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IEEE P1003.2 Draft 11.2 − September 1991

7.2.1 Access Environment Variables Rationale. *(This subclause is not a part of P1003.2)*

This facility is required in POSIX.2 so that applications can obtain values of exported shell variables.

7.3 Regular Expression Matching

Any language binding to Language-Independent System Services shall include a facility to interpret regular expressions as described in 2.8.

The language-independent specification for this facility has not been developed. The C binding is the *regcomp* (), *regexec* (), and *regfree* () functions described in B.5.

7.3.1 Regular Expression Matching Rationale. *(This subclause is not a part of P1003.2)*

This service is important enough that it should be required by any language binding to POSIX.2.

Regular expression parsing and pattern matching are listed separately, since they are different services. A language binding could provide different functions to support regular expressions and patterns, or could combine them into a single function.

7.4 Pattern Matching

Any language binding to Language-Independent System Services shall include a facility to interpret patterns as described in 3.13.1 and 3.13.2. This facility shall allow the application to specify whether a slash character in the string to be matched will be treated as a regular character, or must be explicitly matched against a slash in the pattern.

The language-independent specification for this facility has not been developed. The C binding is the *fnmatch* () function described in B.6.

7.5 Command Option Parsing

Any language binding to Language-Independent System Services shall include a facility to parse the options and operands from the command line that invoked the application.

The language-independent specification for this facility has not been developed. The C binding for this facility is the *getopt* () function described in B.7.