

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 #124

Topic: mkfifo -m mode **Relevant Clauses:** 4.42

The interp. request pasc-1003.2-67 (mkdir, clause 4.41) identified wording in the standard which was unclear. This (almost) identical wording in mkdir also occurs in the description for mkfifo. Should mkfifo -m mode utilize the current umask in setting permissions? Or should the same resolution from interp #67 also apply to mkfifo? The 1003.2-1992 rationale for mkfifo says that the -m option was added to control the file mode, for consistency with the similar functionality provided in the mkdir utility. Hence, I think that the -m option to mkfifo should behave similar to the -m option for mkdir.

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.