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# Technical Note PT560

## MPW Library Q&As

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This Technical Note contains a collection of archived Q&As relating to a specific topic - questions sent the Developer Support Center (DSC) along with answers from the DSC engineers. Current Q&A's can be found on the [Macintosh Technical Q&A's web site](#).

[Oct 01 1990]

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## Getting MPW to recognize a file created using "open"

Date Written: 5/3/89

Last reviewed: 6/14/93

I'm using the C standard library routines to read and write text files. But when I create a file using `open()`, MPW doesn't recognize it as a TEXT file. What's going on?

When `open()` creates a file, it leaves the `fdType` and `fdCreator` blank, since it doesn't know the format of the file you are going to write (it's possible to write binary data using the standard C library).

To change the file type and creator of a file created by `open()`, use `SetFInfo`, as shown in the example below:

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <Files.h>

int main(void)
{
    int fd;
    short vol, err;
    FInfo fInfo;

    fd = open("junk.out", O_CREAT | O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
    if (fd < 0) {
        printf("Error creating file\n");
        return(1);
    }
    (void) close(fd);
    err = GetVol((StringPtr) NULL, &vol);
    if (err != 0) {
        printf("Error %d getting current volume\n", err);
        return(1);
    }
    err = GetFInfo((StringPtr) "\pjunk.out", vol, &fInfo);
    if (err != 0) {
        printf("Error %d getting file info\n", err);
        return(1);
    }
    fInfo.fdType = 'TEXT';
    fInfo.fdCreator = 'MPS ';
    err = SetFInfo((StringPtr) "\pjunk.out", vol, &fInfo);
    if (err != 0) {
        printf("Error %d setting file info\n", err);
        return(1);
    }
    return(0);
}
```

By the way, you are generally much better off if you use the File Manager's routines to manipulate your files. The performance will be much better.

X-Refs:

File Manager

Macintosh Technical Note ["Mixing HFS and C File I/O"](#)

## SLOW libraries run in 32-bit mode

Date Written: 7/30/91

Last reviewed: 6/14/93

Comments in the SLOW.r file indicate that the Standard I/O Window (SIOW) software is not 32-bit clean. Are there any known bugs that crop up if the current software is run in 32-bit mode anyway?

The "not32BitCompatible" setting in the `SIZE` resource is ignored, more or less. Originally, it was going to trigger an alert like "Be careful - this application may crash!" if the system was running in 32-bit mode; thankfully, this alert was removed before System 7.0 was shipped (though A/UX still has it).

As far as the SIOW libraries are concerned, there isn't anything about them that restricts their use to 24-bit environments. Other than the problems discussed in the release notes that come with MPW 3.2 (which includes SIOW), Apple doesn't know of any bugs with SIOW.

## MPW glue for trackbox & other lowercase toolbox calls is broken

Date Written: 7/9/91

Last reviewed: 6/14/93

Is trackbox in the MPW C library broken? It always returns 0 (false).

Yes, the glue for the MPW C library trackbox is broken. In fact, the glue for many of the lowercase Toolbox calls is broken. Fixing lowercase glue routines is a never-ending challenge. This probably won't be fixed; instead, expect to see all lowercase glue routines removed from future versions of MPW. What does this mean to you? Use only the proper mixed-case interfaces (the ones spelled just like in *Inside Macintosh*) at all times. This also will serve to make your code smaller and faster, since the mixed-case interfaces make direct Toolbox calls instead of calls to glue routines in many cases.

Incidentally, in case you're wondering, the C library trackbox doesn't work because the glue clears a long for the result instead of a word and pulls a long off the stack, so the result is in the wrong byte of the register on return.

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