IEEE Standards Interpretations for IEEE Std 1003.1c™-1995 IEEE Standard for Information Technology--Portable Operating System Interface (POSIX(R)) - System Application Program Interface (API) Amendment 2: Threads Extension (C Language)

Interpretation Request #27

Topic: pthread_mutexattr_init Errors **Relevant Clauses:** 11.3.1.4, pthread_mutexattr_init Errors

pthread_attr_init and pthread_condattr_init both document ENOMEM as an "if occurs" error, but pthread_mutexattr_init documents ENOMEM as an "if detected" error. There is no reasonable justification for this difference, so clearly the specification of ENOMEM in the description of pthread_mutexattr_init was an oversight, and should be corrected.

Interpretation Response

The standard states that for the pthread_mutexattr_init() function ENOMEM is an "if detected" error and conforming implementations must conform to this. However, concerns have been raised about this which are being referred to the sponsor.

Rationale for Interpretation

This appears to be a defect.