

<<< mmgmnew.obj >>>

High-speed Memory Control Function: beta version

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[0] About previous version - mmgm.obj

High-speed Memory Control Function(beta version) was released as mmgm.obj(DTL-S 2190: Library Ver.3.3) ago. The process of mmgmnew.obj is almost same as mmgm.obj, but We recommend to use mmgmnew.obj after this. Because mmgm.obj rewrite the contents of kernel, sometimes the problems(hung-up,etc...) occur when the program is changed by LoadExec(). It does not occur by mmgmnew.obj. If you replace mmgm.obj with mmgmnew.obj, you should modify the source code as follows.

- 1) Change InitHeap2() to InitHeap3()
- 2) Change malloc() to malloc3()
- 3) Change free() to free3()

[1] Overview

This object file includes the dynamic memory control server. This server is memory-resident, and adds a part of the system-call processing in order to (1) fix a bug and to (2) speed up the processing.

This object file will be extended to be embedded in the libapi in the future, and a group of memory control functions described above will be replaced completely.

However, since the memory control strategy for the current memory control functions will be substantially changed, it can be predicted that some problems will be caused by the operations on applications. Thus, this object file is distributed as a beta version reducing the functionality.

If you have any troubles or questions in the test use, please contact the technical support for BBS by mail specifying this object file name.

R&D group of SCE in Tokyo intends to develop the release version reflecting your advice and inquiries.

[2] Points of Modification

2.1

Memory control strategy

--> Until now the memory has been allocated from the bottom address toward the top address, but in this object file the memory is allocated from the top address toward the bottom address.

2.2

Non-support Function

--> The functions, calloc3() and realloc3(), will be released when the official version is completed.

2.3

Bug-fixed

--> The function, free(), has not released all the memory blocks. Consequently malloc() has sometimes failed even if there are available memory blocks. This bug has been fixed.

2.4

Speeding-up the processing

[3] Notes in the Operation

3.1

This object file must be memory-resident. The easiest way is to link this file to the application.

[4] Function

InitHeap3 Initializing a heap area

Syntax void InitHeap3(head, size)
 void *head;
 size_t• @size;

Arguments head Heap start address
 size Heap size (a multiple of 4, in bytes)

Explanation This function initializes a group of memory control functions in this object file. After this, malloc3(), etc. become usable. Since there is an overhead, all the bytes of size are not available. The overhead for a memory block is 8 bytes.

Return value None.

malloc3 Allocates main memory

Syntax void *malloc3(s)
 size_t• @s;

Arguments s Number of bytes to be allocated

Explanation This function secures a block of s bytes from memory heap. This function is supported by InitHeap3().

Return value This function returns a pointer to the secured memory block. If it has failed to secure a block, it returns NULL.

[5] Obtaining the module top address

With the following procedure the top address of the execution module can be obtained, but prior to that, the next 2 conditions must be satisfied.

- (1) Using the Psy-Q development environment.
- (2) Not modifying the order of sections with lnk file.

Procedure 1:

Write the function (get_tail()) which returns the top address of BSS section in the assembly language. This address becomes the top address of the execution module.

Procedure 2:

Call the above function in the application to obtain the top address, and then allocate the heap area with InitHeap2(). After this, malloc() and free() become usable.

<< Subroutine to return the top address >>

```
section .bss
xdef get_tail
section .text
get_tail:
    la    v0,sectend(.bss)
    jr    ra
```

End of documents