

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 #103

Topic: strip object files, archives, executables **Relevant Sections:** XCU strip

Edition of Specification (Year): 2004

Defect code : 2. Omission

The ar description of the -s option states that "This option is useful to restore the archive symbol table after it has been stripped; see strip." The strip operands section states that its operand is "A pathname referring to an executable file." and makes no references to archives.

Make it clear that strip is applicable to object files and archives, eliminates all information unnecessary for linking for individual object files and the object files contained within an archive and eliminates the archive symbol table.

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

This was considered as two issues: the first was that the term "executable" should also include relocatable and object files. The second issue was the contradiction between ar and strip.