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IEEE P1003.2 Draft 11.2 – September 1991

E.2.13 Configuration Values

E.3 Shell Command Language

Editor's Note: The text of the Rationale for this section has been temporarily located in Section 3, adjacent to the text it is explaining. The text will return to this annex after the completion of balloting.

E.3.1 Shell Definitions

E.3.2 Quoting

E.3.3 Token Recognition

E.3.4 Reserved Words

E.3.5 Parameters and Variables

E.3.6 Word Expansions

E.3.7 Redirection

E.3.8 Exit Status for Commands

E.3.9 Shell Commands

E.3.10 Shell Grammar

E.3.11 Signals and Error Handling

E.3.12 Shell Execution Environment

E.3.13 Pattern Matching Notation

E.3.14 Special Built-in Utilities

E.4 Execution Environment Utilities

Editor's Note: The text of the Rationale for this section has been temporarily located in Section 4, adjacent to the text it is explaining. The text will return to this annex after the completion of balloting. Notations regarding utilities probably included in the UPE have been updated, without diff marks, based on the current working draft of 1003.2a.

Many utilities were evaluated by the working group; more utilities were excluded from the standard than included. The following list contains many common UNIX system utilities that were not included as Execution Environment Utilities or in one of the Software Development Environment groups. It is logistically difficult for this Rationale to correctly distribute the reasons for not including a utility among the various utility environment sections. Therefore, this section covers the reasons for all utilities not included in Sections 4 and 6 and Annexes A and C.

The working group started its deliberations with a recommended list of utilities provided by the X/Open group of companies. This list was a subset of the utilities in the *X/Open Portability Guide*, *Issue II*, so it was very closely related to System V. The list had already been purged of purely administrative utilities, such as those found in System V's Administered System Extension. Then, the working group applied its scope as a filter and substantially pruned the remaining list as well.

The following list of ''rejected'' utilities is limited by its historical roots; since the selected utilities emerged from primarily a System V base, this list does not include sometimes familiar entries from BSD. The working group received substantial input from representatives of the University of California at Berkeley and from companies that are firmly allied with BSD versions of the UNIX system, enough so that some BSD-derived utilities are included in the standard. However, this Rationale is now limited to a discussion of only those utilities actively or indirectly evaluated by the working group, rather than the list of all known UNIX utilities from all its variants. This list will most likely be augmented during the balloting process as balloters request specific rationales for their favorite commands.

In the list, the notation [*POSIX .2a*] is used to identify utilities that are being evaluated for inclusion in the forthcoming User Portability Extension to this standard. Similarly, [*POSIX .7*] is used for those that may be appropriate for the working group evaluating system administration and [*POSIX .Net*] for networking standards.

`adb` The intent of the various software development utilities was to assist in the installation (rather than the actual development and debugging) of applications. This utility is primarily a debugging