#214: New Resource Manager Calls

See also: *Inside Macintosh*: The Resource Manager
The File Manager
Technical Note #101: _CreateResFile and the Poor Man's Search Path

Written by: Andrew Shebanow October 1, 1988

This Technical Note describes two new Resource Manager calls that make opening and creating resource files much easier.

MPW 3.0 supplies glue routines for two new Resource Manager calls which provide new, easier ways of opening and creating resource files.

The important thing about these two calls is that they allow you to pass a directory ID instead of a working directory `refNum`. This means that you can create a resource file without worrying about the Poor Man's Search Path (PMSP). If you try to create a file using `_CreateResFile`, and there is already a resource file with the same name in the System Folder (or in any other folder that is on the PMSP's list), the `_CreateResFile` call will not work because the Resource Manager thinks the resource file already exists. The all new `HCreateResFile` glue does not use the PMSP if you specify a non-zero directory ID.

```
FUNCTION HOpenResFile(vRefNum: INTEGER;
                      dirID: LONGINT;
                      fileName: Str255;
                      permission: SignedByte): INTEGER;
```

The `HOpenResFile` routine opens an existing resource file in the directory specified by `vRefNum` and `dirID` and it returns the `refNum` of the resource file. If the `refNum` equals –1, you should call `_ResError` to check for errors. This routine also lets you open a resource file without creating a working directory.

```
PROCEDURE HCreateResFile(vRefNum: INTEGER;
                         dirID: LONGINT;
                         fileName: Str255);
```

The `HCreateResFile` routine creates a new resource file with name `fileName` in the directory specified by `vRefNum` and `dirID`. You should call `_ResError` to check for errors.