

## **IEEE Standards Interpretation for IEEE Std 1003.1™-1990 IEEE Standard for Information Technology--Portable Operating System Interfaces (POSIX®)**

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### **Interpretation Request #80**

**Topic:** Referenced C Language functions **Relevant Clauses:** 8.1

Many of the ISO C standard functions (including but not limited to `localeconv()` and `strerror()`) have been omitted from the list in section 8.1. This would imply that this POSIX standard does not comprise the omitted functions, yet other parts of the standard, reference the omitted functions (e.g. Annex C and subsection 2.3.9, which references ALL functions defined by the C standard). Is this an intentional omission in section 8.1? Suggested Correction: Add `localeconv()`, `strerror()`, and all the other ISO C library functions documented in Annex C (e.g. `fgetpos()`) to this list.

### **Interpretation Response**

This omission was intentional.

### **Rationale for Interpretation**

The functions listed in subsection 8.1 are a subset of widely available C library functions, chosen to be easily implemented on systems that pre-dated the C Standard. There is no need to mandate support for the full C Standard in IEEE Std 1003.1. Profile writers who wish to require such support should reference ISO/IEC 9989 as well as IEEE Std 1003.1-1996. Note that in Annex C the C library identifiers that are not required in all conforming implementations of IEEE Std 1003.1 are distinguished with asterisks to emphasize that they're included for informative and illustrative purposes and not to imply a requirement.

