IEEE P1003.2a Draft 8 – December 1991

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Annex E
(inform ative)

Rationale and Notes

This annex summarizes the deliberations of the IEEE P1003.2 working group, the committee charged by the IEEE Computer Society's Technical Committee on Operating Systems and Application Environments with devising an interface standard for a shell and related utilities to support and extend POSIX.1 {8}.

The annex is being published along with the standard to assist in the process of review. It contains historical information concerning the contents of the standard and why features were included or discarded by the working group. It also contains notes of interest to application programmers on recommended programming practices, emphasizing the consequences of some aspects of the standard that may not be immediately apparent.

Just as this standard relies on the knowledge of architecture, history, and definitions from the POSIX.1 {8}, so does this annex. The reader is referred to the Rationale and Notes appendix of POSIX.1 {8} for background material and bibliographic information about UNIX systems in general and POSIX specifically, which will not be duplicated here.

Editor's Note: The text of most of the Rationale has been temporarily located in Sections 1 through 5, adjacent to the text it is explaining. The text will return to this annex after the completion of balloting.

E.4 Excluded Utilities

Many utilities were evaluated by the developers of the standard; more utilities were excluded from the standard than included. The following list contains some common UNIX system utilities that were considered by the developers, but not included as part of the UPE or POSIX.2.

Editor's Note: This list will eventually be integrated with Annex E.4 in the base standard.

`SCCS` Both SCCS and RCS were originally considered as part of a version control utilities portion of the scope. However, this aspect of the UPE was abandoned by the working group. Their was broad consensus that SCCS was the most widely implemented system and that it had some technical advantages over RCS (other than

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