

**ADosDanger**

**COLLABORATORS**

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# Chapter 1

## ADosDanger

### 1.1 AmigaTalk to AmigaDOS Help:

WARNING: Improper usage of these Methods will (at the bare minimum), result in the Operating System hanging up, which could result in loss of data. This is the least of what could happen! Turn back now!

DANGEROUS AmigaDOS Functions/AmigaTalk Methods:

writeFile

setVBuf

setFileSize

setArgStr

selectOutput

selectInput

seekFile

runCommand

replyPkt

inhibit

fWrite

freeDosObject

freeDosEntry

freeDeviceProc

freeArgs

```
exitProgram
  -- Avoid like the plague!

deviceProc

deleteVar

createNewProc

cliInitRun

cliInitNewcli

attemptLockDosList

allocDosObject

addDosEntry
  See Also,
  VERY DANGEROUS METHODS
```

## 1.2 VERY DANGEROUS AmigaDOS Methods:

WARNING: Improper usage of these Methods will (at the bare minimum), result in the Operating System hanging up, which could result in loss of data. This is the least of what could happen! Turn back now!

VERY DANGEROUS AmigaDOS Functions/AmigaTalk Methods:

```
waitPkt

unLoadSeg

systemTagList

setFileSysTask

setConsoleTask

sendPkt

remSegment

remDosEntry

remAssignList

newLoadSeg

loadSeg

internalUnLoadSeg
```

```
internalLoadSeg  
  
format  
  -- Are you out of your tree??  
  
doPacket  
  
deleteFile  
  
addSegment
```

### 1.3 writeFile (DANGEROUS):

NAME

Write -- Write bytes of data to a file

SYNOPSIS

```
LONG returnedLength = Write( BPTR file, void *buffer, LONG length );
```

FUNCTION

Write writes bytes of data to the opened file 'file'. 'length' indicates the length of data to be transferred; 'buffer' is a pointer to the buffer. The value returned is the length of information actually written. So, when 'length' is greater than zero, the value of 'length' is the number of characters written. Errors are indicated by a value of -1.

Note: This is an unbuffered routine (the request is passed directly to the filesystem.) Buffered I/O is more efficient for small reads and writes; see FPutC.

INPUTS

```
file    - BCPL pointer to a file handle  
buffer  - pointer to the buffer  
length  - integer
```

RESULT

```
returnedLength - integer
```

SEE ALSO

```
Read ,  
      Seek  
  
Open , Close ,  
FPutC
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

```
writeFile: bptrFileHandle with: aBuffer ofSize: length
```

WARNING: Make sure that aBuffer is a String of length bytes!

---

## 1.4 waitPkt (VERY DANGEROUS):

NAME

WaitPkt -- Waits for a packet to arrive at your pr\_MsgPort

SYNOPSIS

```
struct DosPacket *packet = WaitPkt( void );
```

FUNCTION

Waits for a packet to arrive at your pr\_MsgPort. If anyone has installed a packet wait function in pr\_PktWait, it will be called. The message will be automatically GetMsg()ed so that it is no longer on the port. It assumes the message is a dos packet. It is NOT guaranteed to clear the signal for the port.

RESULT

packet - the packet that arrived at the port (from ln\_Name of message).

SEE ALSO

```
    SendPkt
    ,
    DoPkt
    , AbortPkt
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

waitForPacket

## 1.5 unLoadSeg (VERY DANGEROUS):

NAME

UnLoadSeg -- Unload a seglist previously loaded by LoadSeg

SYNOPSIS

```
void UnLoadSeg( BPTR seglist );
```

FUNCTION

Unload a seglist loaded by LoadSeg. 'seglist' may be zero. Overlaid segments will have all needed cleanup done, including closing files.

INPUTS

seglist - BCPL pointer to a segment identifier

SEE ALSO

```
    LoadSeg
    ,
    InternalLoadSeg
    ,
```



InternalUnLoadSeg

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

unLoadSegment: bptrSegList

## 1.6 systemTagList (VERY DANGEROUS):

NAME

SystemTagList -- Have a shell execute a command line

SYNOPSIS

```
LONG error = SystemTagList( char *command, struct TagItem *tags );
```

FUNCTION

Similar to Execute(), but does not read commands from the input filehandle. Spawns a Shell process to execute the command, and returns the returncode the command produced, or -1 if the command could not be run for any reason. The input and output filehandles will not be closed by System, you must close them (if needed) after System returns, if you specified them via SYS\_Input or SYS\_Output.

By default the new process will use your current Input() and Output() filehandles. Normal Shell command-line parsing will be done including redirection on 'command'. The current directory and path will be inherited from your process. Your path will be used to find the command (if no path is specified).

Note that you may NOT pass the same filehandle for both SYS\_Input and SYS\_Output. If you want input and output to both be to the same CON: window, pass a SYS\_Input of a filehandle on the CON: window, and pass a SYS\_Output of NULL. The shell will automatically set the default Output() stream to the window you passed via SYS\_Input, by opening "\*" on that handler.

If used with the SYS\_Asynch flag, it WILL close both it's input and output filehandles after running the command (even if these were your Input() and Output()!)

Normally uses the boot (ROM) shell, but other shells can be specified via SYS\_UserShell and SYS\_CustomShell. Normally, you should send things written by the user to the UserShell. The UserShell defaults to the same shell as the boot shell.

The tags are passed through to CreateNewProc() (tags that conflict with SystemTagList() will be filtered out). This allows setting things like priority, etc for the new process. The tags that are currently filtered out are:

```
NP_Seglist,      NP_FreeSeglist, NP_Entry
NP_Input,       NP_Output,      NP_CloseInput
NP_CloseOutput, NP_HomeDir,      NP_Cli
```

## INPUTS

command - Program and arguments  
tags - see <dos/dostags.h>. Note that both SystemTagList()-specific tags and tags from CreateNewProc() may be passed.

## RESULT

error - 0 for success, result from command, or -1. Note that on error, the caller is responsible for any filehandles or other things passed in via tags. -1 will only be returned if dos could not create the new shell. If the command is not found the shell will return an error value, normally RETURN\_ERROR.

## SEE ALSO

Execute ,  
CreateNewProc  
,  
Input , Output ,  
<dos/dostags.h>

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

systemCommandTagList: commandString: tags: tagArray

## 1.7 setVBuf (DANGEROUS):

## NAME

SetVBuf -- set buffering modes and size

## SYNOPSIS

```
LONG error = SetVBuf( BPTR fh, char *buff, LONG type, LONG size );
```

## FUNCTION

Changes the buffering modes and buffer size for a filehandle. With buff == NULL, the current buffer will be deallocated and a new one of (approximately) size will be allocated. If buffer is non-NULL, it will be used for buffering and must be at least max( size, 208 ) bytes long, and MUST be longword aligned. If size is -1, then only the buffering mode will be changed.

Note that a user-supplied buffer will not be freed if it is later replaced by another SetVBuf() call, nor will it be freed if the filehandle is closed.

Has no effect on the buffersize of filehandles that were not created by

```
AllocDosObject()
```

## INPUTS

fh - Filehandle  
buff - buffer pointer for buffered I/O or NULL. MUST be LONG-aligned!  
type - buffering mode (see <dos/stdio.h>)  
size - size of buffer for buffered I/O (sizes less than 208 bytes)

will be rounded up to 208), or -1.

#### RESULT

error - 0 if successful. NOTE: opposite of most dos functions!

NOTE: fails if someone has replaced the buffer without using SetVBuf()  
- RunCommand() does this. Remember to check error before  
freeing user-supplied buffers!

#### BUGS

Not implemented until after V39. From V36 up to V39, always  
returned 0.

#### SEE ALSO

Fputc , Fgetc ,  
Ungetc , Flush ,  
Fread ,  
Fwrite  
,  
Fgets , Fputs ,  
  
AllocDosObject

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

setVBuf: bptrFileHandle to: aBuffer type: t bufferSize: size

## 1.8 setFileSysTask (VERY DANGEROUS):

#### NAME

SetFileSysTask -- Sets the default filesystem for the process

#### SYNOPSIS

```
struct MsgPort *oldport = SetFileSysTask( struct MsgPort *port );
```

#### FUNCTION

Sets the default filesystem task's port (pr\_FileSystemTask) for the  
current process.

#### INPUTS

port - The pr\_MsgPort of the default filesystem for the process

#### RESULT

oldport - The previous FileSysTask value

#### SEE ALSO

GetFileSysTask , Open

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

setFileSystemTask: msgPort

## 1.9 setFileSize (DANGEROUS):

NAME

SetFileSize -- Sets the size of a file

SYNOPSIS

```
LONG newsize = SetFileSize( BPTR fh, LONG offset, LONG mode );
```

FUNCTION

Changes the file size, truncating or extending as needed. Not all handlers may support this; be careful and check the return code. If the file is extended, no values should be assumed for the new bytes. If the new position would be before the filehandle's current position in the file, the filehandle will end with a position at the end-of-file. If there are other filehandles open onto the file, the new size will not leave any filehandle pointing past the end-of-file. You can check for this by looking at the new size (which would be different than what you requested).

The seek position should not be changed unless the file is made smaller than the current seek position. However, see BUGS.

Do NOT count on any specific values to be in any extended area.

INPUTS

fh - File to be truncated/extended.  
offset - Offset from position determined by mode.  
mode - One of OFFSET\_BEGINNING, OFFSET\_CURRENT, or OFFSET\_END.

RESULT

newsiz - position of new end-of-file or -1 for error.

BUGS

The RAM: filesystem and the normal Amiga filesystem act differently in where the file position is left after SetFileSize(). RAM: leaves you at the new end of the file (incorrectly), while the Amiga ROM filesystem leaves the seek position alone, unless the new position is less than the current position, in which case you're left at the new EOF.

The best workaround is to not make any assumptions about the seek position after SetFileSize().

SEE ALSO

Seek

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

```
setFileSize: bptrFileHandle at: offset mode: mode
```

## 1.10 setConsoleTask (VERY DANGEROUS):

---

## NAME

SetConsoleTask -- Sets the default console for the process

## SYNOPSIS

```
struct MsgPort *oldport = SetConsoleTask( struct MsgPort *port );
```

## FUNCTION

Sets the default console task's port (pr\_ConsoleTask) for the current process.

## INPUTS

port - The pr\_MsgPort of the default console handler for the process

## RESULT

oldport - The previous ConsoleTask value.

## SEE ALSO

GetConsoleTask , Open

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

setConsoleTask: msgPort

## 1.11 setArgStr (DANGEROUS):

## NAME

SetArgStr -- Sets the arguments for the current process

## SYNOPSIS

```
BOOL success = SetArgStr( char *ptr );
```

## FUNCTION

Sets the arguments for the current program. The ptr MUST be reset to it's original value before process exit. So save the original ptr BEFORE calling this funcion!

## INPUTS

ptr - pointer to new argument string.

## RESULT

success (DOSTRUE) or failure (FALSE).

## SEE ALSO

GetArgStr ,  
RunCommand

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

setArgumentString: argString

---

## 1.12 sendPkt (VERY DANGEROUS):

NAME  
SendPkt -- Sends a packet to a handler

### SYNOPSIS

```
void SendPkt( struct DosPacket *packet,
              struct MsgPort *port,
              struct MsgPort *replyport );
```

### FUNCTION

Sends a packet to a handler and does not wait. All fields in the packet must be initialized before calling this routine. The packet will be returned to replyport. If you wish to use this with

```
WaitPkt()
, use the address of your pr_MsgPort for replyport.
```

### INPUTS

packet - packet to send, must be initialized and have a message.  
port - pr\_MsgPort of handler process to send to.  
replyport - MsgPort for the packet to come back to.

### NOTES

Callable from a task.

### SEE ALSO

```
DoPkt
,
WaitPkt
,
AllocDosObject
,
FreeDosObject
,
AbortPkt
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

```
sendPacket: dosPacket to: msgPort replyTo: replyPort
```

## 1.13 selectOutput (DANGEROUS):

NAME  
SelectOutput -- Select a filehandle as the default output channel

### SYNOPSIS

```
BPTR old_fh = SelectOutput( BPTR fh );
```

### FUNCTION

Set the current output as the default output for the process.

---

This changes the value returned by `Output()`. `old_fh` should be closed or saved as needed.

#### INPUTS

`fh` - Newly desired output handle

#### RESULT

`old_fh` - Previous current output

#### SEE ALSO

`Output` ,  
`SelectInput`  
`Input`

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

`selectOutput: bptrFileHandle`

## 1.14 selectInput (DANGEROUS):

#### NAME

`SelectInput` -- Select a filehandle as the default input channel

#### SYNOPSIS

```
BPTR old_fh = SelectInput ( BPTR fh );
```

#### FUNCTION

Set the current input as the default input for the process. This changes the value returned by `Input()`. `old_fh` should be closed or saved as needed.

#### INPUTS

`fh` - Newly default input handle

#### RESULT

`old_fh` - Previous default input filehandle

#### SEE ALSO

`Input` ,  
`SelectOutput`  
`Output`

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

`selectInput: bptrFileHandle`

## 1.15 seekFile (DANGEROUS):

## NAME

Seek -- Set the current position for reading and writing

## SYNOPSIS

```
LONG oldPosition = Seek( BPTR file, LONG position, LONG mode );
```

## FUNCTION

Seek sets the read/write cursor for the file 'file' to the position 'position'. This position is used by both Read() and Write() as a place to start reading or writing. The result is the current absolute position in the file, or -1 if an error occurs, in which case IoErr() can be used to find more information. 'mode' can be OFFSET\_BEGINNING, OFFSET\_CURRENT or OFFSET\_END. It is used to specify the relative start position. For example, 20 from current is a position 20 bytes forward from current, -20 is 20 bytes back from current.

So that to find out where you are, seek zero from current. The end of the file is a Seek() positioned by zero from end. You cannot Seek() beyond the end of a file.

## INPUTS

```
file      - BCPL pointer to a file handle
position - integer
mode      - integer
```

## RESULT

```
oldPosition - integer
```

## BUGS

The V36 and V37 ROM filesystem (and V36/V37 l:fastfilesystem) returns the current position instead of -1 on an error. It sets IoErr() to 0 on success, and an error code on an error. This bug was fixed in the V39 filesystem.

## SEE ALSO

```
Read ,
      Write
      ,
      SetFileSize
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

```
seek: bptrFileHandle to: position mode: mode
```

## 1.16 runCommand (DANGEROUS):

## NAME

RunCommand -- Runs a program using the current process

## SYNOPSIS

```
LONG rc = RunCommand( BPTR seglist, ULONG stacksize,
```



```
char *argptr, ULONG argsize );
```

#### FUNCTION

Runs a command on your process/cli. Seglist may be any language, including BCPL programs. Stacksize is in bytes. argptr is a null-terminated string, argsize is its length. Returns the returncode the program exited with in d0. Returns -1 if the stack couldn't be allocated.

NOTE: The argument string MUST be terminated with a newline to work properly with ReadArgs() and other argument parsers.

RunCommand also takes care of setting up the current input filehandle in such a way that ReadArgs() can be used in the program, and restores the state of the buffering before returning. It also sets the value returned by GetArgStr(), and restores it before returning. NOTE: the setting of the argument string in the filehandle was added in V37.

It's usually appropriate to set the command name (via SetProgramName() ) before calling RunCommand(). RunCommand() sets the value returned by GetArgStr() while the command is running.

#### INPUTS

```
seglist    - Seglist of command to run.
stacksize  - Number of bytes to allocate for stack space
argptr     - Pointer to argument command string.
argsize    - Number of bytes in argument command.
```

#### RESULT

```
rc         - Return code from executed command. -1 indicates failure
```

#### SEE ALSO

```
        CreateNewProc
        ,
        SystemTagList
        ,
Execute , GetArgStr ,
SetProgramName , ReadArgs
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

```
runCommand: bptrSegmentList args: argString count: argSize stack: stackSize
```

## 1.17 replyPkt (DANGEROUS):

#### NAME

ReplyPkt -- replies a packet to the person who sent it to you

#### SYNOPSIS

```
void ReplyPkt( struct DosPacket *packet, LONG result1, LONG result2 );
```

#### FUNCTION

This returns a packet to the process which sent it to you. In

addition, puts your pr\_MsgPort address in dp\_Port, so using ReplyPkt() again will send the message to you. (This is used in "ping-ponging" packets between two processes). It uses result 1 & 2 to set the dp\_Res1 and dp\_Res2 fields of the packet.

#### INPUTS

packet - packet to reply, assumed to set up correctly.  
 result1 - first result  
 result2 - secondary result

#### SEE ALSO

```

    DoPkt
  ,
    SendPkt
  ,
    WaitPkt
  , IoErr

```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

```
replyPacket: dosPacketObject primaryResult: result1 secondaryResult: result2
```

## 1.18 remSegment (VERY DANGEROUS):

#### NAME

RemSegment - Removes a resident segment from the resident list

#### SYNOPSIS

```
BOOL success = RemSegment( struct Segment *segment );
```

#### FUNCTION

Removes a resident segment from the Dos resident segment list, unloads it, and does any other cleanup required. Will only succeed if the seg\_UC (usecount) is 0.

#### INPUTS

segment - the segment to be removed

#### SEE ALSO

```

    FindSegment ,
    AddSegment

```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

```
removeSegment: segmentObject
```

## 1.19 remDosEntry (VERY DANGEROUS):

---

## NAME

RemDosEntry -- Removes a Dos List entry from it's list

## SYNOPSIS

```
BOOL success = RemDosEntry( struct DosList *dlist );
```

## FUNCTION

This removes an entry from the Dos Device list. The memory associated with the entry is NOT freed. NOTE: you must have locked the Dos List with the appropriate flags before calling this routine. Handler writers should see the AddDosEntry() caveats about locking and use a similar workaround to avoid deadlocks.

## INPUTS

dlist - Device list entry to be removed.

## SEE ALSO

```
    AddDosEntry
    , FindDosEntry ,
    NextDosEntry , LockDosList ,
    MakeDosEntry ,
    FreeDosEntry
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

removeDosEntry: dosList

## 1.20 remAssignList (VERY DANGEROUS):

## NAME

RemAssignList -- Remove an entry from a multi-dir assign

## SYNOPSIS

```
BOOL success = RemAssignList( char *name, BPTR lock );
```

## FUNCTION

Removes an entry from a multi-directory assign. The entry removed is the first one for which SameLock with 'lock' returns that they are on the same object. The lock for the entry in the list is unlocked (not the entry passed in).

## INPUTS

name - Name of device to remove lock from (without trailing ':')  
lock - Lock associated with the object to remove from the list

## BUGS

In V36 through V39.23 dos, it would fail to remove the first lock in the assign. Fixed in V39.24 dos (after the V39.106 kickstart).

## SEE ALSO

```
    Lock , AssignLock ,
    AssignPath , AssignLate ,
```

```
DupLock , AssignAdd ,
UnLock
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

```
removeAssignList: assignmentName from: bptrLock
```

## 1.21 newLoadSeg (VERY DANGEROUS):

NAME

NewLoadSeg -- Improved version of LoadSeg for stacksizes

SYNOPSIS

```
BPTR seglist = NewLoadSeg( char *file, struct TagItem *tags );
```

FUNCTION

Does a LoadSeg on a file, and takes additional actions based on the tags supplied.

Clears unused portions of Code and Data hunks (as well as BSS hunks). (This also applies to InternalLoadSeg() and LoadSeg()).

NOTE to overlay users: NewLoadSeg() does NOT return seglist in both D0 and D1, as

```
LoadSeg
```

```
does. The current ovs.asm uses LoadSeg(),
```

and assumes returns are in D1. We will support this for LoadSeg() ONLY.

INPUTS

```
file - Filename of file to load
```

```
tags - pointer to tagitem array
```

RESULT

```
seglist - Seglist loaded, or NULL
```

BUGS

No tags are currently defined.

SEE ALSO

```
LoadSeg
```

```
,
```

```
UnLoadSeg
```

```
,
```

```
InternalLoadSeg
```

```
,
```

```
InternalUnLoadSeg
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

```
newLoadSegment: fileName tags: tagArray
```

## 1.22 loadSeg (VERY DANGEROUS):

NAME

LoadSeg -- Scatterload a loadable file into memory

SYNOPSIS

```
BPTR seglist = LoadSeg( char *name )
```

FUNCTION

The file 'name' should be a load module produced by the linker. LoadSeg() scatterloads the CODE, DATA and BSS segments into memory, chaining together the segments with BPTR's on their first words. The end of the chain is indicated by a zero. There can be any number of segments in a file. All necessary re-location is handled by LoadSeg().

In the event of an error any blocks loaded will be unloaded and a NULL result returned.

If the module is correctly loaded then the output will be a pointer at the beginning of the list of blocks. Loaded code is unloaded via a call to UnLoadSeg().

INPUTS

name - pointer to a null-terminated string

RESULT

seglist - BCPL pointer to a seglist

SEE ALSO

```
UnLoadSeg
,
InternalLoadSeg
,
InternalUnLoadSeg
,
CreateProc
,
CreateNewProc
,
NewLoadSeg
.
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

loadSegment: segmentName

## 1.23 internalUnLoadSeg (VERY DANGEROUS):

NAME

---

InternalUnLoadSeg -- Unloads a seglist loaded with InternalLoadSeg()

#### SYNOPSIS

```

BOOL success = InternalUnLoadSeg( BPTR seglist,
                                void (*FreeFunc)( char *, ULONG )
                                );

```

#### FUNCTION

Unloads a seglist using freefunc to free segments. Freefunc is called as for InternalLoadSeg. NOTE: Will call Close() for overlaid seglists.

#### INPUTS

seglist - Seglist to be unloaded  
FreeFunc - Function called to free memory

#### RESULT

success - returns whether everything went OK (since this may close files). Also returns FALSE if seglist was NULL.

#### BUGS

Really should use tags

#### SEE ALSO

```

    LoadSeg
    ,
    UnLoadSeg
    ,
    InternalLoadSeg
    ,
    NewLoadSeg
    ,
    Close

```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

```
internalUnLoadSegment: bptrSegList freeFuncPtr: freeFunc
```

## 1.24 internalLoadSeg (VERY DANGEROUS):

#### NAME

InternalLoadSeg -- Low-level load routine

#### SYNOPSIS

```

BPTR seglist = InternalLoadSeg( BPTR fh,
                                BPTR table,
                                LONG *functionarray,
                                LONG *stack
                                );

```

#### FUNCTION

Lloads from fh. Table is used when loading an overlay, otherwise

should be NULL. Functionarray is a pointer to an array of functions. Note that the current Seek position after loading may be at any point after the last hunk loaded. The filehandle will not be closed. If a stacksize is encoded in the file, the size will be stuffed in the LONG pointed to by stack. This LONG should be initialized to your default value: InternalLoadSeg() will not change it if no stacksize is found. Clears unused portions of Code and Data hunks (as well as BSS hunks). (This also applies to LoadSeg() and NewLoadSeg()).

If the file being loaded is an overlaid file, this will return -(seglist). All other results will be positive.

NOTE to overlay users: InternalLoadSeg() does NOT return seglist in both D0 and D1, as LoadSeg does. The current ovs.asm uses LoadSeg(), and assumes returns are in D1. We will support this for LoadSeg() ONLY.

#### INPUTS

fh - Filehandle to load from.  
 table - When loading an overlay, otherwise ignored.  
 functionarray - Array of function to be used for read, alloc, and free.

FuncTable[0]->Actual = ReadFunc( readhandle, buffer, length ), DOSBase  
                           D0                          D1                          D2                          D3                          A6

FuncTable[1]->Memory = AllocFunc( size, flags ), Execbase  
                           D0                          D0          D1                          A6

FuncTable[2]->FreeFunc( memory, size ), Execbase  
                                   A1          D0                          A6

stack - Pointer to storage (ULONG) for stacksize.

#### RESULT

seglist - Seglist loaded or NULL. NOT returned in D1!

#### BUGS

Really should use tags.

#### SEE ALSO

```

    LoadSeg
    ,
    UnLoadSeg
    ,
    NewLoadSeg
    ,
    InternalUnLoadSeg
  
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

```

internalLoadSegment: bptrFileHandle  ovlyTable: bptrTable
funcArray: fArray          stackPtr: stack
  
```

## 1.25 inhibit (DANGEROUS):

### NAME

Inhibit -- Inhibits access to a filesystem

### SYNOPSIS

```
BOOL success = Inhibit( char *filesystem, LONG flag );
```

### FUNCTION

Sends an ACTION\_INHIBIT packet to the indicated handler. This stops all activity by the handler until uninhibited. When uninhibited, anything may have happened to the disk in the drive, or there may no longer be one.

### INPUTS

filesystem - Name of device to inhibit (with ':')  
flag - New status. DOSTRUE = inhibited,  
FALSE = uninhibited

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

```
inhibit: fileSystem flags: flag
```

## 1.26 fWrite (DANGEROUS):

### NAME

FWrite -- Writes a number of blocks to an output (buffered)

### SYNOPSIS

```
LONG count = FWrite( BPTR fh, char *buf, ULONG blocklen, ULONG blocks )
```

### FUNCTION

Attempts to write a number of blocks, each blocklen long, from the specified buffer to the output stream. May return less than the number of blocks requested, if there is some error such as a full disk or r/w error. This call is buffered.

### INPUTS

fh - filehandle to use for buffered I/O  
buf - Area to write bytes from.  
blocklen - number of bytes per block. Must be > 0.  
blocks - number of blocks to write. Must be > 0.

### RESULT

count - Number of `_blocks_` written. On an error, the number of blocks actually written is returned.

### BUGS

Doesn't clear IoErr() before starting. If you want to find out about errors, use SetIoErr( 0 ) before calling.

### SEE ALSO

FPutC , FRead ,  
FPuts

---



AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

```
fileWrite: bptrFileHandle to: aBuffer blkSize: blockLength
          count: blockCount
```

## 1.27 freeDosObject (DANGEROUS):

### NAME

FreeDosObject -- Frees an object allocated by  
AllocDosObject()

### SYNOPSIS

```
void FreeDosObject( ULONG type, void *ptr );
```

### FUNCTION

Frees an object allocated by AllocDosObject(). Do NOT call for objects allocated in any other way.

### INPUTS

type - type passed to AllocDosObject()  
ptr - ptr returned by AllocDosObject()

### BUGS

Before V39, DOS\_CLI objects will only have the struct CommandLineInterface freed, not the strings it points to. This is fixed in V39 dos. Before V39, you can workaround this bug by using FreeVec() on cli\_SetName, cli\_CommandFile, cli\_CommandName, and cli\_Prompt, and then setting them all to NULL. In V39 or above, do NOT use the workaround.

### SEE ALSO

```
AllocDosObject
, FreeVec, <dos/dos.h>
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

```
freeDosObject: dosObject type: t " Tested "
```

## 1.28 freeDosEntry (DANGEROUS):

### NAME

FreeDosEntry -- Frees an entry created by MakeDosEntry

### SYNOPSIS

```
void FreeDosEntry( struct DosList *dlist );
```

### FUNCTION

Frees an entry created by MakeDosEntry(). This routine should be eliminated and replaced by a value passed to FreeDosObject()!

## INPUTS

dlist - DosList to free.

## SEE ALSO

```

        AddDosEntry
    ,
        RemDosEntry
    ,
    FindDosEntry , LockDosList ,
    NextDosEntry , MakeDosEntry

```

## AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

freeDosEntry: dosListObject

**1.29 freeDeviceProc (DANGEROUS):**

## NAME

FreeDeviceProc -- Releases port returned by GetDeviceProc()

## SYNOPSIS

```
void FreeDeviceProc( struct DevProc *devproc );
```

## FUNCTION

Frees up the structure created by GetDeviceProc(), and any associated temporary locks.

Decrements the counter incremented by GetDeviceProc(). The counter is in an extension to the 1.3 process structure. After calling FreeDeviceProc(), do not use the port or lock again! It is safe to call FreeDeviceProc(NULL).

## INPUTS

devproc - A value returned by GetDeviceProc()

## BUGS

Counter not currently active in 2.0.

## SEE ALSO

```

    GetDeviceProc ,
        DeviceProc
    ,
    AssignLock    , AssignLate ,
    AssignPath

```

## AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

freeDeviceProcess: devProcessObject

### 1.30 freeArgs (DANGEROUS):

**NAME**

FreeArgs - Free allocated memory after ReadArgs()

**SYNOPSIS**

```
void FreeArgs( struct RArgs *rdargs );
```

**FUNCTION**

Frees memory allocated to return arguments in from ReadArgs(). If ReadArgs allocated the RArgs structure it will be freed. If NULL is passed in this function does nothing.

**INPUTS**

rdargs - structure returned from ReadArgs() or NULL.

**SEE ALSO**

ReadArgs , ReadItem ,  
FindArg

**AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):**

freeArgs: rdArgsObject

### 1.31 format (VERY DANGEROUS):

**NAME**

Format -- Causes a filesystem to initialize itself

**SYNOPSIS**

```
BOOL success = Format( char *filesystem, char *volumename,  
                      ULONG dostype );
```

**FUNCTION**

Interface for initializing new media on a device. This causes the filesystem to write out an empty disk structure to the media, which should then be ready for use. This assumes the media has been low-level formatted and verified already.

The filesystem should be inhibited before calling Format() to make sure you don't get an ERROR\_OBJECT\_IN\_USE.

**INPUTS**

filesystem - Name of device to be formatted. ':' must be supplied.  
volumename - Name for volume (if supported). No ':'.  
dostype - Type of format, if filesystem supports multiple types.

**BUGS**

Existed, but was non-functional in V36 dos. (The volumename wasn't converted to a BSTR.) Workaround: Require V37, or under V36 convert volumename to a BPTR to a BSTR before calling Format().

Note: A number of printed packet docs for ACTION\_FORMAT are wrong as to the arguments.

---

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

formatDisk: diskName on: volumeName type: dosType

## 1.32 exitProgram (DANGEROUS):

NAME

Exit -- Exit from a program

SYNOPSIS

```
void Exit( LONG returnCode );
```

FUNCTION

Exit() is currently for use with programs written as if they were BCPL programs. This function is not normally useful for other purposes.

In general, therefore, please DO NOT CALL THIS FUNCTION!

In order to exit, C programs should use the C language exit() function (note the lower case letter "e"). Assembly programs should place a return code in D0, and execute an RTS instruction with their original stack ptr.

IMPLEMENTATION

The action of Exit() depends on whether the program which called it is running as a command under a CLI or not. If the program is running under the CLI the command finishes and control reverts to the CLI. In this case, returnCode is interpreted as the return code from the program.

If the program is running as a distinct process, Exit() deletes the process and release the space associated with the stack, segment list and process structure.

INPUTS

returnCode - integer

SEE ALSO

```
CreateProc  
,  
CreateNewProc
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

exitProgram: returnCode

## 1.33 doPacket (VERY DANGEROUS):

---

## NAME

DoPkt -- Send a dos packet and wait for reply

## SYNOPSIS

```
LONG result1 = DoPkt( struct MsgPort *port, LONG action,
                     LONG arg1, LONG arg2, LONG arg3,
                     LONG arg4, LONG arg5 );
```

## FUNCTION

Sends a packet to a handler and waits for it to return. Any secondary return will be available in D1 AND from IoErr(). DoPkt() will work even if the caller is an exec task and not a process; however it will be slower, and may fail for some additional reasons, such as being unable to allocate a signal. DoPkt() uses your pr\_MsgPort for the reply, and will call pr\_PktWait. (See BUGS regarding tasks, though).

Only allows 5 arguments to be specified. For more arguments (packets support a maximum of 7) create a packet and use

```
SendPkt()
/
WaitPkt()
.
```

## INPUTS

port - pr\_MsgPort of the handler process to send to.  
 action - the action requested of the filesystem/handler  
 arg1, arg2, arg3, arg4, arg5 - arguments, depend on the action & may not all be required.

## RESULT

result1 - the value returned in dp\_Res1, or FALSE if there was some problem in sending the packet or receiving it.  
 result2 - Available from IoErr() AND in register D1.

## BUGS

Using DoPkt() from tasks doesn't work in V36.

## Use

```
AllocDosObject()
, PutMsg(), and WaitPort()/GetMsg()
for a workaround, or you can call
CreateNewProc()
to start a process to
do Dos I/O for you. In V37, DoPkt() will allocate, use, and free the
MsgPort required.
```

## NOTES

Callable from a task (under V37 and above).

## SEE ALSO

```
AllocDosObject
,
FreeDosObject
,
SendPkt
```

```

    ,
    WaitPkt
    ,
    CreateNewProc
    , AbortPkt

```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

doPacket: action onPort: msgPort arguments: argArray

### 1.34 deviceProc (DANGEROUS):

NAME

DeviceProc -- Return the process MsgPort of specific I/O handler

SYNOPSIS

```
struct MsgPort *process = DeviceProc( char *name );
```

FUNCTION

DeviceProc() returns the process identifier of the process which handles the device associated with the specified name. If no process handler can be found then the result is zero. If the name refers to an assign then a directory lock is returned in IoErr() . This lock should not be UnLock() ed or Examine() ed (if you wish to do so, DupLock() it first).

BUGS

In V36, if you try to DeviceProc() something relative to an assign made with AssignPath() , it will fail. This is because there's no way to know when to unlock the lock. If you're writing code for V36 or later, it is highly advised you use GetDeviceProc() instead, or make your code conditional on V36 to use GetDeviceProc()/

```
FreeDeviceProc()
```

.

SEE ALSO

```

    GetDeviceProc ,
    FreeDeviceProc
    ,
    DupLock , UnLock ,
    Examine

```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

makeDeviceProcess: deviceName

### 1.35 deleteVar (DANGEROUS):

## NAME

DeleteVar -- Deletes a local or environment variable

## SYNOPSIS

```
BOOL success = DeleteVar( char *name, ULONG flags );
```

## FUNCTION

Deletes a local or environment variable.

## INPUTS

name - pointer to an variable name. Note variable names follow filesystem syntax and semantics.  
 flags - combination of type of var to delete (low 8 bits), and flags to control the behavior of this routine. Currently defined flags include:

GVF\_LOCAL\_ONLY - delete a local (to your process) variable.  
 GVF\_GLOBAL\_ONLY - delete a global environment variable.

The default is to delete a local variable if found, otherwise a global environment variable if found (only for LV\_VAR).

## RESULT

success - If non-zero, the variable was successfully deleted, FALSE indicates failure.

## BUGS

LV\_VAR is the only type that can be global

## SEE ALSO

```
GetVar , SetVar ,
FindVar ,
DeleteFile
,
<dos/var.h>
```

## AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

```
deleteVar: varName flags: f
```

## 1.36 deleteFile (VERY DANGEROUS):

## NAME

DeleteFile -- Delete a file or directory

## SYNOPSIS

```
BOOL success = DeleteFile( char *name );
```

## FUNCTION

This attempts to delete the file or directory specified by 'name'. An error is returned if the deletion fails. Note that all the files within a directory must be deleted before the directory itself can be deleted.

```

INPUTS
    name - pointer to a null-terminated string

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

deleteFile: fileOrDirName

```

## 1.37 CreateProc (DANGEROUS):

```

NAME
    CreateProc -- Create a new process

SYNOPSIS
    struct MsgPort *process = CreateProc( char *name,
                                         LONG pri,
                                         BPTR seglist,
                                         LONG stackSize )

FUNCTION
    CreateProc() creates a new AmigaDOS process of name 'name'. AmigaDOS
    processes are a superset of exec tasks.

```

A seglist, as returned by

```

    LoadSeg()
    , is passed as 'seglist'.

```

This represents a section of code which is to be run as a new process. The code is entered at the first hunk in the segment list, which should contain suitable initialization code or a jump to such. A process control structure is allocated from memory and initialized. If you wish to fake a seglist (that will never have DOS UnLoadSeg() called on it), use this code:

```

    DS.L    0    ;Align to longword
    DC.L    16   ;Segment "length" (faked)
    DC.L    0    ;Pointer to next segment
    ...start of code...

```

The size of the root stack upon activation is passed as 'stackSize'. 'pri' specifies the required priority of the new process. The result will be the process msgport address of the new process, or zero if the routine failed. The argument 'name' specifies the new process name. A zero return code indicates error.

The seglist passed to CreateProc() is not freed when it exits; it is up to the parent process to free it, or for the code to unload itself.

Under V36 and later, you probably should use  
 CreateNewProc()  
 instead.

```

INPUTS
    name      - pointer to a null-terminated string
    pri       - signed long (range -128 to +127)

```



```

seglist    - BCPL pointer to a seglist
stackSize - integer (must be a multiple of 4 bytes)

```

#### RESULT

```

process    - pointer to new process msgport

```

#### SEE ALSO

```

    CreateNewProc
    ,
    LoadSeg
    ,
    UnLoadSeg

```

#### AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

```

createProcess: processName  priority: pri
               segments: bptrSegmentList stack: stackSize

```

## 1.38 createNewProc (DANGEROUS):

#### NAME

```

CreateNewProc -- Create a new process

```

#### SYNOPSIS

```

struct Process *process = CreateNewProc( struct TagItem *tags );

```

#### FUNCTION

This creates a new process according to the tags passed in. See dos/dostags.h for the tags.

You must specify one of NP\_Seglist or NP\_Entry. NP\_Seglist takes a seglist (as returned by LoadSeg()). NP\_Entry takes a function pointer for the routine to call.

There are many options, as you can see by examining dos/dostags.h. The defaults are for a non-CLI process, with copies of your CurrentDir, HomeDir (used for PROGDIR:), priority, consoletask, windowptr, and variables. The input and output filehandles default to opens of NIL:, stack to 4000, and others as shown in dostags.h. This is a fairly reasonable default setting for creating threads, though you may wish to modify it (for example, to give a descriptive name to the process.)

CreateNewProc() is callable from a task, though any actions that require doing Dos I/O (DupLock() of currentdir, for example) will not occur.

**NOTE:** If you call CreateNewProc() with both NP\_Arguments, you must not specify an NP\_Input of NULL. When NP\_Arguments is specified, it needs to modify the input filehandle to make ReadArgs() work properly.

#### INPUTS

tags - a pointer to a TagItem array.

#### RESULT

process - The created process, or NULL. Note that if it returns NULL, you must free any items that were passed in via tags, such as if you passed in a new current directory with NP\_CurrentDir.

#### BUGS

In V36, NP\_Arguments was broken in a number of ways, and probably should be avoided (instead you should start a small piece of your own code, which calls RunCommand() to run the actual code you wish to run). In V37, NP\_Arguments works, though see the note above.

#### SEE ALSO

```

        LoadSeg
        ,
        CreateProc
        ,
    ReadArgs ,
        RunCommand
        ,
    <dos/dostags.h>

```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

```
createNewProcess: tagArray
```

## 1.39 cliInitRun (DANGEROUS):

#### NAME

CliInitRun -- Set up a process to be a shell from initial packet

#### SYNOPSIS

```
LONG flags = CliInitRun( struct DosPacket *packet );
```

#### FUNCTION

This function initializes a process and CLI structure for a new shell, from parameters in an initial packet passed by the system (Run, System(), Execute()). The format of the data in the packet is purposely not defined. The setup includes all the normal fields in the structures that are required for proper operation (current directory, paths, input streams, etc).

It returns a set of flags containing information about what type of shell invocation this is.

Definitions for the values of fn:

```

Bit 31      Set to indicate flags are valid
Bit 3       Set to indicate asynch system call

```

```

Bit 2      Set if this is a System() call
Bit 1      Set if user provided input stream
Bit 0      Set if RUN provided output stream

```

If Bit 31 is 0, then you must check `IoErr()` to determine if an error occurred. If `IoErr()` returns a pointer to your process, there has been an error, and you should clean up and exit. The packet will have already been returned by

```
    CliInitNewcli()
```

```
    . If it isn't a pointer
```

to your process and Bit 31 is 0, you should wait before replying the packet until after you've loaded the first command (or when you exit). This helps avoid disk "gronking" with the Run command. (Note: This is different from what you do for `CliInitNewcli()`.)

If Bit 31 is 1, then if Bit 3 is one, `ReplyPkt()` the packet immediately (`Asynch System()`), otherwise wait until your shell exits (`Sync System()`, `Execute()`).

(Note: This is different from what you do for `CliInitNewcli()`.)

This function is very similar to `CliInitNewcli()`.

#### INPUTS

packet - the initial packet sent to your process `MsgPort`

#### RESULT

fn - flags or a pointer

#### SEE ALSO

```

        CliInitNewcli()
        ,
        ReplyPkt
        ,
        WaitPkt
        , Execute ,
IoErr , System()

```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

`cliInitRun: dosPacketObject`

## 1.40 cliInitNewcli (DANGEROUS):

#### NAME

`CliInitNewcli` -- Set up a process to be a shell from initial packet

#### SYNOPSIS

```
LONG flags = CliInitNewcli( struct DosPacket *packet );
```

#### FUNCTION

This function initializes a process and CLI structure for a new shell, from parameters in an initial packet passed by the system

---

(NewShell or NewCLI, etc). The format of the data in the packet is purposely not defined. The setup includes all the normal fields in the structures that are required for proper operation (current directory, paths, input streams, etc).

It returns a set of flags containing information about what type of shell invocation this is.

Definitions for the values of fn:

```

Bit 31      Set to indicate flags are valid
Bit  3      Set to indicate asynch system call
Bit  2      Set if this is a System() call
Bit  1      Set if user provided input stream
Bit  0      Set if RUN provided output stream

```

If Bit 31 is 0, then you must check IoErr() to determine if an error occurred. If IoErr() returns a pointer to your process, there has been an error, and you should clean up and exit. The packet will have already been returned by CliInitNewcli(). If it isn't a pointer to your process and Bit 31 is 0, reply the packet immediately.

(Note: This is different from what you do for  
 CliInitRun()  
 .)

This function is very similar to CliInitRun().

INPUTS

packet - the initial packet sent to your process MsgPort

RESULT

fn - flags or a pointer

SEE ALSO

```

        CliInitRun()
    ,
    ReplyPkt
    ,
        WaitPkt
    , IoErr

```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

cliInitNewCLI: dosPacketObject

## 1.41 attemptLockDosList (DANGEROUS):

NAME

AttemptLockDosList -- Attempt to lock the Dos Lists for use

SYNOPSIS

```

struct DosList *dlist = AttemptLockDosList( ULONG flags );

```

**FUNCTION**

Locks the dos device list in preparation to walk the list. If the list is 'busy' then this routine will return NULL. See LockDosList() for more information.

**INPUTS**

flags - Flags stating which types of nodes you want to lock.

**RESULT**

dlist - Pointer to the beginning of the list or NULL. Not a valid node!

**BUGS**

In V36 through V39.23 dos, this would return NULL or 0x00000001 for failure. Fixed in V39.24 dos (after kickstart 39.106).

**SEE ALSO**

LockDosList , UnlockDosList ,  
NextDosEntry , Forbid()

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

attemptLockDosList: flags

**1.42 allocDosObject (DANGEROUS):****NAME**

AllocDosObject -- Creates a dos object

**SYNOPSIS**

```
void *ptr = AllocDosObject( ULONG type, struct TagItem *tags );
```

**FUNCTION**

Create one of several dos objects, initializes it, and returns it to you. Note the DOS\_STDPKT returns a pointer to the sp\_Pkt of the structure.

This function may be called by a task for all types and tags defined in the V37 includes (DOS\_FILEHANDLE through DOS\_RDARGS and ADO\_FH\_Mode through ADO\_PromptLen, respectively). Any future types or tags will be documented as to whether a task may use them.

**INPUTS**

type - type of object requested  
tags - pointer to taglist with additional information

**RESULT**

packet - pointer to the object or NULL

**BUGS**

Before V39, DOS\_CLI should be used with care since  
FreeDosObject()  
can't free it.

**SEE ALSO**

```

        FreeDosObject
    ,
    <dos/dostags.h>, <dos/dos.h>

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

allocDosObject: type tags: tagArray    " Tested "

```

### 1.43 addSegment (VERY DANGEROUS):

```

        NAME
    AddSegment - Adds a resident segment to the resident list

SYNOPSIS
    BOOL success = AddSegment( char *name, BPTR seglist, LONG type )

FUNCTION
    Adds a segment to the Dos resident list, with the specified Seglist
    and type (stored in seg_UC - normally 0). NOTE: Currently unused
    types may cause it to interpret other registers (D4-?) as additional
    parameters in the future.

Do NOT build Segment structures yourself!

INPUTS
    name      - name for the segment
    seglist   - Dos seglist of code for segment
    type      - initial usecount, normally 0

RESULT
    success   - success or failure

SEE ALSO
    FindSegment ,
        RemSegment
    ,
        LoadSeg

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (VeryDangerousDOS Class):

addSegment: bptrSegList named: segmentName useCount: count

```

### 1.44 addDosEntry (DANGEROUS):

```

        NAME
    AddDosEntry -- Add a Dos List entry to the lists

SYNOPSIS

```

---

```
LONG success = AddDosEntry( struct DosList *dlist );
```

#### FUNCTION

Adds a device, volume or assign to the dos devicelist. Can fail if it conflicts with an existing entry (such as another assign to the same name or another device of the same name). Volume nodes with different dates and the same name CAN be added, or with names that conflict with devices or assigns. Note: The dos list does NOT have to be locked to call this. Do not access dlist after adding unless you have locked the Dos Device list.

An additional note concerning calling this from within a handler: in order to avoid deadlocks, your handler must either be multi-threaded, or it must attempt to lock the list before calling this function. The code would look something like this:

```
if (AttemptLockDosList( LDF_xxx | LDF_WRITE ))
{
    rc = AddDosEntry( ... );
    UnLockDosList( LDF_xxx | LDF_WRITE );
}
```

#### If

AttemptLockDosList() fails (i.e. it's locked already), check for messages at your filesystem port (don't wait!) and try the AttemptLockDosList() again.

#### INPUTS

dlist - Device list entry to be added.

#### RESULT

success - Success/Failure indicator

#### SEE ALSO

```
RemDosEntry
, FindDosEntry ,
NextDosEntry , LockDosList ,
MakeDosEntry ,
FreeDosEntry
,
AttemptLockDosList
```

AMIGATALK INTERFACE (DangerousDOS Class):

addDosEntry: dosListObject