NOTE: This Technical Note has been underlined retired. Please see the Technical Notes page for current documentation.

Technical Note TB38
Strip With _OpenResFile and _OpenRFPerm

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This Technical Note discusses a bug in `_OpenResFile` and `_OpenRFPerm` which can cause system crashes and what you can do to avoid this problem.

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Introduction

The traps `_OpenResFile` and `_OpenRFPerm` call some common code in 128K and later ROMs which was affected by some system patches for early print drivers. The problem is that the common code checks an attribute bit in the pointer to the string name to see if it is a dereferenced handle. If the pointer has the resource attribute bit set, the Resource Manager assumes that it is a dereferenced handle and calls `_RecoverHandle`. This usually works, but when the string is embedded in a code resource, the Resource Manager calls `_RecoverHandle` with an invalid master pointer.

Note:
In MPW C, this bug is **not** a problem, unless you use either the `-b`, `-b2`, or `-b3` options, which embed string constants in the code segment. If you use these options, you must deal with this bug.

The following code fragments give an example of this bug:

MPW Pascal

```
VAR
    fileName : Str255;
    ref : INTEGER;

BEGIN
    fileName := 'This File';
    ref := OpenResFile(fileName);
```

MPW C

```
Str255        fileName;
short int     ref;

fileName = 'This File';
```

Calling `_StripAddress` on the pointer to the filename prior to calling `_OpenResFile` or `_OpenRFPerm` solves the problem:

MPW Pascal

```
VAR
    fileName : Str255;
    ref : INTEGER;

BEGIN
    fileName := 'This File';
    ref := OpenResFile(StringPtr(StripAddress(@fileName))^);
```

MPW C

```
     Str255          fileName;
     short int     ref;

     fileName = 'This File';
```

By always calling _StripAddress before calling _OpenResFile or _OpenRFPerm, you will not have to deal with this problem, life will be good, and you will be able to rest a bit easier.

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References

M.OV.32BitClean

M.ME.StripAddress

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