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IEEE P1003.0 Draft 14 – November 1991

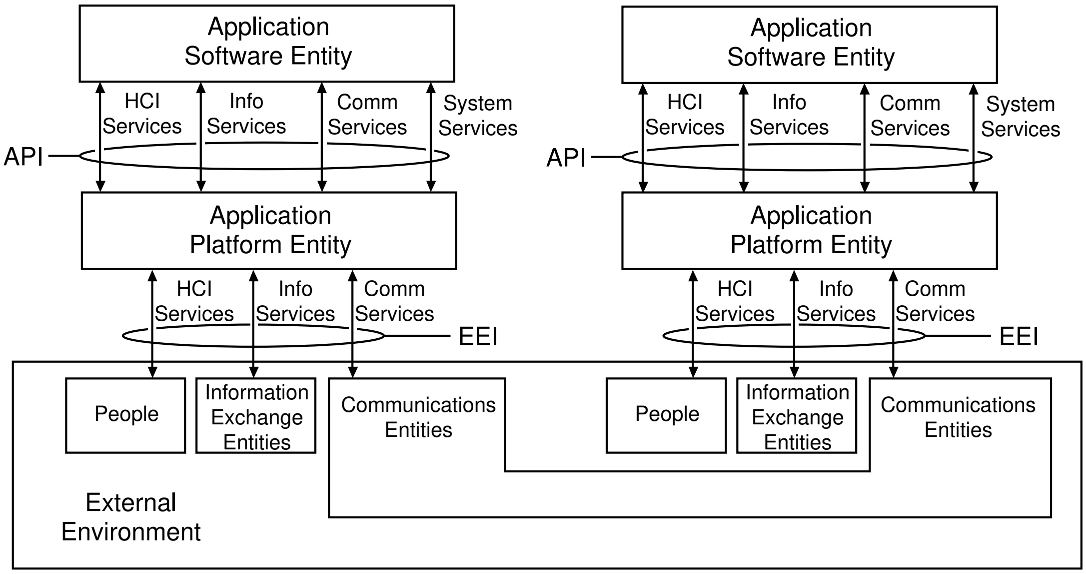

Figure 3-4 – POSIX OSE Reference Model — Distributed Systems

services via the network.

Distributed Systems are manifest in this model primarily through the use of the distributed system network services API. As can be seen in Figure 3-5, distributed systems are a refinement of the POSIX Network Environment Model shown in Figure 4-3. As such, a perceived Application Platform may in fact be comprised of several (or many) individual application platforms. However, in the distributed environment, they operate and are viewed as a single entity by the using applications. Within this extended application platform are the embedded network services necessary for the elements of a distributed environment to function.

Within the distributed environment, network access between the platforms that make up the ''perceived'' application platform are handled using the Distributed Systems Network Services APIs. Network services for access between ''perceived'' application platforms will use the Network Services EEI between the platforms.

3.3 POSIX Open System Environment Services

This guide defines a uniform set of standard services provided to users of application platforms in support of POSIX objectives of application portability and system interoperability. These services are available to users across specified interfaces keyed to the POSIX reference model defined in 3.2.

The POSIX OSE services are divided into categories described by the clauses in Section 4. Each category begins by defining a more detailed and specialized version of the OSE reference model (see 3.2) to provide context for service

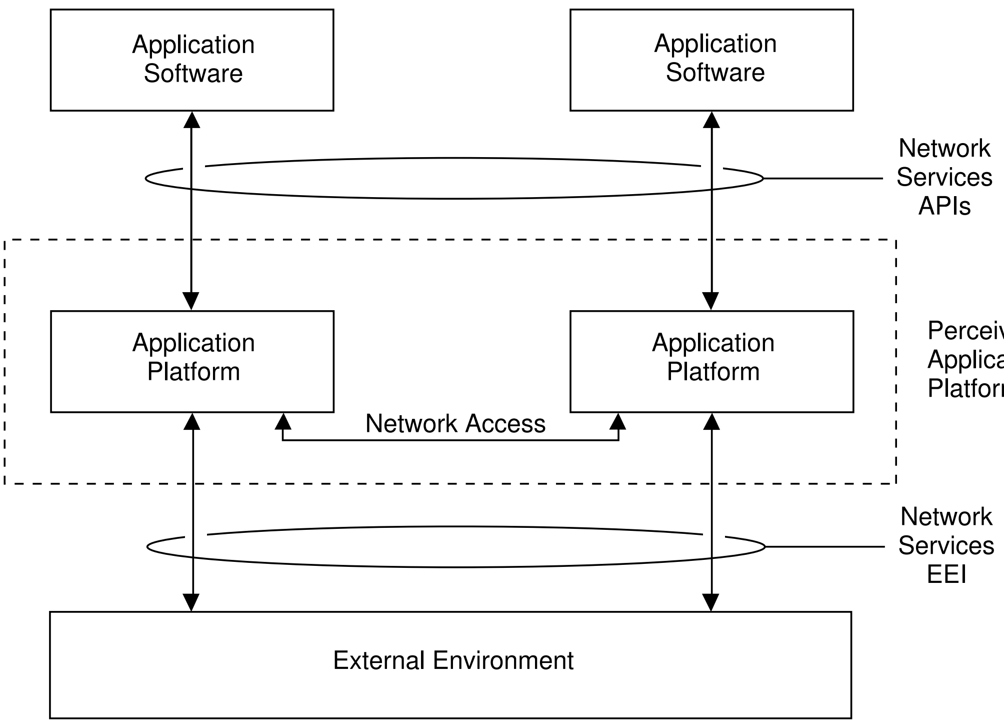

Figure 3-5 – Distributed System Environment Model

specification. Services and associated standards are then defined for each category. Finally, POSIX OSE Cross-Category Services affecting each category are discussed.

The service descriptions for each category are intended to be complete and not merely representative. Further refinement through successive releases of this document will lead to a complete specification.

3.4 POSIX Open System Environment Standards

The identification of a complete, consistent suite of standards for the POSIX OSE will, by necessity, draw from many forums. One of the criteria for judging completeness is the satisfaction of the full range of services required by the application platform user. The factors used to select standards will be described followed by the selection precedence.

Note that while the services are stated with a clear partitioning in mind, the standards reflect the current partitioning. These standards were created within disparate organizations and projects, which were in many cases carried out in isolation from the others. As a result, mapping of services to standards is not a simple relationship.