Subject: Re: Files opened by other processes
Posted by R.Bauer on Wed, 29 May 2002 16:15:08 GMT

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Nigel Wade wrote:
>
> Daniel Peduzzi wrote:
>
>> Has anybody been able to use IDL to detect if *other* processes
>> have a particular file open?
>>
>> As an example, let's say I would like to open a file for read access
>> after it has been written by an FTP process. I certainly don't
>> want to open it until the file transfer is complete...but how will I
>> know?
>>
>> I looked at the FSTAT function, but unless I've overlooked
>> something, I don't think it will suffice.   This is on a UNIX system
>> running SunOS, so if I have to write something in C for IDL to
>> spawn, I guess I'll be posting to another newsgroup soon. ;-)
>>
>> Dan
>>
>> Daniel C. Peduzzi
>> peduzzi@attbi.com
>
> The simple answer is that it's very complicated. There are no really good
> ways to determine when a file transfer is complete. Just checking for the
> file being open (if you can do this) won't tell you if the file transfer
> didn't complete - the file will still be closed, but incomplete.
>
> It's quite a common problem to want to be able to process files after they
> have been transferred by FTP, but I've not yet found a good, general,
> solution. Two possibilities spring to mind:
>
> a) transfer the file under a temporary name, and then get the sender to
> rename it when the transfer completes.

My linux transfers files with extension .part and if it's ready then the
file
is renamed.
This could be a feature of the package wu-ftp. May be this is available
for you too.

> b) prior to sending the file, send a temporary file with a byte count and
> checksum for the file. Don't use the file until the byte count and checksum
> for it agree with those sent.

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> --
> ------------------------------------------------------------
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      a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich
  http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.h tml
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