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Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'endgrent.3p' command

\$ man endgrent.3p

ENDGRENT(3P) POSIX Programmer's Manual ENDGRENT(3P)

PROLOG

This manual page is part of the POSIX Programmer's Manual. The Linux implementation of this interface may differ (consult the corresponding Linux manual page for details of Linux behavior), or the interface may not be implemented on Linux.

NAME

endgrent, getgrent, setgrent ? group database entry functions

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <grp.h>

void endgrent(void);

struct group *getgrent(void);

void setgrent(void);
```

DESCRIPTION

The `getgrent()` function shall return a pointer to a structure containing the broken-out fields of an entry in the group database. If the group database is not already open, `getgrent()` shall open it and return a pointer to a group structure containing the first entry in the database. Thereafter, it shall return a pointer to a group structure containing the next group structure in the group database, so successive calls may be used to search the entire database.

An implementation that provides extended security controls may impose further implementation-defined restrictions on accessing the group

database. In particular, the system may deny the existence of some or all of the group database entries associated with groups other than those groups associated with the caller and may omit users other than the caller from the list of members of groups in database entries that are returned.

The `setgrent()` function shall rewind the group database so that the next `getgrent()` call returns the first entry, allowing repeated searches.

The `endgrent()` function shall close the group database.

The `setgrent()` and `endgrent()` functions shall not change the setting of `errno` if successful.

On error, the `setgrent()` and `endgrent()` functions shall set `errno` to indicate the error.

Since no value is returned by the `setgrent()` and `endgrent()` functions, an application wishing to check for error situations should set `errno` to 0, then call the function, then check `errno`.

These functions need not be thread-safe.

RETURN VALUE

On successful completion, `getgrent()` shall return a pointer to a group structure. On end-of-file, `getgrent()` shall return a null pointer and shall not change the setting of `errno`. On error, `getgrent()` shall return a null pointer and `errno` shall be set to indicate the error.

The application shall not modify the structure to which the return value points, nor any storage areas pointed to by pointers within the structure. The returned pointer, and pointers within the structure, might be invalidated or the structure or the storage areas might be overwritten by a subsequent call to `getgrgid()`, `getgrnam()`, or `getgrent()`. The returned pointer, and pointers within the structure, might also be invalidated if the calling thread is terminated.

ERRORS

These functions may fail if:

EINTR A signal was caught during the operation.

EIO An I/O error has occurred.

In addition, the `getgrent()` and `setgrent()` functions may fail if:

EMFILE All file descriptors available to the process are currently open.

ENFILE The maximum allowable number of files is currently open in the system.

The following sections are informative.

EXAMPLES

None.

APPLICATION USAGE

These functions are provided due to their historical usage. Applications should avoid dependencies on fields in the group database, whether the database is a single file, or where in the file system name space the database resides. Applications should use `getgrnam()` and `getgrgid()` whenever possible because it avoids these dependencies.

RATIONALE

None.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

None.

SEE ALSO

`endpwent()`, `getgrgid()`, `getgrnam()`, `getlogin()`

The Base Definitions volume of POSIX.1-2017, `<grp.h>`

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