

NAME

compile_et – error table compiler

SYNOPSIS

compile_et file

DESCRIPTION

Compile_et converts a table listing error-code names and associated messages into a C source file suitable for use with the *com_err*(3) library.

The source file name must end with a suffix of “.et”; the file consists of a declaration supplying the name (up to four characters long) of the error-code table:

error_table *name*

followed by up to 256 entries of the form:

error_code *name*, " *string* "

and a final

end

to indicate the end of the table.

The name of the table is used to construct the name of a subroutine *initialize_XXXX_error_table* which must be called in order for the *com_err* library to recognize the error table.

The various error codes defined are assigned sequentially increasing numbers (starting with a large number computed as a hash function of the name of the table); thus for compatibility it is suggested that new codes be added only to the end of an existing table, and that no codes be removed from tables.

The names defined in the table are placed into a C header file with preprocessor directives defining them as integer constants of up to 32 bits in magnitude.

A C source file is also generated which should be compiled and linked with the object files which reference these error codes; it contains the text of the messages and the initialization subroutine. Both C files have names derived from that of the original source file, with the “.et” suffix replaced by “.c” and “.h”.

A “#” in the source file is treated as a comment character, and all remaining text to the end of the source line will be ignored.

BUGS

Since the original **compile_et** uses a very simple parser based on *yacc*(1), and this current version of **compile_et** uses an *awk*/*sed* combination of scripts, its error recovery leaves much to be desired.

SEE ALSO

com_err (3).

Ken Raeburn, "A Common Error Description Library for UNIX".