

IEEE Standards Interpretation for IEEE Std 1003.1™-2001 IEEE Standard Standard for Information Technology -- Portable Operating System Interface (POSIX®)

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Interpretation Request #86

Topic: pax -H and stdin **Relevant Sections:** XCU pax

For the write and copy mode of pax, there is the following text:

If no file operands are specified, a list of files to copy, one per line, shall be read from the standard input.

This does not mention whether the list of files taken from stdin should be treated as command line args or not.

For the implementation of the -H option it is needed to know, so this is a defect.

Decide whether the file names read from stdin should be treated as command line args or not and then add a note to clarify the behavior.

Interpretation Response

The standards states that pax shall read from stdin and conforming implementations must conform to this. However, concerns have been raised about this which are being referred to the sponsor.

Rationale for Interpretation

None.