
EPX_CGI 80	POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 96
add_raw	change_mode
EPX_CGI 81	POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 96
add_to_blocked_signals	clear_error
POSIX_SIGNAL_SET 100	STDC_FILE 96
allocate	clear_first
STDC_BUFFER 98	STDC_ERRNO 89
allocate_and_clear	clock
STDC_BUFFER 17, 96	STDC_CURRENT_PROCESS 96
apply	close
POSIX_SIGNAL 46	EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 96
$apply\_drain$	EPX_SMTP_CLIENT 69
POSIX_TERMIOS 100	STDC_FILE 92, 97
$apply\_flush$	SUS_SYSLOG 97
POSIX_TERMIOS 100	$content\_text\_html$
$apply\_now$	EPX_CGI 84
POSIX_TERMIOS 100	$copy\_from$
$apply\_owner\_and\_group$	STDC_BUFFER 98
POSIX_PERMISSIONS_PATH 96	$create\_fifo$
$assert\_key\_value\_pairs\_created$	POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 14, 98
EPX_CGI 84	$create\_read\_write$
$attach\_file$	EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 97
EPX_MIME_EMAIL 73	$create\_shared$
$attempt\_acquire$	POSIX_UNNAMED_SEMAPHORE
POSIX_SEMAPHORE 99	99
$attempt\_lock$	$create\_unshared$
POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 97	POSIX_UNNAMED_SEMAPHORE
$attempt\_open\_read$	99
POSIX_TEXT_FILE 86	$create\_write$
$b\_a$	POSIX_SHARED_MEMORY 100
EPX_CGI 81	current_directory
$b\_form\_get$	POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 98
EPX_CGI 82	deallocate
_	STDC BUFFER. 97

$default\_format$	$fd\_stdout$
POSIX_TIME 51	EPX_CURRENT_PROCESS 31
STDC_TIME 96	EPX_EXEC_PROCESS 43
$\frac{-}{detach}$	file — —
POSIX_DAEMON 74	EPX_KEYVALUE 84
dispose	fill with
MEMORY 92	STDC BUFFER 98
doctype	first_value
EPX_XML_WRITER 80	POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 89
doctype_transitional	STDC_ERRNO 89
EPX XML WRITER 80	flush
effective_group_id	STDC_FILE 97
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 98	flush_input
effective_user_id	POSIX_TERMIOS 100
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 98	
	force_remove_directory
ehlo	ABSTRACT_FILE_SYSTEM 104
EPX_SMTP_CLIENT 68	fork
end_of_input	POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 48,
POSIX_TEXT_FILE 24	97
eof	format
STDC_FILE 97	POSIX_TIME 51
_errno 5	STDC_TIME 100
errno	forth_recursive
POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 89	ABSTRACT_DIRECTORY 102
errno.first_value	$get\_body$
POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 89	EX_HTTP_SERVLET 64
errno.value	$get\_character$
POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 89	STDC_FILE 97
error	$get\_header$
STDC_FILE 97	EX_HTTP_SERVLET 64
SUS_SYSLOG 100	$get\_lock$
execute	POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 14, 29,
EPX_CGI 79, 80	97
EPX_EXEC_PROCESS 97	$get\_position$
POSIX_DAEMON 74	POSIX_FILE 25
POSIX_FORK_ROOT 48	STDC_FILE 97
POSIX_SHELL_COMMAND 42	$get\_string$
$_{ t exit}$ $97$	STDC_FILE 97
exit	has
STDC_CURRENT_PROCESS 97	POSIX_SIGNAL_SET 100
$exit\_switch$	$input\_speed$
STDC_EXIT_SWITCH_ACCESSOR	POSIX_TERMIOS 96
$\frac{-}{96}$	$input\_text$
expand_path	EPX CGI 82
POSIX FILE SYSTEM 25	$\stackrel{-}{-}$
$fd\_stderr$	STDC EXIT SWITCH 96
EPX EXEC PROCESS 43	is $accessible$
$fd\_stdin$	ABSTRACT FILE SYSTEM 96
EPX_CURRENT_PROCESS 31	$is\_attached\_to\_terminal$
EPX_EXEC_PROCESS 43	EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 98

$is\_blocking\_io$	POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 98
ABSTRACT_FILE_DESCRIPTOR	$make\_empty$
34	POSIX_SIGNAL_SET 100
$is\_in\_group$	$make\_expand$
POSIX CURRENT PROCESS 98	STDC PATH 38
is_modifiable	$make\_from\_file$
POSIX FILE SYSTEM 38	POSIX FILE DESCRIPTOR 97
is_pending	make_from_file_descriptor
POSIX_ASYNC_IO_REQUEST 96	POSIX FILE 97
is_readable	make_from_gid
POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 39	POSIX GROUP 98
	<del>_</del>
is_terminated	make_from_name
EPX_EXEC_PROCESS 45	POSIX_GROUP 98
is_terminated_normally	POSIX_USER 98
POSIX_FORK_ROOT 104	$make\_from\_now$
kill	POSIX_TIME 51
POSIX_PROCESS 98	$make\_from\_uid$
$last\_string$	POSIX_USER 98
POSIX_TEXT_FILE 24	$make\_from\_unix\_time$
link	STDC_TIME 100
POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 98	$make\_full$
$listen\_by\_address$	POSIX_SIGNAL_SET 100
EPX TCP SERVER SOCKET 96	$make\_pending$
local_date_string	POSIX SIGNAL SET 100
POSIX TIME 51	$max\_filename\_length$
local_time_string	POSIX_DIRECTORY 99
POSIX TIME 51	memory_copy
log_event	STDC BUFFER 98
ULM_LOGGING 77	memory_move
login_name	STDC BUFFER 98
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 98	nanosleep
	SUS_CURRENT_PROCESS 99
log_message ULM LOGGING 77	
<del>_</del>	notice
mail	SUS_SYSLOG 100
EPX_SMTP_CLIENT 68	open
make	EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 99
EPX_LOG_HANDLER 78	POSIX_FILE 8
EPX_PIPE 99	SUS_SYSLOG 99
POSIX_TERMIOS 100	open_by_address
STDC_TEMPORARY_FILE 100	EPX_TCP_CLIENT_SOCKET 97
SUS_TEMPORARY_FILE 98	$open\_by\_name\_and\_port$
$make\_as\_duplicate$	EPX_TCP_CLIENT_SOCKET 97
EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 97	$open\_read$
POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 32	EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 99
$make\_capture\_input$	POSIX_FILE 8
EPX_EXEC_PROCESS 43	POSIX_SHARED_MEMORY 100
$make\_capture\_output$	POSIX TEXT FILE 86
EPX_EXEC_PROCESS 43	$open\_read\_write$
make_directory	EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 99
EXP_FTP_CLIENT 60	POSIX_SHARED_MEMORY 100
	_ J.S.IISIII.II.DIIIDIII.OIGI 100

open_write	puts
EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 99	EPX_CGI 81
out	$put\_string$
EPX_IP4_ADDRESS 98	POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 88, 89
output_speed POSIX_TERMIOS 96	STDC_FILE 97 quit
parent_pid	EPX_SMTP_CLIENT 69
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 98	raise
parse	STDC_SIGNAL 99, 100
STDC_PATH 38	$raise\_posix\_error$
pause	STDC_BASE 104
EPX_CURRENT_PROCESS 99	random
$peek\_int16$	STDC_CURRENT_PROCESS 99
STDC_BUFFER 18	$raw\_value$
$peek\_int16\_big\_endian$	EPX_CGI 82
STDC_BUFFER 18	read
$peek\_int16\_little\_endian$	ABSTRACT_FILE_DESCRIPTOR
STDC_BUFFER 18	34
$peek\_int32$	EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 99
STDC_BUFFER 18	POSIX_ASYNC_IO_REQUEST 35,
peek_uint16	96
STDC_BUFFER 18	POSIX_FILE 24
permissions	STDC_FILE 97
POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 39	$read\_buffer$
pid	POSIX_FILE 24
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 11,	$read\_character$
98	STDC_FILE 97
$poke\_int32\_big\_endian$	$read\_line$
STDC_BUFFER 18	23
posix_htonl	ABSTRACT_FILE_DESCRIPTOR
SAPI_IN 98	$\frac{31}{2}$
posix_htons	read_string
SAPI_IN 98	
posix_ioctl	ABSTRACT_FILE_DESCRIPTOR
SAPI_STROPTS 98	21
posix_memcmp	POSIX_TEXT_FILE 24
CAPI_STRING 98	STDC_FILE 97
posix_ntohl	real_group_id
SAPI_IN 99	POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 98
posix_ntohs	real_time_clock
SAPI_IN 99	SUS_SYSTEM 96
posix_setsid	real_time_clock_resolution
PAPI_UNISTD 99, 100	SUS_SYSTEM 96
process_group_id	real_user_id
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 98	POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 98
prune	reestablish
POSIX_SIGNAL_SET 100	STDC_SIGNAL_HANDLER 47
putc	refresh
STDC FILE 97	POSIX PERMISSIONS 39

register_dynamic_resource	seek
EPX_HTTP_SERVER 65	EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 98
$register\_fixed\_resource$	POSIX_FILE 25
EPX_HTTP_SERVER 65	STDC_FILE 98
release	$seek\_from\_current$
POSIX_SEMAPHORE 99	EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 98
remap_http_method	STDC_FILE 98
EPX_HTTP_CONNECTION 64	seek_from_end
remove_directory	EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 98
EPX_FILE_SYSTEM 99 EXP_FTP_CLIENT 60	STDC_FILE 98
EXP_FTP_CLIENT 60 remove_file	set_allow_anyone_read POSIX PERMISSIONS 39
EXP_FTP_CLIENT 60	set_allow_group_write
GENERAL 5	POSIX PERMISSIONS 39
POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 5, 88, 99	set_blocked_signals
remove_from_blocked_signals	POSIX_SIGNAL_SET 100
POSIX_SIGNAL_SET 100	set blocking io
$rename\_to$	ABSTRACT_FILE_DESCRIPTOR
EXP_FTP_CLIENT 60	34
POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 99	EPX_IRC_CLIENT 67
reopen	$set\_buffer$
STDC_FILE 97	POSIX_ASYNC_IO_REQUEST 35
$request\_form\_fields$	STDC_FILE 99
EPX_HTTP_CONNECTION 65	set_count
resize	POSIX_ASYNC_IO_REQUEST 35
STDC_BUFFER 99	set_date
restore_group_id	STDC_TIME 98
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 99	set_date_time
restore_user_id POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 100	STDC_TIME 98 set_full_buffering
return_status	STDC FILE 100
POSIX_ASYNC_IO_REQUEST 96	set_group_id
rewind	POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 99
STDC_FILE 99	set_handler
$save\_uploaded\_files$	POSIX SIGNAL 46, 47
EX CGI3 84	$set\_input\_speed$
$security.cpu.check\_process\_time$	POSIX_TERMIOS 96
STDC_FILE 92	$set\_line\_buffering$
$security.cpu.set\_max\_process\_time$	STDC_FILE 100
STDC_FILE 92	$set\_locale$
$security.error\_handling.disable\_exceptions$	STDC_CURRENT_PROCESS 99
STDC_SECURITY_ACCESSOR 88	$set\_lock$
$security.error\_handling.enable\_exceptions$	POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 97
STDC_SECURITY_ACCESSOR 88	set_native_locale
security.files.set_max_open_files	STDC_CURRENT_PROCESS 99
STRING 92	set_native_time
security.memory.set_max_allocation STDC_SECURITY_ACCESSOR 91	STDC_CURRENT_PROCESS 99 set_no_buffering
security.memory.set_max_single_allocation	STDC FILE 100
STRING 92	51DC_11LL 100

$set\_offset$	$synchronize\_data$
POSIX_ASYNC_IO_REQUEST 35	POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 97
$set\_output\_speed$	tell
POSIX TERMIOS 96	POSIX_FILE 25
set_position	STDC FILE 98
POSIX FILE 25	$temporary\_file\_name$
STDC FILE 98	STDC_FILE_SYSTEM 100
set_print_response	to_local
set_random_seed	STDC_TIME 98
STDC_CURRENT_PROCESS 100	touch
$set\_serve\_xhtml\_if\_supported$	POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 100
EPX_HTTP_SERVER 62	$to\_utc$
$set\_time$	POSIX_TIME 51
STDC_TIME 98	STDC_TIME 98
$set\_user\_id$	ttyname
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 100	POSIX FILE DESCRIPTOR 100
signalled	unfinished xml
POSIX_SIGNAL_HANDLER 46, 47	EPX_XML_WRITER 80
sleep	ungetc
EPX_CURRENT_PROCESS 46	STDC FILE 100
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 100	unlink
/src/library.xace 6, 6	POSIX FILE SYSTEM 100
status	$unlink\_shared\_memory\_object$
EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 98	POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 100
POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 40	utime
STDC_ERRNO	POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 100
POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 89	value
stderr	EPX_CGI 82, 84
EPX_EXEC_PROCESS 44	STDC_ENV_VAR 98
stdin	wait
EPX_CURRENT_PROCESS 31	POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 12,
EPX_EXEC_PROCESS 44	101
stdout	$waited\_child\_pid$
EPX_CURRENT_PROCESS 31	POSIX CURRENT PROCESS 12
EPX EXEC PROCESS 44	wait_for
store	EPX_EXEC_PROCESS 43, 45
EXP_FTP_CLIENT 60	POSIX_ASYNC_IO_REQUEST 35,
supports_nonblocking_io	96
ABSTRACT FILE DESCRIPTOR	POSIX CHILD 12
	<del>_</del>
34	wait_pid
SUS_ENV_VAR	POSIX_FORK_ROOT 101
STDC_ENV_VAR 53	write
suspend	ABSTRACT_FILE_DESCRIPTOR
POSIX_SIGNAL_SET 100	34
synchronize	EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 101
POSIX_ASYNC_IO_REQUEST 35,	POSIX_ASYNC_IO_REQUEST 35,
96	96
POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 98	STDC_FILE 98
	96

<u>Index</u> 112

a		clock $96$	
abort $96$		clock_getcpuclockid	$9\epsilon$
ABSTRACT_FILE_DESCRIPTOR	15,	clock_getres $96$	
21, 31, 34		${ t clock\_gettime}$	
accept $96$		clock_nanosleep $96$	
access $96, 104$		${ t clock\_settime}$	
aio_cancel 96		close $96$	
aio_error $96$		closedir $97$	
aio_fsync $96$		closelog $97$	
aio.h $96, 98$		compiler.se $14$	
aio_read $96$		configure $2, 6$	
aio_return $96$		confstr $97$	
aio_suspend $96$		connect $97$	
aio_write $96$		Content-Length 64	
alarm $96$		creat $97, 103$	
ANY 5		<code>c_stdio.c</code> $94$	
arpa/inet.h $98$		<code>c_stdio.h</code> $94$	
asctime $96$		ctermid $97$	
atexit $96$		ctime $97$	
		$\operatorname{Ctrl}$	
b		C 45, 46	
backslash 25		ctype.h $101$	
big endian 18		cuserid $97$	
binary file 25		CYGWIN 31	
binary mode 30		Cygwin 6	
binary stdin 31		cygwin $6, 9$	
binary stdout 31		CYGWIN_API 104	
bind $96$			
		$\mathbf{d}$	
$\mathbf{c}$		daylight $97$	
calloc $96$		DELETE request 64	
CAPI_STDIO 8, 94		difftime $97$	
C compiler		directory	
Borland 2		browse $40$	
lcc 2		change $38$	
Microsoft 2		create $38$	
mingw 5		remove $38$	
cecil.se 5		test_suite 16	
cfgetispeed 96		dirent.h 97, 99	
cfgetospeed 96		dup 97	
cfsetispeed 96		dup2 97	
cfsetospeed 96		-	
cgi <i>79</i>		e	
enumerating all values 84		EEXIST 87	
file upload 81		eiffel.h $93$	
redirect 84		elj-win32 2	
chdir 96		endgrent 97	
chmod 96		endhostent $97$	
chown 96		endnetent 97	
clearerr 96		endprotoent 97	

endpwent 97	f
endservent 97	fchmod 97
ENOSYS 14	fchown 97
environment variable 25	fclose 97
CFLAGS 6	fcntl 97
CYGWIN 31	fcntl.h 97, 99
EPOSIX 1	fdatasync $6, 6, 97$
Environment variable	fdopen $97$
expansion 25	feof 97
environment variable	ferror 97
GOBO_CC 1, 2, 3	fflush 97
GOBO_EIFFEL 3	fgetc 97, 98
GOBO_MT 2	fgetpos 97
set 53	
	fgets 97, 98 file
eposix.ecf 5	
epxc 10	read entire 23
EPX_CGI vi, 79	filename manipulation 36
EPX_CURRENT_PROCESS 15, 31, 46	fileno 97
EPX_DIRECTORY 102	file pointer 25
EPX_EXEC_PROCESS 15, 42	flockfile 97
EPX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 14, 15	flush 32
EPX_FILE_SYSTEM 14, 15	fopen 93, 97
EPX_HTTP_10_CLIENT 60	fork $97$
EPX_HTTP_CONNECTION 64	fpathconf 97
EPX_HTTP_SERVER <i>61</i> , <i>62</i> , <i>64</i>	fprintf $97$
EPX_IRC_CLIENT 66	fputc 97, 99
EPX_LOG_HANDLER 76	fputs 97, 99
EPX_MIME_EMAIL 68	fread $97$
EPX_MIME_PARSER 54	free <u>97</u>
EPX_MIME_PART 54, 68	FreeBSD 6
EPX PIPE 15	freopen 97
epxs 10	fseek 98
EPX SELECT 99	fsetpos 98
EPX_SMTP_CLIENT 67, 68	fstat 98
EPX_SMTP_MAIL 68	fsync 6, 6, 97, 98
EPX_SYSTEM 53	ftell 98
EPX_XHTML_WRITER 79	ftruncate 98
errno 8	ftrylockfile 98
error handling 86	funlockfile 98
execl 97	fwrite 98
execle 97	IWIICE 30
	CT.
execlp 97 execv 97	g
a <b>-</b>	geant 1
execve 97	getc 98
execvp 97	getchar 98
EX_ERROR1 89	98
EX_HTTP_SERVLET2 63	getegid 98
exit 97	getenv 98
EXP_FTP_CLIENT 60	geteuid 98
	getgid $98$

<u>Index</u> 114

	111
getgrgid 98	little endian 18
getgrnam 98	localeconv $98$
getgroups $98$	locale.h 98, 99
getlogin $97,98$	localtime $98$
getpgrp 98	lock 28
getpid 11, 98	lseek $98$
getppid 98	
getpwnam 98	m
getpwuid 98	make.exe 2
gets 98	makelib.exe 3
gettimeofday 98	malloc 98
getuid 98	max_open_files 53
gexace 4	memchr 98
glibc 6	memcmp 98
gmtime $98$	memcpy 98
Gobo 21, 34	memmove 98
grp.h 97, 98	memset 98
•	MIME 10
h	minicom 32
htonl 98	MIT License v
htons $98$	mkdir 98
HTTP $10$	mkfifo $6$ , $14$ , $98$
	mkstemp $98$
i	mktime 98
inet_ntoa 98	mlock 99
ioctl $98$	mlockall $98$
isatty $98$	mmap $99$
ISE Eiffel 2	modem 32
ISE Eiffel 6.2 5	mprotect 99
	mq-receive 99
k	mq_close 99
KI_CHARACTER_INPUT_STREAM	mq_getattr 99
21, 34	mq_notify 99
KI_CHARACTER_OUTPUT_STREAM	mq_open 99
21	mq_send 99
kill 98	mq_setattr 99
KIII 90	1 <del>-</del>
1	1
	1=
LDAP 73	msync 99
LDIF 73	multi-threaded programming 3
libeposix_ise_msc.lib 3	munlock 99
libeposix_ise_msc.lib 3	munlockall 99
libeposix_se.a 3, 14	munmap 99
libmteposix_ise.a 2	
libmteposix_ise_msc.lib 3	n
library.xace 4	nanosleep $99$
LICENSE v	netdb.h 97
license $v$	netinet/in.h 98, 99
link $98$	non-blocking i/o 21, 34
lio_listio 98	ntohl 99

ntohs 99	${f r}$
	raise $99$
o	${ t rand}  99$
open 99, 103, 104	${ t read}  99$
opendir $99$	readdir $99$
openlog 99	realloc $99$
Open Source v	redirect standard error 32
	remove $99$
p	rename $99$
PAPI_UNISTD 8	REST $62$
pathconf 99	rewind $99$
path name 25	rewinddir $99$
pause $99$	rmdir $99$
perror $99$	
pipe $99$	$\mathbf{s}$
poll <i>v</i>	scanf $99$
POSIX_ASYNC_IO_REQUEST 35	seek $25$
$-$ POSIX BASE $\frac{-}{9}$	select 99
POSIX_BINARY_FILE 21	semaphore.h 99
POSIX_BUFFER 17, 17, 18	sem_close 99
POSIX CONSTANTS 10	sem_destroy 99
POSIX_CURRENT_PROCESS 48	sem_getvalue 99
POSIX_DAEMON 74, 74	sem_init 99
POSIX_DIRECTORY 40, 41, 97, 99	sem_open 99
POSIX_EXEC_PROCESS vi, 44	sem_post 99
POSIX_FILE 21, 21	sem_trywait 99
POSIX_FILE_DESCRIPTOR 15, 27,	sem_unlink 99
92, 97	sem_wait 99
POSIX_FILE_SYSTEM 38	$\frac{1}{\text{servlet}}$
POSIX_FORK_ROOT 11, 48	setbuf 99
POSIX_MEMORY_MAP 19, 99	setgid $99$
POSIX_PERMISSIONS 39, 40	setjmp.h 101
POSIX_SHARED_MEMORY 17	setlocale 99
POSIX_SHELL_COMMAND 42	setpgid $99$
POSIX_SIGNAL 100	setsid 100
POSIX_SIGNAL_HANDLER 46, 47	setuid 100
$POSIX STAT \frac{1}{40}$	setvbuf 100
POSIX_STATUS 40, 98, 100	shm_open 100
POSIX_SYSTEM 53, 100	shm_unlink 100
POSIX_TEXT_FILE 21, 28	sigaction 100
POSIX_TIMED_COMMAND 96	sigaddset 100
printf 99	SIGCHLD 47
p_stdio.c 94	sigdelset 100
p_stdio.h 94	sigemptyset 100
putc 99	sigfillset 100
putchar 99	sigismember $100$
PUT request 62	signal 100
puts 99	signal.h 98, 99, 100
pwd.h 97, 98	signal handler 46
1	signeding 100

sigprocmask $100$	SUS_SYSLOG <i>76</i> , <i>100</i>
sigqueue 100	SUS_SYSLOG_ACCESSOR 76
sigsuspend 100	SUS_TIME_VALUE 98
sigtimedwait $100$	sysconf $100$
sigwait 100, 103	syslog 100
sigwaitinfo $100$	syslog.h 97, 99, 100
slash 25	sys/mman.h 98, 99, 100
sleep 100	sys/select.h 99
SmallEiffel <i>vi</i>	sys/socket.h $96, 97$
SmartEiffel 2	sys/stat.h 96, 97, 98, 100
Solaris 6	system 100
sprintf 100	system.se 14
srand 100	system.xace 4
<pre>src/library.xace 1, 6</pre>	sys/time.h 98
sscanf 100, 101	sys/utsname.h 100
stat 40, 100	sys/wait.h 101
STC_TEMPORARY_FILE 13	·
stdarg.h 101	t
STDC BASE 9	tcdrain 100
STDC BINARY FILE 13, 30	tcflow 100
STDC_BUFFER 13, 17, 17, 91	tcflush 100
STDC_CONSTANTS 10, 13	tcgetattr 100
STDC_CURRENT_PROCESS 13	tcgetpgrp 100
STDC_ENV_VAR 13, 52	tcsendbreak 100
STDC_FILE 21, 92, 97	tcsetattr 100
STDC_FILE_SYSTEM 13	tcsetpgrp 100
STDC_LOCALE_NUMERIC 98	temporary file 13, 84
STDC PATH 36	terminal 29
STDC_SECURITY_ACCESSOR 91	password 29
STDC_SHELL_COMMAND 13, 100	termios.h 96
stdc_signal_switch_switcher 5	TEST_IRC_CLIENT 67
STDC SYSTEM 13	text mode 30
STDC_TEXT_FILE 13, 30, 31	time $100$
STDC_TIME 13, 97	time.h 96, 97, 98, 99, 100
stderr 32	timer_create 100
stdin	times 100
binary 31	times.h 100
stdio.h 94, 94, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101	tmpfile 100
stdioh 98	tmpnam 100
stdlib.h 96, 97, 98, 99, 100	ttyname 100
stdout 32	tzset 100
binary 31	t2set 100
stream buffer 32	
	u III M. LOCCINC 76
strftime 100	ULM_LOGGING 76
STRING 91	ULM_LOG_HANDLER 76
string.h 98	ULM_LOG_LEVELS 77
stropts.h 98	umask 100
support	uname 100
commercial v	ungetc 100
SUS_BASE 9	unistd.h 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101

```
multi-threaded applications 1
                                     wait 101
unlink 8, 100
                                     waitpid 101
URI 10, 61
                                     Windows 2000 6
                                     WINDOWS\_PAGING\_FILE\_SHARED\_MEMORY
utime 100
utime.h 100
UT_URI 61
                                     WINDOWS_SYSTEM 53
                                     write 101
vfprintf 100
                                     \mathbf{X}
                                     {\tt XM\_UNICODE\_CHARACTER\_CLASSES}
Visual Eiffel vi
vprintf 100
vsprint 101
```