NAME

mkmsgs – create message files for use by gettxt

SYNOPSIS

mkmsgs [**–o**] [**–i** *locale*] *inputstrings msgfile*

AVAILABILITY

SUNWloc

DESCRIPTION

The **mkmsgs** utility is used to create a file of text strings that can be accessed using the text retrieval tools (see **gettxt**(1), **srchtxt**(1), **exstr**(1), and **gettxt**(3C)). It will take as input a file of text strings for a particular geographic locale (see **setlocale**(3C)) and create a file of text strings in a format that can be retrieved by both **gettxt**(1) and **gettxt**(3C). By using the **–i** option, you can install the created file under the **/usr/lib/locale/***locale***/LC_MESSAGES** directory (*locale* corresponds to the language in which the text strings are written).

inputstrings is the name of the file that contains the original text strings. *msgfile* is the name of the output file where **mkmsgs** writes the strings in a format that is readable by **gettxt**(1) and **gettxt**(3C). The name of *msgfile* can be up to 14 characters in length, but may not contain either \ **0** (null) or the ASCII code for **/** (slash) or **:** (colon).

The input file contains a set of text strings for the particular geographic locale. Text strings are separated by a newline character. Nongraphic characters must be represented as alphabetic escape sequences. Messages are transformed and copied sequentially from *inputstrings* to *msgfile*. To generate an empty message in *msgfile*, leave an empty line at the correct place in *inputstrings*.

Strings can be changed simply by editing the file *inputstrings*. New strings must be added only at the end of the file; then a new *msgfile* file must be created and installed in the correct place. If this procedure is not followed, the retrieval function will retrieve the wrong string and software compatibility will be broken.

OPTIONS

–o Overwrite *msgfile*, if it exists.

–i *locale* Install *msgfile* in the **/usr/lib/locale/***locale***/LC_MESSAGES** directory. Only someone who is super-user or a member of group **bin** can create or overwrite files in this directory. Directories under **/usr/lib/locale** will be created if they do not exist.

EXAMPLES

The following example shows an input message source file **C.str**:

```
File %s:\t cannot be opened\n
%s: Bad directory\n
        .
        .
        .
write error\n
        .
        .
```

The following command uses the input strings from **C.str** to create text strings in the appropriate format in the file **UX** in the current directory:

example% mkmsgs C.str UX

The following command uses the input strings from **FR.str** to create text strings in the appropriate format in the file **UX** in the directory **/usr/lib/locale/fr/LC_MESSAGES**.

example% mkmsgs –i fr FR.str UX

These text strings would be accessed if you had set the environment variable **LC_MESSAGES=fr** and then invoked one of the text retrieval tools listed at the beginning of the **DESCRIPTION** section.

FILES

/usr/lib/locale/*locale***/LC_MESSAGES/*** message files created by **mkmsgs**

SEE ALSO

exstr(1), **gettxt**(1), **srchtxt**(1), **gettxt**(3C), **setlocale**(3C)