

Re: IRP Create

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- *From:* "Beat Muller" <chom_62@xxxxxxxxxxx>
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Subject: Activity Info in IRP_CREATEs

Thank you very much for your fast and highly professional answers, Anton and Don!

Your replies showed me 2 things: It looks like I still gotta learn a lot more about the file system and it also showed me that my file system driver code isn't as bad as I thought it could be.

A specific reply to you, Anton:

How is IO Manager supposed to know which particular function the client code is about to call next while it processes ZwCreateFile() call???:

It looks like that not all the information the Win32 Subsystem knows is shared with the IO Manager. I'm sure if the driver model could be redesigned from scratch without regard to any compatibility issues one of these levels would be omitted. That's what I would do, anyway. Then the IRP_CREATE op would indeed include the type of file operation that is going to be carried out, so it could be manipulated (eg blocked) at that early stage if the need arised. Are you listening, Microsoft FS driver programmers? Here is what (some of) your customers want!

Now to your remark, Don:

"Tracking file names is hard, the examples in WDK/IFS kit show a large amount of effort in handling these cases."

You are dead right! It was very hard indeed to track the filenames. But after having removed a bug in the IFS Kit (CD version) things looked much better. That bug never manifested itself in the filter sample provided but it raised its ugly head when the FileName routines were taken from the logging environment. It's kind of a mistake that hardly ever occurs when professional programmers write code, rather, I have the sneaky suspicion that this bug was implemented on purpose...

I also thought that the IFS kit provides just the bare minimum of aid and it

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is still very hard to get started. Microsoft could have done a much better job to make this start easier, or was that also done on purpose???

Any comments welcome.

Michael Keller

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