Support Toolbox Manual

Chapter 4

Editing Utilities

Chapter 4 - Editing Utilities

A. Introduction

This chapter describes two editing utilities which are useful when working in a group. ktvi lets you edit a file without changing its datestamp, and lockingvi is provides simple locking, to prevent multiple edits of the same file.

A.1. ktvi — *edit a file without changing the date on it*

Object Information

Category:	*Command Line Tools*
Subcategory:	*Editing*
Operator:	*No-Touch Vi*
Object Type:	*script*
In Cantata:	*No*

Description

ktvi is used to edit a file without changing the datestamp on the file. This is useful for making changes to an include file, for example, where you don't want to trigger make. Any command-line arguments specified are passed to the editor.

You should note that the datestamp will be current if you write out the file during the edit session without quitting the editor. The datestamp is only wound back when you quit the editor. You should not use ktvi if the changes will result in a change of size for a type definition, such as a C union or struct.

ktvi checks the EDITOR environment variable, and will use the editor specified, otherwise defaulting to vi.

Restrictions

ktvi assumes that any command-line argument starting with '+' or '-' is a switch to the editor, and not a file.

A.2. lockingvi — *provide locking for vi edits*

Object Information

Category:	*Command Line Tools*
Subcategory:	*Editing*
Operator:	*Locking Vi*

Object Type: *script*
In Cantata: *No*

Description

lockingvi is a perl script around the *vi* editor, which provides primitive locking. This prevents the same file from being edited more than once at the same time, by the same person or different people working in the same account.

If you try to edit a file which is already being edited by you or someone else, you will get a message:
<file> is being edited [by fred]

The locking information is kept in a regular text file: $HOME/.vilock. When you edit a file, it is locked using $USER, unless you have set the environment variable VILOCKNAME. Different people working under the same username can set the VILOCKNAME variable so you know who is editing a file that is locked.

See Also

vi(1), perl

Restrictions

The *lockingvi* script should not be installed under the name *vi*, since it searches your path looking for ‘vi’, and assumes the first one it finds is the Real Thing.

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