Platform Forum

THE *Open* GROUP

Making standards work®

Who we are

The Server Platform Forum standardizes the platform infrastructure on which applications can be built.

What we do

The Forum is focused on the programmatic aspects of UNIX® system platforms including Open Source operating systems such as Linux®, Real-time Systems, and Network Computing. This standardization encompasses the Base Operating System Environment, Networking Services, Windowing System Services, Internationalization aspects, Programming Languages, and other aspects of platforms. Some of the standards developed have applicability beyond computer platforms and are highly relevant to enterprise integration.

The results of the Forum serve as the base for certification of compliant products. For the past nine years, The Open Group has been the certification authority for UNIX products, providing the test suites and certification for conformant products.

The Forum has worked steadily to:

- Maintain the viability and competitiveness of the UNIX system
- Protect system vendor investment in platforms
- Protect customer investment in system applications

Today, the Forum ocuses on:

- Development of Version 4 of the Single UNIX Specification
- Facilitating the convergence of Linux and the UNIX system

External liaisons

- Austin Group
- Free Standards Group
- IEEE Standards Association
- IEEE PASC
- ISO/IEC SC22/WG15
- Linux Standards Base
- US Department of Defense DII/COE

Work areas

- Single UNIX Specification, Version 3 and 4, Interpretations and Technical Corrigenda
- Test Suite development and certification for POSIX Real-time Profiles
- UNIX Trademark Program
- Single UNIX Specification, Version 4 Certification Program development
- Single UNIX Specification, Version 4 Test Suite development

Achievements

- Base Specifications, Issue 7 (C082)
- Base Specifications, Issue 7 (HTML version)
- Extended API Set, Parts 1 to 4 (C062-5)

In cooperation with the IEEE, the common revision to the existing Portable Operating System Interface (POSIX) and the UNIX Specification has been approved as IEEE Std 1003.1-2008.

The 2008 edition of the Base Specifications, which includes Base Definitions, System Interfaces, Shell and Utilities and Rationale, has been approved by ISO/IEC as ISO/IEC 9945:2008 (December 2008).

Members

- Apple, Inc.
- Fujitsu Limited
- Hewlett-Packard Company
- Hitachi Corporation
- IBM Corporation
- Red Hat, Inc.
- Sun Microsystems, Inc.
- USENIX

Boundaryless Information Flow

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Products and services

In the global eCommerce world of today, no single economic entity can achieve independence while still ensuring interoperability. The assurance that products will interoperate with each other across differing systems and platforms is essential to the success of eCommerce and business workflow. The Open Group, with its proven testing and certification program, is the international guarantor of interoperability in the new century.

The Open Group provides a number of services: Certification and Testing, Advanced Research, and Consortia Services. Additionally, our Forums provide our members with the opportunity to guide the development and adoption of industry directives and standards. The Open Group quarterly Conferences and Member Meetings are the only forum in which IT customers and suppliers come together to discuss their corporate and industry needs.

Membership

The Open Group members include some of the largest and most influential organizations in the world. Why do these organizations value membership in The Open Group? The Open Group provides opportunities to exchange information and shape the future of IT. Members of our Forums and Working Groups gain access to information and ideas on a level they otherwise could not attain; from industry-shaping events to academic research breakthroughs. The buy-side members of The Open Group have combined budgets of over $50 billion per annum. The flexible structure of The Open Group membership allows for almost any organization, no matter what their size, to join and have a voice in shaping the future of the IT world.

About The Open Group

The Open Group is a vendor-neutral and technology-neutral consortium, whose vision of Boundaryless Information Flow™ will enable access to integrated information within and between enterprises based on open standards and global interoperability. The Open Group works with customers, suppliers, consortia, and other standards bodies. Its role is to capture, understand, and address current and emerging requirements, establish policies, and share best practices; to facilitate interoperability, develop consensus, and evolve and integrate specifications and Open Source technologies; to offer a comprehensive set of services to enhance the operational efficiency of consortia; and to operate the industry's premier certification service. Further information on The Open Group can be found at www.opengroup.org.

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