IEEE P1003.2a Draft 8 – December 1991

variable in System V `mailx`, although it has not been documented in the *SVID*. 7

The `indentprefix` variable, the `retain` and `unalias` commands, and the `~F` 7
and `~M` command escapes were adopted from 4.3BSD `Mail`. 7

The `version` command was not included because no sufficiently general specification of the version information could be devised that would still be useful to a portable user. This command name should be used by suppliers who wish to provide version information about the `mailx` command.

The ‘‘implementation-specific (unspecified) system startup file’’ has been tradition- 7
ally named `/etc/mailx.rc`, but this specific name and location are not required.

4.52 `read` — Read a line from standard input

⇒ **4.52.2 `read` Description.** *In subclause 4.52, add the following to the end of the second paragraph in the Description subclause:*

If standard input is a terminal device and the invoking shell is interactive, `read` shall prompt for a continuation line when:

— The shell reads an input line ending with a backslash, unless the `−r` option is specified.

— A here-document is not terminated after a `<newline>` is entered.

⇒ **4.52.5.3 `read` Environment Variables.** *In subclause 4.52, add the following environment variable in the correct sorted order to the Environment Variables subclause.*

PS2 This variable shall contain the prompt string that an interactive shell shall write to standard error when a line ending with a backslash is read and the `−r` option was not specified, or if a here-document is not terminated after a `<newline>` is entered.

⇒ **4.51.6.2 `read` Standard Error.** *In subclause 4.52, replace the Standard Error subclause with the following.*

Used for diagnostic messages and prompts for continued input.

Rationale. *(This subclause is not a part of P1003.2a)*

None.

4.56 sh — Shell, the standard command language interpreter

⇒ **4.56.1 sh Synopsis.** *Add the* −b, −m, *and* −o *option options to each of the three Synopsis lines with appropriate editorial wording indicating that these* 7
options need to be supported only when the UPUO is supported: 7

⇒ **4.56.3 sh Options.** *Change the first sentence of the second paragraph, beginning* ‘The −a, −C, . . . ’’*to:*

The −a, −b, −C, −e, −f, −m, −n, −o *option* , −u, −v, and −x options are described as part of the set utility in 3.14.11.

⇒ **4.56.3 sh Options.** *Remove the following sentence and NOTE:* 8

The behavior of an interactive shell is not fully specified by this standard. 8

NOTE: The preceding sentence is expected to change following the eventual approval of the UPE 8
supplement. 8

⇒ **4.56.5.3 sh Environment Variables.** *Modify the contents of subclause 4.56.5.3, Environment Variables, to add the following environment variables in the correct sorted order.*

FCEDIT		8
HISTFILE		8
HISTSIZE	See the description of the fc environment variables in 5.12.5.3. This standard specifies the effects of these variables only for systems supporting the User Portability Utilities Option.	8
MAIL	This variable shall be interpreted as a pathname of the user's mailbox file for purposes of incoming mail notification. If this variable is set, the shell shall inform the user if the file named by the variable is created or if its modification time has changed. Informing the user shall be accomplished by writing a string of unspecified format to the standard error prior to the writing of the next primary prompt string after the completion of an interval defined by the **MAILCHECK** variable. The user shall be informed only if **MAIL** is set and **MAILPATH** is not set. This standard	7