|  |
| --- |
| IVI-3.9: C Shared Components Specification  March 6, 2013 Revision 1.1 |

Important Information

The C Shared Components specification is authored by the IVI Foundation member   
companies. For a vendor membership roster list, please visit the IVI Foundation web site at [www.ivifoundation.org](http://www.ivifoundation.org).

The IVI Foundation wants to receive your comments on this specification. You can contact the Foundation through the web site at [www.ivifoundation.org](http://www.ivifoundation.org).

Warranty

The IVI Foundation and its member companies make no warranty of any kind with regard to this material, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. The IVI Foundation and its member companies shall not be liable for errors contained herein or for incidental or consequential damages in connection with the furnishing, performance, or use of this material.

Trademarks

Product and company names listed are trademarks or trade names of their respective companies.

No investigation has been made of common-law trademark rights in any work.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  | |
|  | |

[IVI C Shared Components Specification 5](#_Toc338773017)

[1. Summary of Contents 6](#_Toc338773018)

[1.1 References 6](#_Toc338773019)

[1.2 Implementation 6](#_Toc338773020)

[2. Dynamic Driver Loader 7](#_Toc338773021)

[2.1 New 7](#_Toc338773022)

[2.2 Get Function Pointer 8](#_Toc338773023)

[2.3 Get Function Pointer By Complete Name 8](#_Toc338773024)

[2.4 Dispose 9](#_Toc338773025)

[3. Error Message 10](#_Toc338773026)

[3.1 Get 10](#_Toc338773027)

[3.2 Format With Elaboration 11](#_Toc338773028)

[4. Session Management 13](#_Toc338773029)

[4.1 New 13](#_Toc338773030)

[4.2 Set Data Pointer 14](#_Toc338773031)

[4.3 Get Data Pointer 14](#_Toc338773032)

[4.4 Lock 15](#_Toc338773033)

[4.5 Unlock 16](#_Toc338773034)

[4.6 Set Error 17](#_Toc338773035)

[4.7 Get Error 18](#_Toc338773036)

[4.8 Clear Error 19](#_Toc338773037)

[4.9 Dispose 20](#_Toc338773038)

[5. Session Error](#_Toc338773039)

[5.1 Set Error Code 21](#_Toc338773040)

[5.2 Get Error Code 21](#_Toc338773041)

[5.3 Set Error Description 22](#_Toc338773042)

[5.4 Get Error Description 23](#_Toc338773043)

[6. Multithread Lock 24](#_Toc338773044)

[6.1 New 24](#_Toc338773045)

[6.2 Acquire 24](#_Toc338773046)

[6.3 Release 25](#_Toc338773047)

[6.4 Dispose 25](#_Toc338773048)

[7. Thread-Local Error Storage 27](#_Toc338773049)

[7.1 Set Error Code 27](#_Toc338773050)

[7.2 Get Error Code 27](#_Toc338773051)

[7.3 Set Error Description 28](#_Toc338773052)

[7.4 Get Error Description 28](#_Toc338773053)

[8. Thread-Local Storage 30](#_Toc338773054)

[8.1 New 30](#_Toc338773055)

[8.2 Set Value ViAddr 31](#_Toc338773056)

[8.3 Get Value ViAddr 31](#_Toc338773057)

[8.4 Dispose 32](#_Toc338773058)

[9. Error and Completion Codes 33](#_Toc338773059)

IVI C Shared Components Specification

Revision History

This section is an overview of the revision history of the C Shared Components specification. Specific individual additions/modifications to the document in draft revisions are denoted with diff-marks, “|”, in the right hand column of each line of text to which the change/modification applies.

| **Table 1.** C Shared Components Specification | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Revision Number | Date of Revision | Revision Notes |
| Revision 0.1 | November 06, 2000 | Original draft. |
| Revision 0.9 | February 01, 2001 | Reformatted the document and implemented changes according to the November meeting minutes. |
| Revision 1.0 | June 27, 2001 | Final draft ready for review |
| Revision 1.0 | February 18, 2008 | Editorial changes to Sections 4.7 and 5.4 |
| Revision 1.0 | April 29, 2008 | Editorial change to update the IVI Foundation contact information in the Important Information section to remove obsolete address information and refer only to the IVI Foundation web site. |
| Revision 1.1 | March 6, 2013 | Minor change to Section 2 to remove references to Sun Solaris and HP-UX and refer to IVI-3.1 for the list of supported Windows OSes, remove paragraphs about loading static libraries and source code, and to remove Table 2.1. |

# Summary of Contents

The IVI C shared components are intended to aid in the development of IVI-C drivers.

Several of the shared components are intended to be used only by other shared components. However, their interfaces are defined in this document so that drivers can make use of them directly if necessary.

The following table summarizes the intended users of each component.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Table 1-1.** C Shared Components and Intended Users | |
| Component | Intended user(s) |
| Dynamic Driver Loader | Class Driver |
| Error Message | Specific Driver, Class Driver |
| Session Management | Specific Driver, Class Driver |
| Session Error | Session Management Component |
| Multithread Lock | Session Management Component |
| Thread Local Error Storage | Session Management Component |
| Thread Local Storage | Thread Local Error Storage Component |

## References

Several other documents and specifications are related to this specification. These other related documents are as follows:

* IVI 3.2⎯Inherent Capabilities Specification

## Implementation

The current installation package for the IVI Foundation Common Components,

including the IVI C Shared Components, is available from the IVI Foundation

website at http://www.ivifoundation.org.

# Dynamic Driver Loader

An IVI class driver uses this component to dynamically load an IVI-C class-compliant specific driver and obtain pointers to the class-defined functions that the IVI-C class-compliant specific driver exports. Before calling the functions in this component, the IVI class driver obtains the path and prefix for the IVI-C class compliant specific driver module associated with a logical name from the IVI configuration server.

The Dynamic Driver Loader shared component loads the dynamic libraries.

* Under the supported Windows operating systems as described in Section 2.16, *Operating Systems*, in *IVI-3.1: Driver Architecture Specification*, the component can load a dynamic link library (.dll) file.
* Under Linux, the component can load a shared object (.so) file.

The Dynamic Driver Loader component defines the following functions:

* IviDriverLoader\_New
* IviDriverLoader\_GetFunctionPtr
* IviDriverLoader\_GetFunctionPtrByName
* IviDriverLoader\_Dispose

The Dynamic Driver Loader component defines the following type:

typedef struct IviDriverLoaderStruct \*IviDriverLoader;

## New

Description

This function creates an object that dynamically loads the IVI-C class-compliant specific driver that is associated with the path and prefix specified by the caller. The caller obtains the addresses of functions through the IviDriverLoader\_GetFunctionPtr function.

If the object cannot load the driver module, this function returns an error.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviDriverLoader\_New (ViConstString Path,   
 ViConstString Prefix,  
 IviDriverLoader \*Handle);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Path | The pathname of the IVI-C class-compliant specific driver module. | ViConstString |
| Prefix | The prefix of the C functions that the IVI-C class-compliant specific driver exports. | ViConstString |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | The handle to the object that this function creates. | IviDriverLoader |

## Get Function Pointer

Description

This function returns the address of a function in the IVI-C class-compliant specific driver module. The caller specifies the function by name without the specific driver prefix.

Caution: The function does not validate the Handle parameter.

If function is unable to obtain the address of the requested function, this function returns VI\_NULL as the function address. It does not return an error in this case.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviDriverLoader\_GetFunctionPtr(IviDriverLoader Handle,   
 ViConstString FunctionName,  
 ViAddr \*FunctionPtr);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to the object that IviDriverLoader\_New creates. | IviDriverLoader |
| FunctionName | Function name, without specific driver prefix, for which caller wants to retrieve a function pointer. | ViConstString |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| FunctionPtr | The address of the function that FunctionName specifies. The value is VI\_NULL if the IVI-C class-compliant specific driver module does not export the function. | ViAddr |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return.

## Get Function Pointer By Complete Name

Description

This function returns the address of a function in the IVI-C class-compliant specific driver module. The caller specifies the function by its complete name, including the instrument driver prefix.

Caution: The function does not validate the Handle parameter.

If function is unable to obtain the address of the requested function, this function returns VI\_NULL as the function address. It does not return an error in this case.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviDriverLoader\_GetFunctionPtrByCompleteName(  
 IviDriverLoader Handle,   
 ViConstString FunctionName,  
 ViAddr \*FunctionPtr);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to the object that IviDriverLoader\_New creates. | IviDriverLoader |
| FunctionName | Complete function name for which caller wants to retrieve a function pointer. | ViConstString |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| FunctionPtr | The address of the function that FunctionName specifies. The value is VI\_NULL if the IVI-C class-compliant specific driver module does not export the function. | ViAddr |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return.

## Dispose

Description

This function unloads the IVI-C class-compliant specific driver and destroys an object created by IviDriverLoader\_New.

Caution: The function does not validate the Handle parameter.

C Prototype

void IviDriverLoader\_Dispose (IviDriverLoader Handle);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to the object that IviDriverLoader\_New creates. | IviDriverLoader |

Return Values

None

# Error Message

The purpose of this component is to help driver developers create error messages. The component defines the following data type.

#ifdef WIN32

#pragma pack(push)

#pragma pack(4)

#endif

typedef struct

{

ViStatus errorCode;

ViConstString errorMessage;

}IviErrorTableEntry, \*IviErrorTable;

#ifdef WIN32

#pragma pack(pop)

#endif

The Error Message component defines the following functions:

* IviErrorMessage\_Get
* IviErrorMessage\_FormatWithElaboration

## Get

Description

This function retrieves the static message associated with a specific error code. The error code must be one of the following.

* An error code that one or more of the C shared components defines
* An error code that the IVI foundation defines in *IVI-3.2*: *Inherent Capabilities Specification*
* An error code in the table passed to the ErrorTable parameter.

An IVI-C driver can use the ErrorTable parameter to pass a list of the driver’s specific error codes, as well as any class-defined error codes that it might return.

If the function cannot find the error message for the error code, the function returns a pointer to an empty string in the ErrorMessage parameter and returns an error code.

The caller should not deallocate the error message string.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviErrorMessage\_Get (ViStatus ErrorCode,   
 IviErrorTable ErrorTable,   
 ViConstString \*ErrorMessage);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| ErrorCode | Error code value. | ViStatus |
| ErrorTable | A list of error codes and associated error messages. The last element of the table has VI\_SUCCESS for the errorCode element and an empty string for the errorMessage element. If the parameter is VI\_NULL, it is ignored. | IviErrorTable |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| ErrorMessage | The string that contains the error message that corresponds to the ErrorCode. The caller should not deallocate this string. | ViConstString |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return.

## Format With Elaboration

Description

This function formats an error description from two error messages and places it into an output buffer.

Refer to Section 3.1.2.1, Additional Compliance Rules for C Functions with ViChar Array Output Parameters of the IVI–3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification for rules regarding the ErrorDescriptionBufferSize and ErrorDescription parameters.

By passing zero for the buffer size, the caller can ascertain the buffer size required to get the entire error description string and then call the function again with a sufficiently large buffer.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviErrorMessage\_FormatWithElaboration (ViConstString ErrorMessage,   
 ViConstString ErrorElaboration,   
 ViInt32 ErrorDescriptionBufferSize,   
 ViChar ErrorDescription[ ]);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| ErrorMessage | The more general error message. Normally, this is a static error message associated with an error code. | ViConstString |
| ErrorElaboration | The more specific error message that refines the more general error message. | ViConstString |
| ErrorDescriptionBufferSize | The number of bytes in the ViChar array that the caller specifies for the ErrorDescription parameter. | ViInt32 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| ErrorDescription | Buffer into which the function places the formatted error description. The buffer shall contain at least as many bytes as the caller specifies in the ErrorDescrptionBufferSize parameter. The caller may pass VI\_NULL for this parameter if the ErrorDescrptionBufferSize parameter is zero . | ViChar [] |

Return Values

None.

# Session Management

IVI-C drivers use this component to create and destroy IVI driver sessions, associate instance data with sessions, and obtain multithread locks on sessions.

This component contains error handling functions that parallel the Get Error and Clear Error functions defined in the IVI 3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification. This component also contains a corresponding Set Error function. These functions set, get, and clear the error information for an IVI session and for the current execution thread.

The Set Error function operates in a manner that is consistent with the behavior of the Get Error function specified in the IVI 3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification. In particular, the Set Error function does not overwrite the existing status code unless the severity of the status code is greater than the existing one.

Typically, an IVI-C driver can handle the recording and retrieval of all error information entirely through calls to the functions in this component.

All functions that take ViSession handle as an input parameter are multithread safe. Threads that attempt to call functions are blocked if another thread is currently calling a function in the same component using the same ViSession handle.

The Session Management component defines the following functions:

* IviSession\_New
* IviSession\_SetDataPtr
* IviSession\_GetDataPtr
* IviSession\_Lock
* IviSession\_Unlock
* IviSession\_SetError
* IviSession\_GetError
* IviSession\_ClearError
* IviSession\_Dispose

## New

Description

This function creates an IVI driver session.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSession\_New (ViSession \*Handle);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to the IVI driver session that this function creates. | ViSession |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return.

## Set Data Pointer

Description

This function associates a pointer value with a session handle. An IVI-C driver uses this function to store a pointer to its session instance data.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSession\_SetDataPtr (ViSession Handle, ViAddr DataPtr);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to an IVI driver session. | ViSession |
| DataPtr | A pointer to dynamically allocated data that the caller wants to associate with the session. | ViAddr |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return. The table below specifies additional status codes for this function.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | C Identifier |
| Invalid Session Handle | IVI\_ERROR\_INVALID\_SESSION\_HANDLE |

## Get Data Pointer

Description

This function retrieves the pointer value associated with the session handle.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSession\_GetDataPtr (ViSession Handle, ViAddr \*DataPtr);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to an IVI driver session. | ViSession |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| DataPtr | The pointer value associated with the session in the most recent call to IviSession\_SetDataPtr. The value is VI\_NULL if no pointer value is associated with the session. | ViAddr |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return. The table below specifies additional status codes for this function.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | C Identifier |
| Invalid Session Handle | IVI\_ERROR\_INVALID\_SESSION\_HANDLE |

## Lock

Description

This function obtains a multithread lock on an IVI driver session. The function waits for all other execution threads to release their locks on the session before it proceeds.

The caller can safely make nested calls to this function within the same thread. To completely unlock the session, the caller must balance each call to this function with a call to IviSession\_Unlock, unless the caller uses the HasLock parameter.

The HasLock parameter is available for the convenience of the caller. It relieves the caller from the burden of having to keep track of how many times a function locks and unlocks a session. To use this parameter effectively:

* The caller declares a ViBoolean local variable and initializes it to VI\_FALSE,
* Passes it by reference to each call to IviSession\_Lock within the function,
* Has no early return statements in the function, and
* Calls IviSession\_Unlock just once at the end of the function.

If the caller does not want to use the HasLock parameter, the caller passes VI\_NULL.

If the HasLock parameter points to a value of VI\_TRUE, IviSession\_Lock does nothing. If the HasLock parameter points to a value of VI\_FALSE, IviSession\_Lock obtains a lock on the session and sets HasLock to point to VI\_TRUE.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSession\_Lock (ViSession Handle, ViBoolean \*HasLock);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to an IVI driver session. | ViSession |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input/Output | Description | Data Type |
| HasLock | A reference to a local variable in the calling function that indicates if the calling function currently has a lock on the session. The caller may pass VI\_NULL for this parameter. | ViBoolean |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return. The table below specifies additional status codes for this function.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | C Identifier |
| Invalid Session Handle | IVI\_ERROR\_INVALID\_SESSION\_HANDLE |

## Unlock

Description

This function releases a multithread lock that the caller previously acquired on an IVI driver session. Refer to IviSession\_Lock for more information on IVI session locks.

If the HasLock parameter points to a value of VI\_TRUE, IviSession\_Unlock unlocks the session and sets the value HasLock points to VI\_FALSE. If the HasLock parameter points to a value of VI\_FALSE, IviSession\_Unlock does nothing.

The caller may pas VI\_NULL for the HasLock parameter. If the calling function does not have the lock on the session, the behavior is undefined.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSession\_Unlock (ViSession Handle, ViBoolean \*HasLock);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to an IVI driver session. | ViSession |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input/Output | Description | Data Type |
| HasLock | A reference to a local variable in the calling function that indicates if the calling function currently has a lock on the session. The caller may pass VI\_NULL for this parameter. | ViBoolean |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return. The table below specifies additional status codes for this function.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | C Identifier |
| Invalid Session Handle | IVI\_ERROR\_INVALID\_SESSION\_HANDLE |

## Set Error

Description

This function sets the error information for an IVI session and for the current execution thread. If the caller passes a valid IVI session for the Handle parameter, this function sets the error information for the session and the error information for the current execution thread. If the caller passes VI\_NULL for the Handle parameter, the function sets the error information for the current execution thread only.

This function operates in a manner that is consistent with the behavior of the Set Error function specified in the IVI 3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification. In particular, the function does not overwrite the existing error code unless the severity of the error code is greater than the existing error. Error codes have three severity levels. Negative error codes are at the highest level. Positive error codes constitute warnings and are at the second level. A zero error code (Success) is at lowest level. The following table describes the exact behavior of this function in setting the error code for the session and for the current execution thread.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Table 4-1. Exact Behavior in Setting Error Codes | | |
| ErrorCode Parameter | Existing Error Code | Update Error Code? |
|  | Negative value | No |
| Negative value | Positive value | Yes |
|  | Zero | Yes |
|  | Negative value | No |
| Positive value | Positive value | No |
|  | Zero | Yes |
|  | Negative value | No |
| Zero | Positive value | No |
|  | Zero | No |

The function overwrites the existing error description if either of the following conditions are met:

* The function overwrites the existing error code or the ErrorCode parameter is equal to the existing error code, and
* The existing error description is VI\_NULL or an empty string.

When the function overwrites the existing error description and the ErrorDescription parameter is VI\_NULL or an empty string, the function stores VI\_NULL for the error description. When the function overwrites the existing error description and the ErrorDescription parameter is a non-empty string, the function allocates a copy of the ErrorDescription parameter.

The function deallocates the existing description string before overwriting it.

If the function encounters an error, it stores as much of the information from the parameters as it can before returning an appropriate error code. For example, if the caller passes an invalid handle for the session, the function sets the error information for the current execution thread and returns an IVI\_ERROR\_INVALID\_SESSION\_HANDLE error. If the function runs out of memory while attempting to allocate a copy of the error description string, the function stores the value of the ErrorCode parameter, stores VI\_NULL for the error description, and returns an IVI\_ERROR\_OUT\_OF\_MEMORY error.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSession\_SetError (ViSession Handle, ViStatus ErrorCode,   
 ViConstString ErrorDescription);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to an IVI driver session that the caller creates with IviSession\_New. The caller may pass VI\_NULL, in which case the function sets the error information only for the current execution thread. | ViSession |
| ErrorCode | Error code to store in the session. | ViStatus |
| ErrorDescription | Fully formatted error description string to store in the session. The caller may pass VI\_NULL to indicate an empty string. | ViConstString |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return. The table below specifies additional status codes for this function.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | C Identifier |
| Invalid Session Handle | IVI\_ERROR\_INVALID\_SESSION\_HANDLE |

## Get Error

Description

This function retrieves and then clears the IVI error information for the session or the current execution thread. It does so in a manner consistent with the Get Error function defined in the IVI–3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification. If the Handle parameter is a valid IVI session, the function retrieves and then clears the error information for the session. If the Handle parameter is VI\_NULL, the function retrieves and then clears the error information for the current execution thread. If the Handle parameter is an invalid session, the function does nothing and returns the Invalid Session Handle error.

The function returns the current error code in the ErrorCode parameter and copies the current error description string into the ErrorDescription parameter. Refer to Section 3.1.2.1, Additional Compliance Rules for C Functions with ViChar Array Output Parameters of the IVI–3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification for rules regarding the ErrorDescriptionBufferSize and ErrorDescription parameters.

After retrieving the error code and error description, the function clears the error information, except in one case. If the ErrorDescriptionBufferSize parameter is zero, the function does not clear the error information. By passing zero for the buffer size, the caller can ascertain the buffer size required to get the entire error description string and then call the function again with a sufficiently large buffer.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSession\_GetError (ViSession Handle,  
 ViInt32 ErrorDescriptionBufferSize ,  
 ViStatus \*ErrorCode,  
 ViChar ErrorDescription[ ])

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to an IVI driver session that the caller creates with IviSession\_New. The caller may pass VI\_NULL to request the error information for the current execution thread. | ViSession |
| ErrorDescriptionBufferSize | The number of bytes in the ViChar array that the caller specifies for the ErrorDescription parameter. | ViInt32 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| ErrorCode | Returns the current error code. Zero indicates that no error occurred. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error. The caller may pass VI\_NULL for this parameter if the caller does not want to retrieve this value. | ViStatus |
| ErrorDescription | Buffer into which the function copies the error description string. The buffer shall contain at least as many bytes as the caller specifies in the ErrorDescrptionBufferSize parameter. The caller may pass VI\_NULL for this parameter if the ErrorDescrptionBufferSize parameter is zero . | ViChar [ ] |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return. The table below specifies additional status codes for this function.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | C Identifier |
| Invalid Session Handle | IVI\_ERROR\_INVALID\_SESSION\_HANDLE |

## Clear Error

Description

This function clears the error information for an IVI session or for the current execution thread. If the caller passes a valid IVI session for the Handle parameter, this function clears the error information for the session. If caller passes VI\_NULL for the Handle parameter, the function clears the error information for the current execution thread. If the Handle parameter is an invalid session, the function does nothing and returns the Invalid Session Handle error.

The function clears the error code by setting it to IVI\_SUCCESS. If the error description string is non-NULL, the function deallocates the error description string and sets the address to VI\_NULL.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSession\_ClearError (ViSession Handle);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to an IVI driver session that the caller creates with IviSession\_New. The caller may pass VI\_NULL, to clear the error information for the current execution thread. | ViSession |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return. The table below specifies additional status codes for this function.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | C Identifier |
| Invalid Session Handle | IVI\_ERROR\_INVALID\_SESSION\_HANDLE |

## Dispose

Description

This function closes the instrument driver session.

This function does not free the session instance data that the caller associates with the session handle by calling IviSession\_SetDataPtr. The caller must explicitly deallocate the session instance data.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSession\_Dispose (ViSession Handle)

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to the IVI driver session. | ViSession |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return. The table below specifies additional status codes for this function.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | C Identifier |
| Invalid Session Handle | IVI\_ERROR\_INVALID\_SESSION\_HANDLE |

# Session Error

IVI-C drivers maintain error information on both a session basis and a thread-local basis. All calls to IVI-C driver functions in the same thread share the same thread-local error information. This component contains low-level functions to access the error code and error description string for a session.

The Session Management component uses the functions in this component. Typically, IVI-C drivers do not call these functions directly.

The Session Error component defines the following functions:

* IviSessionError\_SetErrorCode
* IviSessionError\_GetErrorCode
* IviSessionError\_SetErrorDescription
* IviSessionError\_GetErrorDescription

## Set Error Code

Description

This function sets the error code for an IVI session.

Caution: The function does not validate the Handle parameter.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSessionError\_SetErrorCode (ViSession Handle,   
 ViStatus ErrorCode);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to an IVI driver session. | ViSession |
| ErrorCode | Error code to store in the session error information. | ViStatus |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return.

## Get Error Code

Description

This function retrieves the error code for an IVI session.

Caution: The function does not validate the Handle parameter.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSessionError\_GetErrorCode (ViSession Handle,   
 ViStatus \*ErrorCode);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to an IVI driver session. | ViSession |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| ErrorCode | The current value of the error code in the session error information. | ViStatus |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return

## Set Error Description

Description

This function sets the error description string for an IVI session.

Caution: The function does not validate the Handle parameter.

The function deallocates the existing error description string for the session. The function allocates a copy of the ErrorDescription string parameter and stores the address of the copy in the session. If the ErrorDescription parameter is VI\_NULL or an empty string, the function stores VI\_NULL for the address.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSessionError\_SetErrorDescription (ViSession Handle, ViConstString ErrorDescription);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to an IVI driver session. | ViSession |
| ErrorDescription | Fully formatted error description string to store in the session error information. The caller may pass VI\_NULL to indicate an empty string. | ViConstString |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return

## Get Error Description

Description

This function retrieves the address of the error description string for an IVI session. A value of VI\_NULL for the address indicates an empty string.

Caution: The function does not validate the Handle parameter.

The caller should not deallocate the error description string.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviSessionError\_GetErrorDescription (ViSession Handle,   
 ViConstString \*ErrorDescription);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Handle | Handle to an IVI driver session. | ViSession |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| ErrorDescription | Address of the current error description string in the session error information. The result value can be VI\_NULL. | ViConstString |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return.

# Multithread Lock

This component provides functions that make it possible to use multithread locks in an operating-system-independent manner. The Session Management component uses the functions in this component.

It is safe to use this component on operating systems that do not support multiple threads.

The Multithread Lock component defines the following functions:

* IviMultithreadLock\_New
* IviMultithreadLock\_Acquire
* IviMultithreadLock\_Release
* IviMultithreadLock\_Dispose

This component defines the following type:

typedef struct IviMultithreadLockStruct \*IviMultithreadLock;

## New

Description

This function creates a multithread lock.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviMultithreadLock\_New (IviMultithreadLock \*Lock);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| Lock | Handle to the multithread lock that this function creates. | IviMultithreadLock |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return. The table below specifies additional status codes for this function.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | C Identifier |
| Could Not Create Lock | IVI\_ERROR\_CANNOT\_CREATE\_LOCK |

## Acquire

Description

This function acquires a multithread lock. It waits for all other execution threads to release the lock before it proceeds. Every call to this function must be balanced by a call to the IviMultithreadLock\_Release function.

Caution: The function does not validate the Lock parameter.

C Prototype

void IviMultithreadLock\_Acquire (IviMultithreadLock Lock);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Lock | Handle to a multithread lock. | IviMultithreadLock |

Return Values

None

## Release

Description

This function releases a multithread lock. Every call to the IviMultithreadLock\_Acquire function must be balanced by a call to this function.

Caution: The function does not validate the Lock parameter.

C Prototype

void IviMultithreadLock\_Release (IviMultithreadLock Lock);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| Lock | Handle to a multithread lock. | IviMultithreadLock |

Return Values

None

## Dispose

Description

This function destroys a multithread lock.

Caution: The function does not validate the Lock parameter.

C Prototype

void IviMultithreadLock\_Dispose (IviMultithreadLock Lock);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input/Output | Description | Data Type |
| Lock | Handle to a multithread lock. | IviMultithreadLock |

Return Values

None

# Thread-Local Error Storage

IVI-C drivers maintain error information on both a session basis and a thread-local basis. All calls to IVI-C driver functions in the same thread share the same thread-local error information. This component contains low-level functions to access the error code and error description string for the current execution thread. The component stores the error information in a dynamically allocated data structure pointed to by a thread-local variable.

The Session Management component uses the functions in this component. Typically, IVI-C drivers do not call these functions directly.

It is safe to use this component on operating systems that do not have thread-local variables.

The Thread-Local Error Storage component defines the following functions:

* IviThreadError\_SetErrorCode
* IviThreadError\_GetErrorCode
* IviThreadError\_SetErrorDescription
* IviThreadError\_GetErrorDescription

## Set Error Code

Description

This function sets the IVI error code for the current execution thread.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviThreadError\_SetErrorCode (ViStatus ErrorCode);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| ErrorCode | Error code to store in the thread-local error information. | ViStatus |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return.

## Get Error Code

Description

This function retrieves the IVI error code for the current execution thread.

If the error code for the thread-local error information has not yet been set, the function returns IVI\_SUCCESS in the ErrorCode parameter. If the error code has been set, the function returns the thread-local error code in the ErrorCode parameter.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviThreadError\_GetErrorCode (ViStatus \*ErrorCode);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| ErrorCode | The current value of the thread-local error code. | ViStatus |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return.

## Set Error Description

Description

This function sets the IVI error description for the current execution thread.

The function deallocates the existing error description string for the thread. The function allocates a copy of the ErrorDescription string parameter and stores the address of the copy in the thread. If the ErrorDescription parameter is VI\_NULL or an empty string, the function stores VI\_NULL for the address.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviThreadError\_SetErrorDescription (ViConstString ErrorDescription);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| ErrorDescription | Fully formatted error description string to store in the thread-local error information. The caller may pass VI\_NULL to indicate an empty string. | ViConstString |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return.

## Get Error Description

Description

This function retrieves the address of the IVI error description string for the current execution thread.

If the error description for the thread-local error information has not yet been set, the function returns VI\_NULL in the ErrorDescription parameter. If the error code has been set, the function returns the address of the thread-local error description string in the ErrorDescription parameter. A value of VI\_NULL indicates an empty string.

The caller should not deallocate the error description string.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviThreadError\_GetErrorDescription (ViConstString \*ErrorDescription);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| ErrorDescription | Address of the current error description string in the thread-local error information. Can be VI\_NULL. | ViConstString |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return.

# Thread-Local Storage

This component provides functions that make it possible to store and retrieve a thread-local data structure in an operating-system-independent manner. The Thread-Local Error Storage component uses the functions in this component. Typically, IVI-C drivers do not call these functions directly.

It is safe to use this component on operating systems that do not have thread-local variables.

On some operating systems, the number of thread-local variables is severely limited. Consequently, the suggested way to use thread-local variables is to define a data structure that contains all the information that you want to store on a thread-local basis, allocate an instance of the data structure in each thread, and store the address of each instance in a thread-local variable. This component allows for storing such an address in a thread-local variable.

The Thread-Local Storage component defines the following functions:

* IviThreadVar\_New
* IviThreadVar\_SetValueViAddr
* IviThreadVar\_GetValueViAddr
* IviThreadVar\_Dispose

This component defines the following type:

typedef struct IviThreadVarStruct\* IviThreadVar;

typedef void (\*IviThreadVarFreeFuncPtr) (ViAddr ptr);

## New

Description

This function initializes a thread-local variable. On Windows operating systems, the typical place to call this function is in the WinMain or DllMain function in response to the DLL\_PROCESS\_ATTACH event. On Posix operating systems, this function iscalled in a function that is declared with the init pragma.

Posix operating systems invoke the function pointed to by the FreeFn parameter whenever a thread goes out of existence.

On Windows operating systems, the caller invokes the FreeFn function in response to the DLL\_PROCESS\_DETACH and DLL\_THREAD\_DETACH events in the WinMain or DllMain function. The code for the DLL\_PROCESS\_DETACH event invokes the FreeFn function before calling IviThreadVar\_Dispose.

C Prototype

ViStatus IviThreadVar\_New (IviThreadVarFreeFuncPtr FreeFn,   
 IviThreadVar \*ThreadVar);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| FreeFn | Pointer to a function that can deallocate the data structure that the caller stores in the thread-local variable. | IviThreadVarFreeFuncPtr |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| ThreadVar | Handle to the thread-local variable that this function creates. | IviThreadVar |

Return Values

The *IVI-3.2: Inherent Capabilities Specification* defines general status codes that this function can return. The table below specifies additional status codes for this function.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | C Identifier |
| Could Not Create Thread Local | IVI\_ERROR\_CANNOT\_CREATE\_THREAD\_LOCAL |

## Set Value ViAddr

Description

This function stores an address in a thread-local variable for the current execution thread.

Caution: The function does not validate the ThreadVar parameter.

C Prototype

void IviThreadVar\_SetValueViAddr (IviThreadVar ThreadVar, ViAddr Val)

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| ThreadVar | Handle to a thread-local variable. | IviThreadVar |
| Val | Address to store in the thread-local variable. | ViAddr |

Return Values

None

## Get Value ViAddr

Description

This function retrieves the address stored in a thread-local variable for the currently executing thread.

Caution: The function does not validate the ThreadVar parameter.

C Prototype

void IviThreadVar\_GetValueViAddr (IviThreadVar ThreadVar, ViAddr \*Val)

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| ThreadVar | Handle to a thread-local variable. | IviThreadVar |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Output | Description | Data Type |
| Val | Address currently stored in the thread-local variable. | ViAddr |

Return Values

None

## Dispose

Description

This function destroys a thread-local variable. On Windows operating systems, the typical place to call this function is in the WinMain or DllMain function in response to the DLL\_PROCESS\_DETACH event. On Posix operating systems, this function is called in a function that is declared with the fini pragma.

Caution: The function does not validate the ThreadVar parameter.

C Prototype

void IviThreadVar\_Dispose (IviThreadVar ThreadVar);

Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input | Description | Data Type |
| ThreadVar | Handle to a thread-local variable. | IviThreadVar |

Return Values

None

# Error and Completion Codes

The following table specifies the actual values and static messages for the Error and Completion codes defined for the IVI-C Shared Components.

| **Table 9-1.** IVI-C Error and Completion Code Values | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Actual Value | C Completion Code | Eror Message |
| IVI\_SHARED\_COMPONENT\_ERROR\_BASE + 0x190 | IVI\_ERROR\_INVALID\_SESSION\_HANDLE | The session handle is not valid. |
| IVI\_SHARED\_COMPONENT\_ERROR\_BASE + 0x198 | IVI\_ERROR\_CANNOT\_CREATE\_LOCK | Could not create a multithread lock. |
| IVI\_SHARED\_COMPONENT\_ERROR\_BASE + 0x1A0 | IVI\_ERROR\_CANNOT\_CREATE\_THREAD\_LOCAL | Could not create thread local. |