

IEEE Standards Interpretations for IEEE Std 1003.2™-1992 IEEE Standard for Information Technology--Portable Operating System Interfaces (POSIX®)-- Part 2: Shell and Utilities

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Interpretation Request #83

Topic: renice **Relevant Clauses:** 5.24

The standard, and obsolescent command line forms can result in an ambiguity regarding which synopsis line to use. The command line `renice 4 5 6` may be a "new" synopsis invocation, requesting that the processes 4, 5, and 6 be reniced by the default increment, or it may be an obsolescent invocation, requesting that processes 5 and 6 have their nice values set to 4. How should this ambiguity be resolved? I recommend giving priority to the "new" format, i.e. processes 4, 5, and 6 will all have their nice values incremented by the default nice increment.

Interpretation Response

The standard is unclear on this issue, and no conformance distinction can be made between alternative implementations based on this. This is being referred to the sponsor.

Rationale for Interpretation

None.