

13.6.88

Intro

A few suggestions for wording changes intended to clarify the current text.

Section 3.1.9 Comments.

The current text is

The contents of a comment are examined only to identify multi-byte characters and to find the characters `*/` that terminate it.

This may cause confusion, one seems to be looking for multi-byte characters but terminates at 'simple' characters. Why not make clear that both the `/` and `*` must also be multi-byte characters?

The contents of a comment are examined only to identify multi-byte characters and to find the multi-byte characters `*/` that terminate it.

Section 4.10.7.1 (mbtowc)

I found the current text in the returns paragraph VERY confusing. The use of next as in next character, next multi-byte character etc. has (at least for me) the effect that I lose track of what is happening. The confusion is heightened by the use of the words byte and character for the same concept. My proposal is:

Returns

If `**s**` is a null pointer, then `**mbtowc**` returns a non-zero value if multi-byte characters have a state dependent encoding, or 0 if they do not. If `**s**` is non-zero and points to the null character, `**mbtowc**` returns 0. If `**s**` is non-zero and points to a valid multi-byte character of `**n**` or fewer characters `**mbtowc**` returns the number of bytes the comprise the multi-byte character. Otherwise `**mbtowc**` returns -1.

In no case will the value returned be greater than `**n**` or the value of the macro `**multi_byte_max**`.

Note: I managed to lose the sentence: 'The value returned will then be greater than zero.' I do not regret that loss.

Ed Keizer 88/6/11