

Technote 1181

Sherlock's Find by Content Text Extractor Plug-ins

By John Montbriand
Apple Worldwide Developer Technical Support

CONTENTS

[Overview](#)

[Text Extractor Plug-ins Defined](#)

[Registering the MIME Types a Plug-in can Understand](#)

[Structures Used By Plug-ins](#)

[Routines a Text Extractor Must Define](#)

[An Example Plug-in](#)

[Calling a Text Extractor Plug-in from an Application](#)

[Index of Code Listings](#)

[Further References](#)

[Downloadables](#)

[Acknowledgments](#)

This Technote describes the API for creating Find By Content Text Extractor Plug-ins. Text Extractor Plug-ins are used by Find by Content to extract the textual information stored in a document when it is creating indexes and summarizing files. By doing so, it is possible for users to avoid indexing peripheral data such as formatting commands, HTML tags, and other data that does not relate to the information stored in the document. By creating Text Extractor Plug-ins for their document types, developers make it possible for users to conduct meaningful searches for information stored in documents created by their applications.

Text Extractor Plug-ins can be created for use with Mac OS 8.6 and later. Mac OS 8.6 was shipped with two Text Extractor Plug-ins: the "HTML Text Extractor" and the "PDF Text Extractor." The "HTML Text Extractor" strips the HTML tags from HTML files and returns the text stored therein; the "PDF Text Extractor" returns the textual information from Adobe®'s Portable Document Format (PDF) files. In Mac OS 8.5, indexing HTML files meant that both the text stored in the document and the HTML tags were incorporated into indexes. Furthermore, PDF files were excluded from the indexing process. In Mac OS 8.6, meaningful textual information extracted from these files is incorporated into index files used by Find By Content.

This Technote provides information necessary for creating and installing Text Extractor Plug-ins. In addition, an annotated example Text Extractor Plug-in is provided. Developers can easily modify this example to create their own plug-in for use with their own file formats.

Overview

Text Extractors improve the accuracy of indexing and summarizing files. As an example, consider the HTML file shown in Listing 1.

```
<!--This HTML file contains both HTML tags and ASCII text.  For
indexing purposes, it would be more useful to ignore the tags and only
incorporate the document's text into the index.-->

<HTML>
<BODY>
This is a sample document.
</BODY>
</HTML>
```

Listing 1. A sample HTML file.

Without knowing the HTML format, every word above would get indexed, so searching for “body” in Find by Content would find the above document, but when a user opened the file in her web browser, she would not see “body.” Similarly, summarizing a HTML document would show HTML Tags in the summary. The HTML Text Extractor knows the format of an HTML file so it will skip the HTML Tags and return just the text that a user would see viewing the document. For the above example, “This is a sample document.” would be the only text that is indexed.

[Back to top](#)

Text Extractor Plug-ins Defined

Text Extractor Plug-ins are Code Fragments that have the following characteristics:

- File Type: 'fbce'
- Creator Type: 'fndf'
- Code Fragment Name: "IATextExtractor"
- System Location: "Find by Content Plug-ins" folder of the "Find" folder of the "Extensions" folder. The folder type `kFindByContentPluginsFolderType ('fbcp')` can be passed to the function `FindFolder` to locate the folder.
- Exported Functions—A Text Extractor Plug-in must implement and export all of the following functions:
 - [`IAPluginInit`](#)—When a text extractor plug in is opened, the exported function `IAPluginInit` is called.
 - [`IAPluginTerm`](#)—When a session with a text extractor plug-in is terminated, the function `IAPluginTerm` is called. At this time the plug-in can perform any needed cleanup.
 - [`IAGetExtractorVersion`](#)—Returns the version of the Text Extractor Interface that plug-in corresponds to.
 - [`IACountSupportedDocTypes`](#)—Returns the number of document types the plug-in knows how to handle. This call returns the maximum valid index for the call `IAGetIndSupportedDocType`.
 - [`IAGetIndSupportedDocType`](#)—Returns the *n*th document type the plug-in supports (first item is 1 not 0). Documents are identified by Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) type and subtype for example an HTML document would have a MIME type of "text/html."
 - [`IAOpenDocument`](#)—Creates a reference to the text of a document, the `IADocRef` type is an opaque type that is defined by the plug-in to reference the document. The `IADocAccessorPtr` contains a reference to a document and pointers to functions used to access the document. The document accessor pointer will be valid for all calls that use the returned `IADocRef` until `IACloseDocument` is called.
 - [`IACloseDocument`](#)—Perform any needed cleanup for the plug-in defined `IADocRef` object.
 - [`IAGetNextTextRun`](#)—Given an open document reference, get the next run of text associated with the item. Fills the buffer with the next run of text. On input `ioSize` is the size of the buffer, on output `ioSize` is the number of bytes written to the buffer. If the encoding or languages of a document changes `errIAEndOfTextRun` should be returned. Note: a result of `errIAEndOfTextRun` does not necessarily mean that the routine will return an empty buffer.
 - [`IAGetTextRunInfo`](#)—Gets the encoding and language of the text that was returned in the last call to `IAGetNextTextRun`.

A Text Extractor Plug-in's resource file may contain one or more 'mimp' resources that advertise the kinds of files the plug-in is able to process. The format of these resources is defined in the [Registering the MIME Types a Plug-in can Understand](#) section below.

[Back to top](#)

Registering the MIME Types a Plug-in can Understand

Clients of Text Extractors need to map documents to a MIME type. To help clients determine the document types a plug-in understands, a plug-in can include one or more 'mi mp' resources in its resource file. Definitions for defining your own 'mi mp' can be found in the file "IAExtractor.r." As shown in Listing 2, 'mi mp' resources contain information about file Finder types and file extensions that map to a MIME type.

```
/* An example 'mi mp' resources for Portable Document Format (PDF) documents. */  
  
#include "IAExtractor.r"  
resource 'mi mp' (128) {  
    kIACurrentMIEMappingVersion,  
    'PDF', /* file type */  
    'CARO', /* file creator */  
    ".pdf", /* file extension */  
    "application/pdf", /* MIME type */  
    "Portable Document Format" /* description */  
};
```

Listing 2. A sample 'mi mp' resource for PDF files.

When creating indexes, Find By Content uses calls to Internet Config to discover the file's MIME type. Once a file's MIME type has been discovered, it then uses the a Text Extractor Plug-in capable of extracting text from the file (based on the MIME types the extractor advertises it can decode in its 'mi mp' resource).

[Back to top](#)

Structures Used By Plug-ins

Find By Content provides a number of routines and callbacks that can be used by Text Extractor Plug-ins. These callbacks provide access to memory allocation and file input. The following sections describe the structures used by Find By Content to provide these callbacks and the callbacks themselves.

Application developers wanting to call Text Extractor Plug-ins from their own code will want to create and initialize these structures themselves. Examples of how to do this can be found later in the [Calling a Text Extractor Plug-in from an Application](#) section below.

The IAPuginInitBlock Structure

The IAPuginInitBlock record provides call back routines that remain constant the entire time a Text Extractor Plug-in is open. A pointer to this structure is passed as a parameter to the plug-in's IAPuginInit routine; and, it is safe for a plug-in to save a pointer to this structure and make callbacks through it any time before the IAPuginTerm routine is called. Listing 3 shows the contents of the IAPuginInitBlock structure and prototypes for the callbacks made available by this structure. This structure and macros for making callbacks (shown as routine prototypes for illustrative purposes in Listing 3) are defined in the file "IAExtractor.h."

```

/* IAPlugInInitBlock structure definition */

typedef struct IAPlugInInitBlock* IAPlugInInitBlockPtr;

struct IAPlugInInitBlock {
    IAAllocUPP  Alloc;
    IAFreeUPP   Free;
    IAIdleUPP   Idle;
};

typedef struct IAPlugInInitBlock IAPlugInInitBlock;

/* Routine Prototypes */

void* CallIAAllocProc(IAAllocUPP Alloc, UInt32 inSize);

void CallIAFreeProc(IAFreeUPP Free, void* object);

UInt8 CallIAIdleProc(IAIdleUPP Idle);

```

Listing 3. Declaration of the `IAPlugInInitBlock` structure and prototypes that can be used for calling the routines referenced in the structure.

`IAPlugInInitBlock` provides callbacks for allocating memory and an `idle` callback that can be called during lengthy operations. Plug-ins should use the memory allocation routines provided in this structure instead of direct calls to the Memory Manager. Callbacks provided by this structure are described below.

CallIAAllocProc

```

void* CallIAAllocProc(
    IAAllocUPP Alloc,
    UInt32 inSize);

```

`Alloc`—the value stored in the `Alloc` field in the `IAPlugInInitBlock` structure.

`inSize`—The number of bytes to allocate.

`result`—a pointer to a block of storage or `NULL` if the request cannot be allocated.

`CallIAAllocProc` is a callback procedure provided in the [IAPlugInInitBlock](#) structure that can be called by plug-ins to allocate memory.

`CallIAAllocProc` can be used for allocating memory. Plug-ins should use this callback for all memory requests. If successful, the callback returns a pointer to a block containing the requested number of bytes. If an error occurs or there is not enough memory to complete the request, then the callback returns `NULL`.

CallIAFreeProc

```

void CallIAFreeProc(
    IAFreeUPP Free,
    void* object);

```

`Free`—the value stored in the `Free` field in the `IAPlugInInitBlock` structure.

object—a pointer to a block of memory allocated through the `CallIAAllocProc` callback.

`CallIAFreeProc` is a callback procedure provided in the [IAPluginInitBlock](#) structure that can be called by plug-ins to release memory allocated by the `CallIAAllocProc` routine.

`CallIAFreeProc` can be used for deallocating memory allocated by calls to the `CallIAAllocProc` callback.

CallIAIdleProc

```
UInt8 CallIAIdleProc(
    IAIdeUPP Idle);
```

`Idle`—the value stored in the `idle` field in the `IAPluginInitBlock` structure

`result`—non-zero if the current operation should be canceled, zero to continue.

`CallIAIdleProc` is a callback procedure provided in the [IAPluginInitBlock](#) structure that can be called by plug-ins while they are processing lengthy tasks.

`CallIAIdleProc` should be called by a plug-in during lengthy tasks. By calling this routine, plug-ins can allow other tasks time to run. If this callback returns any value other than zero, then the plug-in should stop processing immediately and return a `errIACanceled` result. If the `idle` callback returns zero, then the plug-in should continue processing and, perhaps, call the `idle` procedure again if necessary.

Applications developers wanting to call Text Extractor Plug-ins from inside of their own applications will have to initialize this structure and define the necessary callbacks themselves. An example showing how to set up a `IAPluginInitBlock` structure can be found in the [Setting up the IAPluginInitBlock structure](#) section later in this document.

[Back to top](#)

The IADocAccessorRecordStructure

The `IADocAccessorRecord` provides callbacks for accessing information in files. Plug-ins should be aware that although the contents of the `IAPluginInitBlock` will remain constant during the time while a plug-in is open (between calls to `IAPluginInit` and `IAPluginTerm`), it is possible that the plug-in will be passed one or more `IADocAccessorRecord` structures that refer to different files. However, it is safe to assume that the `IADocAccessorRecord` structure passed to a plug-in's `IAOpenDocument` routine will remain the same until the plug-in's `IACloseDocument` routine is called. Listing 4 shows the definition of the `IADocAccessorRecord` and macros (shown as routine prototypes for illustrative purposes) that can be used to call back through this structure.

```
/* IADocAccessorRecord structure definition. */

typedef struct IADocAccessorRecord*    IADocAccessorPtr;

struct IADocAccessorRecord {

    /* docAccessor is an opaque type used by Find By Content
       to track the file. It is not possible for plug-ins to
       access this information. */
```

```

        IADocAccessorRef          docAccessor;
        IADocAccessorOpenUPP      OpenDoc;
        IADocAccessorCloseUPP     CloseDoc;
        IADocAccessorReadUPP      ReadDoc;
        IASetDocAccessorReadPosi tionUPP SetReadPosi ti on;
        IAGetDocAccessorReadPosi ti onUPP GetReadPosi ti on;
        IAGetDocAccessorEOFUPP    GetEOF;
};
typedef struct IADocAccessorRecord IADocAccessorRecord;

/* Routine Prototypes. */

OSStatus CallIADocumentAccessorOpen(IADocAccessorRef inAccessor);
OSStatus CallIADocumentAccessorClose(IADocAccessorRef inAccessor);
OSStatus CallIADocumentAccessorRead(IADocAccessorRef inAccessor,
        void* buffer, UInt32* ioSize);
OSStatus CallIASetDocumentAccessorReadPosi ti on(IADocAccessorRef inAccessor,
        SInt32 inMode, SInt32 inOffset);
OSStatus CallIAGetDocumentAccessorReadPosi ti on(IADocAccessorRef inAccessor,
        SInt32* outPosi ti on);
OSStatus CallIAGetDocumentAccessorEOF(IADocAccessorRef inAccessor, SInt32* outEOF);

/* macros corresponding to the routine prototypes above */

#define CallIADocumentAccessorOpen(accessor) \
    InvokeIADocAccessorOpenUPP((accessor)->docAccessor, \
    (accessor)->OpenDoc)

#define CallIADocumentAccessorClose(accessor) \
    InvokeIADocAccessorCloseUPP((accessor)->docAccessor, \
    (accessor)->CloseDoc)

#define CallIADocumentAccessorRead(accessor, buffer, size) \
    InvokeIADocAccessorReadUPP((accessor)->docAccessor, (buffer), \
    (size), (accessor)->ReadDoc)

#define CallIASetDocumentAccessorReadPosi ti on(accessor, mode, offset) \
    InvokeIASetDocAccessorReadPosi ti onUPP((accessor)->docAccessor, \
    (mode), (offset), (accessor)->SetReadPosi ti on)

#define CallIAGetDocumentAccessorReadPosi ti on(accessor, \
    outPosi ti on) \
    InvokeIAGetDocAccessorReadPosi ti onUPP((accessor)->docAccessor, \
    (outPosi ti on), (accessor)->GetReadPosi ti on)

#define CallIAGetDocumentAccessorEOF(accessor, outEOF) \
    InvokeIAGetDocAccessorEOFUPP((accessor)->docAccessor, \
    (outEOF), (accessor)->GetEOF)

```

Listing 4. Declaration of the IADocAccessorRecord structure and prototypes that can be used for

calling the routines referenced in the structure.

The `IADocAccessorRecord` defined in Listing 4 provides plug-ins with all the necessary resources for accessing files. Plug-ins should not make calls to the File Manager directly. Instead, they should perform all file input operations necessary for accessing a file through these callbacks. Fields and callbacks defined in this structure are discussed below.

Call IADocumentAccessorOpen

```
OSStatus CallIADocumentAccessorOpen(  
    IADocAccessorRef iAccessor);
```

`iAccessor`—a pointer to the `IADocAccessorRecord` passed to the `IAOpenDocument` routine.

`result`—`errIARNoErr` if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

`CallIADocumentAccessorOpen` is a callback procedure provided in the [IADocAccessorRecord](#) structure that can be called by plug-ins to open a file for input.

`CallIADocumentAccessorOpen` opens the document for reading. Plug-ins should call this routine to open the document for reading before making any of the input calls described below.

Call IADocumentAccessorClose

```
OSStatus CallIADocumentAccessorClose(  
    IADocAccessorRef iAccessor);
```

`iAccessor`—a pointer to the `IADocAccessorRecord` passed to the `IAOpenDocument` routine.
`iAccessor` must be in the open state when this routine is called.

`result`—`errIARNoErr` if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

`CallIADocumentAccessorClose` is a callback procedure provided in the [IADocAccessorRecord](#) structure that can be called by plug-ins to close a file that was opened by a call to `CallIADocumentAccessorOpen`.

`CallIADocumentAccessorClose` should be called to close a file opened by a call to `CallIADocumentAccessorOpen`.

Call IADocumentAccessorRead

```
OSStatus CallIADocumentAccessorRead(  
    IADocAccessorRef iAccessor,  
    void* buffer,  
    UInt32* iOSize);
```

`iAccessor`—a pointer to the `IADocAccessorRecord` passed to the `IAOpenDocument` routine.
`iAccessor` must be in the open state when this routine is called.

`buffer`—a pointer to a buffer where the data should be stored.

`iOSize`—a pointer to a 32-bit integer containing the number of bytes to be read. When the routine returns, this value will have been updated to the actual number of bytes read.

result—errIAnoErr if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

Cal l IADocumentAccessorRead is a callback procedure provided in the [IADocAccessorRecord](#) structure that can be called by plug-ins to read data from a file.

Cal l IADocumentAccessorRead reads *i oSi ze bytes from the file starting at the current read file position. On return, *i oSi ze will reflect the actual number of bytes read and the routine's result will indicate the success of the call. If this callback returns an eofErr error, be sure to check the value stored in *i oSi ze as it is possible that some bytes may have been read into the buffer before the end of the file was encountered. Calls to Cal l IADocumentAccessorRead advance the read position for the file past the bytes that have been read—the next call to Cal l IADocumentAccessorRead begins where the last one left off.

Cal l IASetDocumentAccessorReadPosi ti on

```
OSStatus Cal l IASetDocumentAccessorReadPosi ti on(
    IADocAccessorRef i nAccessor,
    SI nt32 i nMode,
    SI nt32 i nOffset);
```

i nAccessor—a pointer to the IADocAccessorRecord passed to the IAOpenDocument routine.
i nAccessor must be in the open state when this routine is called.

i nMode—contains one of the following positioning constants:

- kIAFromStartMode—i nOffset contains a value to be interpreted as an offset from the start of the file.
- kIAFromCurrMode—i nOffset contains a value to be interpreted as an offset the current read position.
- kIAFromEndMode—i nOffset contains a value to be interpreted as an offset from the end of the file.

i nOffset—contains a 32-bit signed integer used to offset the current read position.

result—errIAnoErr if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

Cal l IASetDocumentAccessorReadPosi ti on is a callback procedure provided in the [IADocAccessorRecord](#) structure that can be called by plug-ins to set the position where the next read will take place when Cal l IADocumentAccessorRead is called.

Cal l IASetDocumentAccessorReadPosi ti on can be used to set the position where the next call to Cal l IADocumentAccessorRead will begin reading bytes from the file. When a file is first opened, its read position is set to the beginning of the file.

Cal l IAGetDocumentAccessorReadPosi ti on

```
OSStatus Cal l IAGetDocumentAccessorReadPosi ti on(
    IADocAccessorRef i nAccessor,
    SI nt32* outPosi ti on);
```

i nAccessor—a pointer to the IADocAccessorRecord passed to the IAOpenDocument routine.
i nAccessor must be in the open state when this routine is called.

outPosition—a pointer to a 32-bit value that is set to the current read position's offset from the beginning of the file.

result—errIAnoErr if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

Call IAGetDocumentAccessorReadPosition is a callback procedure provided in the [IADocAccessorRecord](#) structure that can be called by plug-ins to determine the position where the next read will take place when **Call IADocumentAccessorRead** is called.

Call IAGetDocumentAccessorReadPosition returns the location where the next read operation will take place in ***outPosition**. The value returned is an offset from the beginning of the file.

Call IAGetDocumentAccessorEOF

```
OSStatus Call IAGetDocumentAccessorEOF(  
    IADocAccessorRef inAccessor,  
    SInt32* outEOF);
```

inAccessor—a pointer to the **IADocAccessorRecord** passed to the **IAOpenDocument** routine.
inAccessor must be in the open state when this routine is called.

outEOF—a pointer to a 32-bit value that is set to the number of bytes in the file.

result—errIAnoErr if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

Call IAGetDocumentAccessorReadPosition is a callback procedure provided in the [IADocAccessorRecord](#) structure that can be called by plug-ins to determine length of the input file.

Call IAGetDocumentAccessorEOF can be used to discover the length of a file. On return, ***outEOF** is set to the total number of bytes in the file.

Applications developers wanting to call Text Extractor Plug-ins from inside of their own applications will have to initialize this structure and define the necessary callbacks themselves. An example showing how to set up a **IADocAccessorRecord** structure can be found in the [Setting up the IADocAccessorRecord structure](#) section later in this document.

[Back to top](#)

Routines a Text Extractor Must Define

This section describes the routines that must be exported by all Text Extractor Plug-ins. This section provides a detailed description of each routine along with some discussion any important issues related to each routine.

IAPlugInInit

```
OSStatus IAPlugInInit(  
    IAPlugInInitBlockPtr inInitBlock,  
    IAPlugInRef *outPlugInRef);
```

inInitBlock—contains a pointer to a [IAPlugInInitBlock](#) structure.

outPlugInRef—is a pointer to a 32-bit value that will be passed to other plug-in routines while the plug-in is open. A plug-in may set this value in its **IPlugInInit** routine and it will remain unchanged until [IPlugInTerm](#) is called.

result—errIAnoErr if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

IPlugInInit is a routine that must be provided in the plug-in's code fragment.

After the plug-in's code fragment has been prepared for execution, the plug-in's **IPlugInInit** routine is called. This routine provides an opportunity for a plug-in to perform any necessary initialization operations it may require.

The callbacks in the [IPlugInInitBlock](#) pointed to by the **initBlock** parameter remain valid while the plug-in is open (until [IPlugInTerm](#) is called) and may be called from any of the plug-in's other routines. The value stored in ***outPlugInRef** is dedicated for the plug-in's use and may be used to store persistent state information that is to remain intact between calls to the plug-in (this value is not saved after the plug-in has been closed).

For an example illustrating how this routine could be implemented refer to [Listing 6](#).

[Back to top](#)

IPlugInTerm

```
OSStatus IPlugInTerm(IPlugInRef iPlugInRef);
```

iPlugInRef—a 32-bit value dedicated for the plug-in's use. This value will be the same as the value the ***outPlugInRef** parameter was set to in the [IPlugInInit](#) call.

result—errIAnoErr if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

IPlugInTerm is a routine that must be provided in the plug-in's code fragment.

Before a plug-in's Code Fragment Manager connection is closed, the plug-in's **IPlugInTerm** routine is called. This routine provides opportunity for the plug-in to perform any necessary cleanup operations required such as deallocating storage, closing resource files, et cetera. After this routine has been called, there will be no other calls made to the plug-in until the next time it is opened by a call to [IPlugInInit](#).

For an example illustrating how this routine could be implemented refer to [Listing 7](#).

[Back to top](#)

IAGetExtractorVersion

```
OSStatus IAGetExtractorVersion(  
    IPlugInRef iPlugInRef,  
    UInt32 outPlugInVersion);
```

iPlugInRef—a 32-bit value dedicated for the plug-in's use. This value will be the same as the

value the `*outPluginRef` parameter was set to in the [IAPluginInit](#) call.

`outPluginVersion`—a pointer to a 32-bit value. Your routine should set this value to `kIAExtractorCurrentVersion`.

result—`errIANoErr` if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

`IAGetExtractorVersion` is a routine that must be provided in the plug-in's code fragment.

In this routine, a plug-in should set the value `*outPluginVersion` to the version of the Text Extractor Plug-in interface it was compiled against. The constant `kIAExtractorCurrentVersion`, defined in "IAExtractor.h," contains the current version of the Text Extractor Plug-in interface.

For an example illustrating how this routine could be implemented refer to [Listing 8](#).

[Back to top](#)

IACountSupportedDocTypes

```
OSStatus IACountSupportedDocTypes(  
    IPluginRef iPluginRef,  
    UInt32* outCount);
```

`iPluginRef`—a 32-bit value dedicated for the plug-in's use. This value will be the same as the value the `*outPluginRef` parameter was set to in the [IAPluginInit](#) call.

`outCount`—a pointer to a 32-bit integer. The plug-in should set this integer to the number of document types that it knows how to handle.

result—`errIANoErr` if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

`IACountSupportedDocTypes` is a routine that must be provided in the plug-in's code fragment.

This routine should set `*outCount` to the number of document types the plug-in is able to handle. The value stored in `*outCount` is interpreted as the maximum valid index that can be provided as an index in [IAGetIndSupportedDocType](#) calls.

For an example illustrating how this routine could be implemented refer to [Listing 9](#).

[Back to top](#)

IAGetIndSupportedDocType

```
OSStatus IAGetIndSupportedDocType(  
    IPluginRef iPluginRef,  
    UInt32 iIndex,  
    char** outMimeType);
```

`iPluginRef`—a 32-bit value dedicated for the plug-in's use. This value will be the same as the value the `*outPluginRef` parameter was set to in the [IAPluginInit](#) call.

i nI ndex—a 32-bit integer value indicating the index of the document type to return. Index values range between 1 and the maximum index value returned by [IACountSupportedDocTypes](#).

***outMI MType**—a pointer value of type `char*`. A plug-in should set this value to point to a string containing the MIME type string. The storage for this string belongs to the plug-in—if it was allocated by the plug-in, then the plug-in must deallocate it.

result—`errIANoErr` if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

IAGetIndSupportedDocType is a routine that must be provided in the plug-in's code fragment.

The routine **IAGetIndSupportedDocType** sets ***outMI MType** to point to a string containing the *nth* MIME type the plug-in is able to understand. Index values that may be provided in the **i nI ndex** parameter range from 1 (not zero) through the maximum value as reported by the [IACountSupportedDocTypes](#) call.

For an example illustrating how this routine could be implemented refer to [Listing 10](#).

[Back to top](#)

IAOpenDocument

```
OSStatus IAOpenDocument (  
    IAPIugi nRef i nPl ugi nRef,  
    IADocAccessorPtr i nAccessor,  
    IADocRef* outDoc);
```

i nPl ugi nRef—a 32-bit value dedicated for the plug-in's use. This value will be the same as the value the ***outPl ugi nRef** parameter was set to in the [IAPI ugi nI ni t](#) call.

i nAccessor—a pointer to a [IAPI ugi nI ni tBl ock](#) containing callbacks necessary for reading information from a file.

outDoc—a pointer to a 32-bit value available for the plug-in to use for storing information specific to the document. Normally plug-ins will store a pointer to necessary state variables specific to the document in this parameter.

result—`errIANoErr` if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

IAOpenDocument is a routine that must be provided in the plug-in's code fragment.

IAOpenDocument is called before a plug-in is used to extract text from a new document. This routine provides opportunity for the plug-in to perform any initialization operations required before it begins reading text from a file. Any state variables or data buffers required for processing the file should be stored in a block of memory and a pointer to that block should be stored in ***outDoc**. This value will be passed to the routines [IAGetNextTextRun](#), and [IAGetTextRunInfo](#) while the document is open, and then to [IACloseDocument](#) once all the required text has been extracted from the document. Both the [IAPI ugi nI ni tBl ock](#) pointed to by the **i nAccessor** parameter and the value stored in ***outDoc** will remain valid until [IACloseDocument](#) is called.

For an example illustrating how this routine could be implemented refer to [Listing 11](#).

[Back to top](#)

IACloseDocument

```
OSStatus IACloseDocument(  
    IADocRef iNdoc);
```

iNdoc—The document reference value created by the plug-in the [IAOpenDocument](#) call containing state variables or data buffers required for processing the file.

result—errIANoErr if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

IACloseDocument is a routine that must be provided in the plug-in's code fragment.

IACloseDocument is called after all textual information required has been extracted from the document. In this call, the plug-in should dispose of any state variables or buffers that were created specifically for the file referenced by the **iNdoc** parameter.

For an example illustrating how this routine could be implemented refer to [Listing 12](#).

[Back to top](#)

IAGetNextTextRun

```
OSStatus IAGetNextTextRun(  
    IADocRef iNdoc,  
    void* buffer,  
    UInt32* iOSize);
```

iNdoc—The document reference value created by the plug-in the [IAOpenDocument](#) call containing state variables or data buffers required for processing the file.

buffer—a pointer to a block of memory.

iOSize—a pointer to a 32-bit integer value. when the routine is called, this value will equal the number of bytes available in the memory area pointed to by **buffer** parameter. After copying some text to this memory buffer, the plug-in should set this value to the actual number of bytes copied.

result—errIANoErr if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

IAGetNextTextRun is a routine that must be provided in the plug-in's code fragment.

The **IAGetNextTextRun** routine should copy text from the document into the memory buffer pointed to by the **buffer** parameter until that buffer is full, or the plug-in runs out of text. If the language encoding changes from one language to another while text is being decoded, the plug-in mark that location in the text stream by returning the result code **errIAEndOfTextRun**.

For an example illustrating how this routine could be implemented refer to [Listing 13](#).

[Back to top](#)

I AGetTextRunInfo

```
OSStatus IAGetTextRunInfo(  
    IADocRef i nDoc,  
    char** outEncoding,  
    char** outLanguage);
```

i nDoc—The document reference value created by the plug-in the [IAOpenDocument](#) call containing state variables or data buffers required for processing the file.

outEncoding—a pointer to a variable to type char*. This is an optional parameter, and may be set to NULL if the caller is not interested in this value. The plug-in should store a pointer to a string in the variable pointed to by this parameter that contains the Internet name for the current character encoding for text being extracted from the file.

outLanguage—a pointer to a variable to type char*. This is an optional parameter, and may be set to NULL if the caller is not interested in this value. The plug-in should store a pointer to a string in the variable pointed to by this parameter that contains the language name for text being extracted from the file. The language corresponds to the internet standard defined in ISO-639.

result—errIANoErr if the operation was successful, some other error code if the operation failed.

IAGetTextRunInfo is a routine that must be provided in the plug-in's code fragment.

IAGetTextRunInfo returns information about the character encoding and the language of the text for the last buffer returned by [IAGetNextTextRun](#).

Both parameters are optional and may or may not be present depending on the caller's requirements. If a parameter is not required, then it will be set to NULL.

If the plug-in allocates a pointer to a string and stores that pointer either in *outEncoding or in *outLanguage, then it is the plug-in's responsibility to deallocate that storage.

If either value is not known, the plug-in may store the value NULL in either *outEncoding or in *outLanguage. This value instructs the caller that the current character encoding or language is not known by the plug-in.

A pointer to a string containing the Internet name for the character encoding is returned in the *outEncoding parameter. Encoding is the internet name for an encoding (i.e., "iso-8859-1," "x-mac-roman," "euc-jp," ...). ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON ITS WAY.

For an example illustrating how this routine could be implemented refer to [Listing 14](#).

[Back to top](#)

An Example Plug-in

The following annotated example illustrates how to create a Text Extractor Plug-in for the "text/plain" MIME type. As the function of this plug-in is to pass text from the file to the caller, its implementation is very simple. Developers can easily modify this example to extract text from their own file formats.



```

/* File: PlainTextExtractor.c

Text Extractor plug-in example/shell.  */

/* The file IAEExtractor.h contains defines and structures
necessary for creating a Text Extractor Plug-in. */

#include "IAExtractor.h"

/* This constant is used in the example as a data value
stored in the reference value maintained by the caller
for the plug-in. It's not necessary to create a plug-in,
but it's useful for illustration. */
enum {
    kPlainTextExtractorRefType = 'text'
};

/* This macro is used for verifying the reference value
remains unchanged in the example. */

#define VerifyType(x) ((UInt32)(x) == (UInt32)kPlainTextExtractorRefType)

```

Listing 5. File header & imports for Text Extractor Plug-ins.

The only important aspect of the above is the header file being included. Here, the file “IAExtractor.h” containing the necessary constant and structure definitions is included.

```

/* IAPuginInit example implementation. */

OSStatus IAPuginInit(
    IAPuginInitBlockPtr initBlock,
    IAPuginRef* outPluginRef) {

    /* validate parameters. */

    if (outPluginRef == NULL) return errIAParamErr;

    /* initialize the reference value. Plug-ins that
    require memory allocation should cache initBlock
    info here. */

    *outPluginRef = (IAPuginRef)kPlainTextExtractorRefType;

    /* Return with no error. */

    return errIANoErr;
}

```

Listing 6. [IAPuginInit](#) example.

The [IAPuginInit](#) is the first call made to the plug-in. During this call, the plug-in should set up any variables or tables required. Also, if the plug-in will require any of the callbacks found in the

[IAPluginInitBlock](#) pointed to by the `initBlock` parameter later during its execution, then it should save a copy of this pointer.

[Back to top](#)

```
/* IAPuginTerm example implementation. */
OSStatus IAPuginTerm(IAPuginRef inPluginRef) {
    /* validate parameters */

    if (!VerifyType(inPluginRef))
        return errIAParamErr;

    /* do other tear-down operations here... */

    ....

    /* Return with no error. */

    return errIAResNoErr;
}
```

Listing 7. [IAPuginTerm](#) example.

Normally, the [IAPuginTerm](#) routine will be used to deallocate any storage allocated by the plug-in, close any resource files, and other cleanup tasks that need to be performed.

[Back to top](#)

```
/* IAGetExtractorVersion example implementation. */
OSStatus IAGetExtractorVersion(
    IAPuginRef inPluginRef,
    UInt32* outPluginVersion) {
    /* validate parameters */

    if (!VerifyType(inPluginRef) || !outPluginVersion)
        return errIAParamErr;

    /* set return value to the interface version
       this code was compiled with. */

    *outPluginVersion = kIAExtractorCurrentVersion;

    /* Return with no error. */

    return errIAResNoErr;
}
```

Listing 8. [IAGetExtractorVersion](#) example.

The value `kIAExtractorCurrentVersion` will always contain the current version for the declarations included in the file “`IAExtractor.h`.” For the current implementation this value is set to `kIAExtractorVersion1`.

[Back to top](#)

```
/* IACountSupportedDocTypes example implementation. */
OSStatus IACountSupportedDocTypes(
    IAPuginRef inPluginRef,
    UInt32* outCount) {

    /* validate parameters */

    if (!VerifyType(inPluginRef) || ! outCount)
        return errIAParamErr;

    /* count is max value to be passed to
       IAGetIndSupportedDocType as index */

    *outCount = 1;

    /* Return with no error. */

    return errIANoErr;
}
```

Listing 9. [IACountSupportedDocTypes](#) example.

In this example, we only support one document type—plain text documents.

[Back to top](#)

```
/* IAGetIndSupportedDocType example implementation. */
OSStatus IAGetIndSupportedDocType(
    IAPuginRef inPluginRef,
    UInt32 inIndex,
    char **outMIMEType) {

    /* set up local variables */

    static char* supportedDocType = "text/plain";

    /* validate parameters */

    if (!VerifyType(inPluginRef) || !outMIMEType || inIndex != 1)
        return errIAParamErr;

    /* set return value */

    *outMIMEType = supportedDocType;
}
```

```

        /* return successfully */

        return errIARNoErr;
    }

```

Listing 10. [IAGetIndSupportedDocType](#) example.

In the above declaration of [IAGetIndSupportedDocType](#) the MIME type string is stored as a static variable among the plug-in's globals.

[Back to top](#)

```

/* IAOpenDocument example implementation. */

OSStatus IAOpenDocument(
    IAPuginRef inPluginRef,
    IADocAccessorPtr inDocAccessor,
    IADocRef* outDoc) {

    /* local variables */

    OSStatus err;

    /* verify parameters */

    if (!VerifyType(inPluginRef) || !inDocAccessor || !outDoc)
        return errIARParamErr;

    /* call our opening routine */

    err = CallIADocumentAccessorOpen(inDocAccessor);
    if (err != errIARNoErr)
        return err;

    /* IADocRef is defined by plug-in, in our case we are just
       reading directly from the accessor so we are defining the
       opaque type IADocRef to be an IADocAccessorPtr. */

    *outDoc = (IADocRef)inDocAccessor;

    /* return successfully */

    return errIARNoErr;
}

```

Listing 11. [IAOpenDocument](#) example.

In the [IAOpenDocument](#) call shown above, the plug-in calls back through the [IAPuginInitBlock](#) record pointed to by the inDocAccessor parameter and before caching a copy of inDocAccessor in the document reference parameter (*outDoc). This value is used to refer to the document in the next few listings.

[Back to top](#)

```

/* IACloseDocument example implementation. */
OSStatus IACloseDocument(IADocRef inDoc) {

    /* local variables */

    IADocAccessorPtr    docAccessor;
    OSStatus            err;

    /* verify parameters */

    if (inDoc == NULL)
        return errIAParamErr;

    /* Cast IADocRef to what we defined it to be in
       IAOpenDocument in this case a IADocAccessorPtr */

    docAccessor = (IADocAccessorPtr)inDoc;

    /* use the callback to close the file */

    err = CallIADocumentAccessorClose(docAccessor);

    /* return status of last close */

    return err;
}

```

Listing 12. [IACloseDocument](#) example.

In the [IACloseDocument](#) call shown above, the plug-in calls back through the [IAPuginInitBlock](#) structure to close the file. The pointer to the [IAPuginInitBlock](#) structure is coerced from the inDoc parameter where a copy was saved during the [IAOpenDocument](#) call shown in [Listing 11](#).

[Back to top](#)

```

/* IAGetNextTextRun example implementation. */
OSStatus IAGetNextTextRun(
    IADocRef inDoc,
    void* buffer,
    UInt32* size) {

    /* local variables */

    IADocAccessorPtr    docAccessor;
    OSStatus            err;

    /* verify parameters */

    if (!inDoc)
        return errIAParamErr;

    /* Cast IADocRef to what we defined it to be
       in IAOpenDocument (in this case a IADocAccessorPtr). */

```

```

docAccessor = (IADocAccessorPtr)inDoc;

/* callback to read from the file. */

err = CallIADocumentAccessorRead(docAccessor, buffer, size);

/* return result of read operation */

return err;
}

```

Listing 13. [IAGetNextTextRun](#) example.

In the [IACloseDocument](#) call shown above, the plug-in calls back through the [IAPlugInInitBlock](#) structure to read data bytes from the file. The pointer to the [IAPlugInInitBlock](#) structure is coerced from the `inDoc` parameter where a copy was saved during the [IAOpenDocument](#) call shown in [Listing 11](#).

[Back to top](#)

```

/* IAGetTextRunInfo example implementation. */

OSStatus IAGetTextRunInfo(
    IADocRef inDoc,
    char** outEncoding,
    char** outLanguage) {

    /* we don't know the encoding or language of the file so
       set to NULL. */

    if (outEncoding != NULL) *outEncoding = NULL;
    if (outLanguage != NULL) *outLanguage = NULL;

    /* local variables */

    return errNoErr;
}

```

Listing 14. [IAGetTextRunInfo](#) example.

In this example, we return NULL, indicating that both the text encoding and the language are unknown.

[Back to top](#)

Calling a Text Extractor Plug-in from an Application

Following is an example of how a client may use a Text Extractor Plug-in to extract the text of a document. Applications may use these routines or some variant of them to call Text Extractor Plug-ins to extract text from virtually any document type.

The steps below show how to set up the plug-in's code fragment, set up the callback structures, and

finally how to call the plug-in to perform the text extraction. This example does not show how to find or determine the correct plug-in for a particular document.

Setting up a Text Extractor Plug-in

First, we begin by setting up the plug-in's code fragment for execution and storing pointers to the routines we want to call in a structure we will use to access the plug-in. Listing 15 contains the routines and declarations used to perform this task.

```
/* The following typedefs correspond to the routines
   exported by Text Extractor Plug-ins. In this example,
   we use these for calling the plug-in from our code. */

typedef OSStatus (*PluginInitCallPtr) (IAPlugInInitBlockPtr initBlock,
                                       IAPlugInRef* outPlugInRef);

typedef OSStatus (*PluginTermCallPtr) (IAPlugInRef inPlugInRef);

typedef OSStatus (*GetExtractorVersionCallPtr) (IAPlugInRef inPlugInRef,
                                                UInt32* outPlugInVersion);

typedef OSStatus (*CountSupportedDocTypesCallPtr) (IAPlugInRef inPlugInRef,
                                                  UInt32* outCount);

typedef OSStatus (*GetIndSupportedDocTypeCallPtr) (IAPlugInRef inPlugInRef,
                                                  UInt32 inIndex, char** outMIMEType);

typedef OSStatus (*OpenDocumentCallPtr) (IAPlugInRef inPlugInRef,
                                         IADocAccessorPtr inDoc, IADocRef* outDoc);

typedef OSStatus (*CloseDocumentCallPtr) (IADocRef inDoc);

typedef OSStatus (*GetTextRunInfoCallPtr) (IADocRef inDoc,
                                           char** outEncoding, char** outLanguage);

typedef OSStatus (*GetNextTextRunCallPtr) (IADocRef inDoc, void* buffer,
                                           UInt32* size);

/* ExtractorRec is used for storing information about the
   plug-in's code fragment itself. it contains pointers
   to the fragment's routines, and the fragment's CFM
   connection id number. */

typedef struct {
    ConnectionID connID;
    PluginInitCallPtr PluginInit;
    PluginTermCallPtr PluginTerm;
    GetExtractorVersionCallPtr GetExtractorVersion;
    CountSupportedDocTypesCallPtr CountSupportedDocTypes;
    GetIndSupportedDocTypeCallPtr GetIndSupportedDocType;
    OpenDocumentCallPtr OpenDocument;
    CloseDocumentCallPtr CloseDocument;
    GetTextRunInfoCallPtr GetNextTextRun;
    GetNextTextRunCallPtr GetTextRunInfo;
```

```

} ExtractorRec, *ExtractorRecPtr;

/* OpenExtractor loads the code fragment belonging
   to the Text Extractor Plug-in referred to by the file
   system specification record referred to by its spec
   parameter. If successful, it returns a pointer to
   a structure containing pointers to the plug-in's
   routines. If an error occurs, the function returns NULL. */

ExtractorRecPtr OpenExtractor(FSSpec *spec) {
    ExtractorRecPtr extr;
    Str63 fragName;
    Ptr mainAddr;
    Str255 errName;
    Boolean fragmentExists; /* tracks contents of fragConnID */
    ConnectionID fragConnID;
    CFragSymbolClass symbolClass;

    /* set up locals to a known state */

    extr = NULL;
    fragmentExists = false;

    /* allocate the storage for saving information about
       the plug-in. */

    extr = (ExtractorRecPtr) NewPtrClear(sizeof(ExtractorRec));
    if (extr == NULL) goto bail;

    /* set up the plug-in's code fragment for use. */

    err = GetDiskFragment(spec, 0, kWholeFork, fragName, kLoadNewCopy,
        &fragConnID, &mainAddr, errName);
    if (err != noErr) goto bail;
    fragmentExists = true;
    extr->connID = fragConnID;

    /* save pointers to the routines we want to call. */

    err = FindSymbol(fragConnID, "\pIAPluginInit",
        (Ptr*) &extr->PluginInit, &symbolClass);
    if (err != noErr) goto bail;

    err = FindSymbol(fragConnID, "\pIAPluginTerm",
        (Ptr*) &extr->PluginTerm, &symbolClass);
    if (err != noErr) goto bail;

    err = FindSymbol(fragConnID, "\pIAGetExtractorVersion",
        (Ptr*) &extr->GetExtractorVersion, &symbolClass);
    if (err != noErr) goto bail;

    err = FindSymbol(fragConnID, "\pIACountSupportedDocTypes",
        (Ptr*) &extr->CountSupportedDocTypes, &symbolClass);
    if (err != noErr) goto bail;

    err = FindSymbol(fragConnID, "\pIAGetIndSupportedDocType",
        (Ptr*) &extr->GetIndSupportedDocType, &symbolClass);
    if (err != noErr) goto bail;

```

```

err = FindSymbol(fragConnID, "\\pIAOpenDocument",
                 (Ptr*) &extr->OpenDocument, &symbolClass);
if (err != noErr) goto bail;

err = FindSymbol(fragConnID, "\\pIACloseDocument",
                 (Ptr*) &extr->CloseDocument, &symbolClass);
if (err != noErr) goto bail;

err = FindSymbol(fragConnID, "\\pIAGetNextTextRun",
                 (Ptr*) &extr->GetNextTextRun, &symbolClass);
if (err != noErr) goto bail;

err = FindSymbol(fragConnID, "\\pIAGetTextRunInfo",
                 (Ptr*) &extr->GetTextRunInfo, &symbolClass);
if (err != noErr) goto bail;

    /* return successfully */

return extr;

bail:

if (fragmentExists) CloseConnection(&fragConnID);
if (extr != NULL) DisposePtr(Ptr) extr);
return NULL;
}

/* CloseExtractor unloads the plug-in's code fragment and
   releases storage allocated when it was opened. */

void CloseExtractor(ExtractorRecPtr extr) {

    /* close the code fragment manager connection to
       the plug-in's file. */

    CloseConnection(&extr->connID);

    /* release the memory we were using to track the
       plug-in's code fragment. */

    DisposePtr((Ptr) extr);
}

```

Listing 15. Routines for setting up a Text Extractor Plug-in's code fragment for execution.

The prototypes provided in Listing 15 allow us to call back to the plug-in. Pointers to these routines are stored in the [ExtractorRec](#) structure.

[Back to top](#)

Setting up the IAPlugInitBlock structure

Routines for setting up a [IAPlugInitBlock](#) structure are provided in Listing 16. Here, callbacks used

by the plug-in are referenced in the structure saving routine descriptors referring to them in the structure.

```
/* routines exported in the IAPuginInitBlock record.
   Here we have defined our own set of routines that
   call through to the Mac OS memory manager. */

static void* MyIAAlloc(UInt32 inSize) {
    return (void*) NewPtr(inSize);
}

static void MyIAFreeProc(void* object) {
    DisposePtr((Ptr) object);
}

static UInt8 MyIAIdleProc(void) {
    return 0;
}

/* NewIAPuginInitBlock allocates a new init block
   record containing memory allocation routines
   and idle routines that can be called
   by a plug-in. If an error occurs, the function
   returns NULL. */

IAPuginInitBlockPtr NewIAPuginInitBlock(void) {
    IAPuginInitBlockPtr iBlock;
    iBlock = NULL;

    iBlock = (IAPuginInitBlockPtr) NewPtrClear(sizeof(IAPuginInitBlock));
    if (iBlock == NULL) goto bail;

    iBlock->Alloc = NewIAAllocProc(MyIAAlloc);
    if (iBlock->Alloc == NULL) goto bail;

    iBlock->Free = NewIAFreeProc(MyIAFreeProc);
    if (iBlock->Free == NULL) goto bail;

    iBlock->Idle = NewIAIdleProc(MyIAIdleProc);
    if (iBlock->Idle == NULL) goto bail;

    return iBlock;

bail:
    if (iBlock != NULL) {
        if (iBlock->Alloc != NULL)
            DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) iBlock->Alloc);
        if (iBlock->Free != NULL)
            DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) iBlock->Free);
        if (iBlock->Idle != NULL)
            DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) iBlock->Idle);
        DisposePtr((Ptr) iBlock);
    }
    return NULL;
}
```

```

/* DisposeIAPlugInInitBlock releases the memory occupied
   by the init block record allocated in NewIAPlugInInitBlock. */

void DisposeIAPlugInInitBlock(IAPlugInInitBlockPtr iBlock) {
    DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) iBlock->Alloc);
    DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) iBlock->Free);
    DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) iBlock->Idle);
    DisposePtr((Ptr) iBlock);
}

```

Listing 16. Routines for allocating and initializing an [IAPlugInInitBlock](#) structure.

The routines provided in Listing 16 allocate and deallocate the [IAPlugInInitBlock](#) structure to use routines that call the Memory Manager.

[Back to top](#)

Setting up the IADocAccessorRecord structure

The routines and declarations provided in Listing 17 illustrate how to set up the file access callbacks for a plug-in. Here, we allocate the callback structure and another structure for keeping track of the file itself.

```

/* MyDocumentReference contains information used by
   the caller to track the input source being used
   by the plug-in. In this example, we are using a
   Mac OS file. */

typedef struct {
    FSSpec spec; /* a copy of the file specification record */
    Boolean docOpen; /* true when document is open */
    short refnum; /* file reference number */
} MyDocumentReference, *MyDocRefPtr;

/* in this example, we will fill the fields of the
   IADocAccessorRecord with routine descriptors referring
   to routines that call through to the Mac OS file system.
   These routines are defined below. */

static OSStatus MyIADocAccessorOpenProc(IADocAccessorRef inAccessor) {
    MyDocRefPtr refptr;
    IADocAccessorPtr accPtr;
    OSStatus err;
    accPtr = (IADocAccessorPtr) inAccessor;
    refptr = (MyDocRefPtr) accPtr->docAccessor;

    err = FSpOpenDF(&refptr->spec, fsRdPerm, &refptr->refnum);
    if (err == noErr)
        refptr->docOpen = true;
    return (OSStatus) err;
}

```

```

static OSStatus MyIADocAccessorCloseProc(IADocAccessorRef inAccessor) {
    MyDocRefPtr refptr;
    IADocAccessorPtr accPtr;
    accPtr = (IADocAccessorPtr) inAccessor;
    refptr = (MyDocRefPtr) accPtr->docAccessor;
    if ( ! refptr->docOpen)
        return errIAParamErr;
    FSClose(refptr->refnum);
    refptr->docOpen = false;
    return errIAnoErr;
}

static OSStatus MyIADocAccessorReadProc(IADocAccessorRef inAccessor,
                                         void* buffer, UInt32* ioSize) {
    MyDocRefPtr refptr;
    IADocAccessorPtr accPtr;
    OSStatus err;
    accPtr = (IADocAccessorPtr) inAccessor;
    refptr = (MyDocRefPtr) accPtr->docAccessor;

    if ( ! refptr->docOpen)
        return errIAParamErr;

    err = FSRead(refptr->refnum, ioSize, buffer);

    return (OSStatus) err;
}

static OSStatus MyIASetDocAccessorReadPositionProc(
    IADocAccessorRef inAccessor, SInt32 inMode, SInt32 inOffset) {
    MyDocRefPtr refptr;
    IADocAccessorPtr accPtr;
    OSStatus err;
    accPtr = (IADocAccessorPtr) inAccessor;
    refptr = (MyDocRefPtr) accPtr->docAccessor;

    if ( ! refptr->docOpen)
        return errIAParamErr;

    case (inMode) {
        case kIAFromStartMode:
            err = SetFPos(refptr->refnum, fsFromStart, inOffset);
            break;
        case kIAFromCurrMode:
            err = SetFPos(refptr->refnum, fsFromMark, inOffset);
            break;
        case kIAFromEndMode:
            err = SetFPos(refptr->refnum, fsFromLEOF, inOffset);
            break;
        default:
            err = errIAParamErr;
            break;
    }

    return (OSStatus) err;
}

static OSStatus MyIAGetDocAccessorReadPositionProc(
    IADocAccessorRef inAccessor, SInt32* outPosition) {
    MyDocRefPtr refptr;

```

```

    IADocAccessorPtr accPtr;
    OSErr err;
    accPtr = (IADocAccessorPtr) inAccessor;
    refptr = (MyDocRefPtr) accPtr->docAccessor;

    if ( ! refptr->docOpen)
        return errIAParamErr;

    err = GetFPos(refptr->refnum, outPosition);

    return (OSStatus) err;
}

static OSStatus MyIAGetDocAccessorEOFProc(
    IADocAccessorRef inAccessor, SInt32* outEOF) {
    MyDocRefPtr refptr;
    IADocAccessorPtr accPtr;
    OSErr err;
    accPtr = (IADocAccessorPtr) inAccessor;
    refptr = (MyDocRefPtr) accPtr->docAccessor;

    if ( ! refptr->docOpen)
        return errIAParamErr;

    err = GetEOF(refptr->refnum, outEOF);

    return (OSStatus) err;
}

/* NewIADocAccessorRec initializes a IADocAccessorRecord
with routine descriptors referring to routines that
call through to the Mac OS file system. It stores
a record containing information about the file
in the docAccessor field of the IADocAccessorRecord
record. If an error occurs, th function returns NULL. */

IADocAccessorPtr NewIADocAccessorRec(FSSpec *targetFile) {
    IADocAccessorPtr docAcc;
    MyDocRefPtr refptr;

    iBlock = NULL;
    refptr = NULL;

    refptr = (MyDocRefPtr) NewPtr(sizeof(MyDocumentReference));
    if (refptr == NULL) goto bail;
    refptr->spec = *targetFile;
    refptr->docOpen = false;
    refptr->refnum = 0;

    docAcc = (IADocAccessorPtr) NewPtrClear(sizeof(IADocAccessorRecord));
    if (docAcc == NULL) goto bail;
    docAcc->docAccessor = (IADocAccessorRef) refptr;

    docAcc->openDoc = NewIADocAccessorOpenProc(MyIADocAccessorOpenProc);
    if (docAcc->openDoc == NULL) goto bail;

    docAcc->closeDoc = NewIADocAccessorCloseProc(MyIADocAccessorCloseProc);
    if (docAcc->closeDoc == NULL) goto bail;
}

```

```

docAcc->ReadDoc = NewIADocAccessorReadProc(MyIADocAccessorReadProc);
if (docAcc->ReadDoc == NULL) goto bail;

docAcc->SetReadPosition = NewIASetDocAccessorReadPositionProc(
    MyIASetDocAccessorReadPositionProc);
if (docAcc->SetReadPosition == NULL) goto bail;

docAcc->GetReadPosition = NewIAGetDocAccessorReadPositionProc(
    MyIAGetDocAccessorReadPositionProc);
if (docAcc->GetReadPosition == NULL) goto bail;

docAcc->GetEOF = NewIAGetDocAccessorEOFProc(
    MyIAGetDocAccessorEOFProc);
if (docAcc->GetEOF == NULL) goto bail;

return docAcc;

bail:
if (refptr != NULL) DisposePtr((Ptr) refptr);
if (docAcc != NULL) {
    if (docAcc->OpenDoc != NULL)
        DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) docAcc->OpenDoc);
    if (docAcc->CloseDoc != NULL)
        DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) docAcc->CloseDoc);
    if (docAcc->ReadDoc != NULL)
        DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) docAcc->ReadDoc);
    if (docAcc->SetReadPosition != NULL)
        DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) docAcc->SetReadPosition);
    if (docAcc->GetReadPosition != NULL)
        DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) docAcc->GetReadPosition);
    if (docAcc->GetEOF != NULL)
        DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) docAcc->GetEOF);
    DisposePtr((Ptr) docAcc);
}
return NULL;
}

/* DisposeIADocAccessorRec releases a IADocAccessorRecord
   allocated by NewIADocAccessorRec. All of the sub
   fields are deallocated, and, if the file is open,
   it is closed before the structure is deallocated. */

void DisposeIADocAccessorRec(IADocAccessorPtr docAcc) {
    MyDocRefPtr refptr;

    /* destroy the document reference */
    refptr = (MyDocRefPtr) docAcc->docAccessor;

    /* make sure the file is closed--in case we're aborting */
    if (refptr->docOpen) FSClose(refptr->refnum);

    DisposePtr((Ptr) refptr);

    /* release the accessor structure */
    DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) docAcc->OpenDoc);
    DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) docAcc->CloseDoc);
    DisposeRoutineDescriptor((UniversalProcPtr) docAcc->ReadDoc);

```

```

DisposeRoutineDescriptor((Universal ProcPtr) docAcc->SetReadPosition);
DisposeRoutineDescriptor((Universal ProcPtr) docAcc->GetReadPosition);
DisposeRoutineDescriptor((Universal ProcPtr) docAcc->GetEOF);
DisposePtr((Ptr) docAcc);
}

```

Listing 17. Routines for allocating and initializing a [IADocAccessorRecord](#).

In Listing 17, we use File Manager calls to access the file. For tracking information used by the File Manager, we store a pointer to a private structure containing that information in the docAccessor field of the [IADocAccessorRecord](#).

[Back to top](#)

Calling a Text Extractor Plug-in

The routine provided in Listing 18 calls the Text Extractor Plug-in to gather textual information from a file. The text gathered from the file is passed back to the caller through a routine the caller provides as a parameter.

```

/* kETBufferSize determines the size of the buffer allocated
   for retrieving chunks of text. */

#define kETBufferSize (1024*1)

/* TextSinkProc is a call back routine provided by the
   caller. Text will be passed to this routine as it is
   extracted from the file. */

typedef OSErr (*TextSinkProc)(void* text, long length, long refcon);

/* ExtractTextFromFile calls the Text Extractor Plug-in
   referred to by *theExtractor to extract text from the
   file referred to by *targetFile. While extracting text,
   the text will be sent to the TextSinkProc provided by
   the textsink parameter. refcon is a value passed through
   to the TextSinkProc in its refcon parameter. */

OSErr ExtractTextFromFile(FSSpec *targetFile, FSSpec *theExtractor,
                          TextSinkProc textsink, long refcon) {
    ExtractorRecPtr extractor;
    IAPuginInitBlockPtr initblock;
    IADocAccessorPtr accRec;
    IAPuginRef inPluginRef;
    UInt32 pluginVersion;
    Boolean exInitd, docOpen;
    IADocRef docRef;
    Ptr etBuffer;

    /* set up locals to a known state */

    extractor = NULL;

```

```

initblock = NULL;
accRec = NULL;
exInitd = false;
docOpen = false;
etBuffer = NULL;
UInt32 bytecount;

    /* initialize the plug-in */

extractor = OpenExtractor(theExtractor);
if (extractor == NULL) goto bail;

    /* initialize the callbacks used by the
       plug-in for basic memory tasks. */

initblock = NewIAPluginInitBlock();
if (initblock == NULL) goto bail;

    /* call the plug-in's initialization routine. */

err = extractor->PluginInit(initBlock, &pluginRef);
if (err != noErr) goto bail;
exInitd = true;

    /* query the plug-in to find out if we're using
       the interface we're using is in sync with the
       interface it was built to use. */

err = extractor->GetExtractorVersion(pluginRef, &pluginVersion);
if (err != noErr) goto bail;
if (pluginVersion != kIAExtractorVersion1) { err = errIAParamErr; goto bail; }

    /* initialize the callbacks used by the
       plug-in for file input with our document. */

accRec = NewIADocAccessorRec(targetFile);
if (accRec == NULL) goto bail;

    /* allocate a memory buffer for reading */

etBuffer = NewPtr(kETBufferSize);
if (etBuffer == NULL) { err = memFullErr; goto bail; }

    /* call the plug-in and ask it to open the document
       for input. */

err = extractor->OpenDocument(pluginRef, accRec, &docRef);
if (err != noErr) goto bail;
docOpen = true;

    /* Here, we loop until the plug-in returns no more bytes */

while (true) {

    /* attempt to fill the entire buffer with text. */

    bytecount = kETBufferSize;
    err = extractor->GetNextTextRun(docRef, etBuffer, &bytecount);

    /* if some other error occurs, such as eofErr... we exit... */

```

```

    if (err != noErr) goto bail;

    /* errIAEndOfTextRun is returned when the language
       encoding changes.  in this case, we do nothing,
       but in some cases we may wish to do some additional
       processing. */

    if (err == errIAEndOfTextRun) {

        /* we don't check the bytecount
           here because conceivably errIAEndOfTextRun could
           be returned with a zero sized buffer simply to
           indicate the beginning of a new
           character encoding range in cases where the
           last call read all of the characters from the
           last encoding run. */

        /* normal termination occurs when zero bytes are
           returned. */

    } else if (bytecount == 0)
        break;

    /* at this point, we have a chunk of text from the
       from the document.  Here, we pass it back to the
       caller's sink. */

    err = textsink(etBuffer, bytecount, refcon);
    if (err != noErr) goto bail;
}

/* at this point, all of the text in the document
   has been read.  Now, we close down the document
   by asking the plug-in to close, disposing of the
   memory buffer, and then disposing the file input
   callback structure. DisposeIADocAccessorRec is
   defined in Listing 17. */

extractor->CloseDocument(docRef);
docOpen = false;
DisposePtr(etBuffer);
etBuffer = NULL;
DisposeIADocAccessorRec(docAcc);
docAcc = NULL;

/* After closing the document, the plug-in
   is released.  This is done by calling the plug-in's
   termination procedure, releasing the memory allocation
   callbacks (DisposeIAPuginInitBlock is defined in
   Listing 16) and then releasing the plug-in's
   code fragment (CloseExtractor is defined in
   Listing 15). */

extractor->PluginTerm(pluginRef);
exInitd = false;
DisposeIAPuginInitBlock(initblock);
initblock = NULL;
CloseExtractor(extractor);

```



```

extractor = NULL;

    /* return success */

return noErr;

bail:

    /* error handling code.  note, ordering of the
       recovery statements is important. */

if (docOpen) extractor->CloseDocument(docRef);
if (etBuffer != NULL) DisposePtr(etBuffer);
if (docAcc != NULL) DisposeIADocAccessorRec(docAcc);
if (exInitd) extractor->PluginTerm(pluginRef);
if (initblock != NULL) DisposeIAPuginInitBlock(initblock);
if (extractor != NULL) CloseExtractor(extractor);
return err;
}

```

Listing 18. Sample routine for that calls a Text Extractor Plug-in.

The routine provided in Listing 18 performs the actual text extraction by calling the plug-in's routines directly. In this example, no attention is paid to the language encoding or character encoding, but this example could easily be modified to return this information. This routine uses structures and calls routines defined in [Listing 15](#), [Listing 16](#), and [Listing 17](#).

[Back to top](#)

Index of Code Listings

The following code listings are provided in this document. Listings 5 through 14 define the content of the sample plug-in, and listings 15 through 18 illustrate how to call a plug-in from an application.

- [Listing 1](#). A sample HTML file.
- [Listing 2](#). A sample 'mi mp' resource for PDF files.
- [Listing 3](#). Declaration of the IAPuginInitBlock structure and prototypes that can be used for calling the routines referenced in the structure.
- [Listing 4](#). Declaration of the IADocAccessorRecord structure and prototypes that can be used for calling the routines referenced in the structure.
- [Listing 5](#). File header & imports for Text Extractor Plug-ins.
- [Listing 6](#). IAPuginInit example.
- [Listing 7](#). IAPuginTerm example.
- [Listing 8](#). IAGetExtractorVersion example.
- [Listing 9](#). IACountSupportedDocTypes example.
- [Listing 10](#). IAGetIndSupportedDocType example.
- [Listing 11](#). IAOpenDocument example.
- [Listing 12](#). IACloseDocument example.
- [Listing 13](#). IAGetNextTextRun example.
- [Listing 14](#). IAGetTextRunInfo example.
- [Listing 15](#). Routines for setting up a Text Extractor Plug-in's code fragment for execution.
- [Listing 16](#). Routines for allocating and initializing an IAPuginInitBlock structure.
- [Listing 17](#). Routines for allocating and initializing a IADocAccessorRecord.
- [Listing 18](#). Sample routine for that calls a Text Extractor Plug-in.

[Back to top](#)

Further References

- Technote [TN1141](#), “Extending and Controlling Sherlock.”
- Technote [TN1180](#), “Sherlock’s Find By Content Library.”
- [RFC1521](#), “MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) Part One: Mechanisms for Specifying and Describing the Format of Internet Message Bodies.” N. Borenstein, N. Freed. September 1993.

[Back to top](#)

Downloadables



[Acrobat version of this Note \(how many K?\)](#)

[Back to top](#)

Acknowledgments

Thanks to the usual suspects.

To contact us, please use the [Contact Us](#) page.
Updated: 05-October-1999

[Technotes](#) | [Contents](#)
[Previous Technote](#) | [Next Technote](#)