IEEE Standards Interpretation for IEEE Std 1003.1™-1990 IEEE Standard for Information Technology--Portable Operating System Interfaces (POSIX®)

Interpretation Request #118
Topic: aio_fsync **Relevant Sections:** 6.7.9.2 Lines 1252-1265 PASC

This paragraph describes the aiocbp structure and its uses, in apparently general terms. It is unclear whether this paragraph is meant for use in all of the APIs in which aiocbp is used, or only aio_fsync(). What is unclear in particular, are the sentences, "The aio_sigevent member shall determine the asynchronous notification to occur as specified in 3.3.1.2 when all operations have achieved synchronous I/O completion. All other members of the structure referenced by aiocbp are ignored."

1. Does this apply to all of the APIs? It would make implementation pretty difficult if we can't use the rest of the structure.
2. Does this sentence apply only to aio_fsync(), since the paragraph is in 6.7.9 and not in a more general section?
3. Does it apply to aio_error() and aio_return()?

Interpretation Response
No this sentence applies only to aio_fsync().

Rationale for Interpretation
For this function only, only the aio_fildes and aio_sigevent fields of the AIO control block are used; the rest are ignored since no seeking , (specific) writing, or reading takes place in this operation. (source: programming for the real word, POSIX.4, Gallmeister, 1995) Forwarded to Interpretations group: 31 Oct 2000 Proposed resolution: 15 Feb 2001 Finalized: 15 Mar 2001