

Summary of Kernel-Mode Support Routines

1.1.1 Hardware Configuration

[IoGetDeviceProperty](#)

Retrieves device setup information from the registry. Use this routine, rather than accessing the registry directly, to insulate a driver from differences across platforms and from possible changes in the registry structure.

[IoReportDetectedDevice](#)

Reports a nonPnP device to the PnP Manager.

[IoReportResourceForDetection](#)

Claims hardware resources in the configuration registry for a legacy device. This routine is for drivers that detect legacy hardware which cannot be enumerated by PnP.

[IoGetDmaAdapter](#)

Returns a pointer to the DMA adapter structure that represents either the DMA channel to which a device is connected or the driver's busmaster adapter.

[IoGetConfigurationInformation](#)

Returns a pointer to the I/O Manager's configuration information structure, which indicates the number of disk, floppy, CD-ROM, tape, SCSI HBAs, serial, and parallel device objects that have already been named by previously loaded drivers, as well as whether certain address ranges have been claimed by "AT" disk-type drivers.

[HalExamineMBR](#)

Returns data from the master boot record (MBR) of a disk.

[IoReadPartitionTable](#)

Returns a list of partitions on a disk with a given sector size.

[IoInvalidateDeviceRelations](#)

Notifies the PnP manager that the relations for a device have changed. The types of device relations include bus relations, ejection relations, removal relations, and the target device relation.

[IoInvalidateDeviceState](#)

Notifies the PnP manager that some aspect of the PnP state of a device has changed. In response, the PnP Manager sends an IRP_MN_QUERY_PNP_DEVICE_STATE to the device stack.

[IoRegisterPlugPlayNotification](#)

Registers a driver callback routine to be called when a PnP event of the specified category occurs.

[IoUnregisterPlugPlayNotification](#)

Removes the registration of a driver's callback routine for a PnP event.

[IoRequestDeviceEject](#)

Notifies the PnP Manager that the device eject button was pressed. This routine reports a request for device eject, not media eject.

[IoReportTargetDeviceChange](#)

Notifies the PnP Manager that a custom event has occurred on a device. The PnP Manager sends notification of the event to drivers that registered for notification on the device.

1.1.2 Registry

[IoGetDeviceProperty](#)

Retrieves device setup information from the registry. Use this routine, rather than accessing the registry directly, to insulate a driver from differences across platforms and from possible changes in the registry structure.

[IoOpenDeviceInterfaceRegistryKey](#)

Returns a handle to a registry key for storing information about a particular device interface.

[IoOpenDeviceRegistryKey](#)

Returns a handle to a device-specific or a driver-specific registry key for a particular device instance.

[IoRegisterDeviceInterface](#)

Registers device functionality (a device interface) that a driver will enable for use by applications or other system components. The I/O Manager creates a registry key for the device interface. Drivers can access persistent storage under this key using **IoOpenDeviceInterfaceRegistryKey**.

[IoSetDeviceInterfaceState](#)

Enables or disables a previously registered device interface. Applications and other system components can open only interfaces that are enabled.

[RtlCheckRegistryKey](#)

Returns STATUS_SUCCESS if a key exists in the registry along the given relative path.

[RtlCreateRegistryKey](#)

Adds a key object in the registry along the given relative path.

[RtlQueryRegistryValues](#)

Gives the driver-supplied QueryRegistry callback (read only) access to the entries for the specified value name along the specified relative path in the registry after the QueryRegistry routine is given control.

[RtlWriteRegistryValue](#)

Writes caller-supplied data into the registry along the specified relative path at the given value name.

[RtlDeleteRegistryValue](#)

Removes the specified value name (and the associated value entries) from the registry along the given relative path.

[InitializeObjectAttributes](#)

Sets up a parameter of type OBJECT_ATTRIBUTES for a subsequent call to a **ZwCreateXxx** or **ZwOpenXxx** routine.

[ZwCreateKey](#)

Creates a new key in the registry with the given object's attributes, allowed access, and creation options (such as whether the key is created again when the system is booted). Alternatively, opens an existing key and returns a handle for the key object.

[ZwOpenKey](#)

Returns a handle for a key in the registry given the object's attributes (which must include a name for the key) and the desired access to the object.

[ZwQueryKey](#)

Returns information about the class of a key, and the number and sizes of its subkeys. This information includes, for example, the length of subkey names and the size of value entries.

[ZwEnumerateKey](#)

Returns the specified information about the subkeys of an opened key in the registry.

[ZwEnumerateValueKey](#)

Returns the specified information about the value entry, as selected by a zero-based index, of an opened key in the registry.

[ZwQueryValueKey](#)

Returns the value entry, as selected by a zero-based index, for an opened key in the registry.

[ZwSetValueKey](#)

Replaces (or creates) a value entry for an opened key in the registry.

[ZwFlushKey](#)

Forces changes made by **ZwCreateKey** or **ZwSetValueKey** for the opened key object to be written to disk.

[ZwDeleteKey](#)

Removes a key and its value entries from the registry as soon as the key is closed.

[ZwClose](#)

Releases the handle for an opened object, causing the handle to become invalid and decrementing the reference count of the object handle.

1.1.3 Standard Driver Routines

[IoRegisterDriverReinitialization](#)

Sets up the driver-supplied Reinitialize routine, together with its context, so that the Reinitialize routine is called after each subsequently loaded driver's **DriverEntry** routine returns control.

[IoConnectInterrupt](#)

Registers an ISR and sets up interrupt objects using values supplied in the PnP IRP_MN_START_DEVICE request. Returns a pointer to a set of interrupt objects that must be passed, along with the driver's SynchCriticalSection entry point, to **KeSynchronizeExecution**.

[IoDisconnectInterrupt](#)

Releases a driver's interrupt objects.

[IoInitializeDpcRequest](#)

Associates a driver-supplied DpcForIsr routine with a given device object, so that the DpcForIsr can complete interrupt-driven I/O operations.

[KeInitializeDpc](#)

Initializes a DPC object, setting up a driver-supplied CustomDpc routine that can be called with a given context.

[KeInitializeTimer](#)

Initializes a notification timer object to the Not-Signaled state.

[KeInitializeTimerEx](#)

Initializes a notification or synchronization timer object to the Not-Signaled state.

[IoInitializeTimer](#)

Associates a timer with the given device object and registers a driver-supplied IoTimer routine for the device object.

[MmLockPagableCodeSection](#)

Locks a set of driver routines marked with a special compiler directive into system space. This operation can occur during driver initialization but usually occurs in the driver's DispatchCreate routine.

[MmLockPagableDataSection](#)

Locks a named data section, which is marked with a special compiler directive, into system space if that data is used infrequently, predictably, and at an IRQL less than DISPATCH_LEVEL.

[MmLockPagableSectionByHandle](#)

Locks a pageable section into system memory using a handle returned from **MmLockPagableCodeSection** or **MmLockPagableDataSection**.

[MmUnlockPagableImageSection](#)

Releases a set of driver routines or a set of data that was locked into nonpaged system space when the driver is no longer processing IRPs.

[MmPageEntireDriver](#)

Allows a driver to page out all of its code and data, regardless of the attributes of the various sections in the driver's image.

[MmResetDriverPaging](#)

Resets a driver's pageable status to that specified by the sections which make up the driver's image.

1.1.4 Objects and Resources

[IoCreateDevice](#)

Initializes a device object, which represents a physical, virtual, or logical device for which the driver is being loaded into the system. Then it allocates space for the driver-defined device extension associated with the device object.

[IoDeleteDevice](#)

Removes a device object from the system when the underlying device is removed from the system.

[IoGetDeviceObjectPointer](#)

Requests access to a named device object and returns a pointer to that device object if the requested access is granted. Also returns a pointer to the file object referenced by the named device object. In effect, this routine establishes a connection between the caller and the next-lower-level driver.

[IoAttachDeviceToDeviceStack](#)

Attaches the caller's device object to the highest device object in a chain of drivers and returns a pointer to the previously highest device object. I/O requests bound for the target device are routed first to the caller.

[IoGetAttachedDeviceReference](#)

Returns a pointer to the highest level device object in a driver stack and increments the reference count on that object.

[IoDetachDevice](#)

Releases an attachment between the caller's device object and a target driver's device object.

[IoAllocateDriverObjectExtension](#)

Allocates a per-driver context area with a given unique identifier.

[IoGetDriverObjectExtension](#)

Retrieves a previously allocated per-driver context area.

[IoRegisterDeviceInterface](#)

Registers device functionality (a device interface) that a driver will enable for use by applications or other system components. The I/O Manager creates a registry key for the device interface.

Drivers can access persistent storage under this key using **IoOpenDeviceInterfaceRegistryKey**.

[IoIsWdmVersionAvailable](#)

Checks whether a given WDM version is supported by the operating system.

[IoDeleteSymbolicLink](#)

Releases a symbolic link between a device object name and a user-visible name.

[IoAssignArcName](#)

Sets up a symbolic link between a named device object (such as a tape, floppy, or CD-ROM) and the corresponding ARC name for the device.

[IoDeassignArcName](#)

Releases the symbolic link created by calling **IoAssignArcName**.

[IoSetShareAccess](#)

Sets the access allowed to a given file object that represents a device. (Only highest-level drivers can call this routine.)

[IoConnectInterrupt](#)

Registers a driver's ISR according to the parameters supplied in the IRP_MN_START_DEVICE request. Returns a pointer to a set of allocated, initialized, and connected interrupt objects that is used as an argument to **KeSynchronizeExecution**.

[IoDisconnectInterrupt](#)

Releases a driver's interrupt objects when the driver unloads.

[IoReadPartitionTable](#)

Returns a list of partitions on a disk with a given sector size.

[IoSetPartitionInformation](#)

Sets the partition type and number for a (disk) partition.

[IoWritePartitionTable](#)

Writes partition tables for a disk, given the device object that represents the disk, the sector size, and a pointer to a buffer containing the drive layout structure.

[IoCreateController](#)

Initializes a controller object that represents a physical device controller which is shared by two or more similar devices that have the same driver, and specifies the size of the controller extension.

[IoDeleteController](#)

Removes a controller object from the system.

[KeInitializeSpinLock](#)

Initializes a variable of type KSPIN_LOCK.

[KeInitializeDpc](#)

Initializes a DPC object, setting up a driver-supplied CustomDpc routine that can be called with a given context.

[KeInitializeTimer](#)

Initializes a notification timer object to the Not-Signaled state.

[KeInitializeTimerEx](#)

Initializes a notification or synchronization timer object to the Not-Signaled state.

[KeInitializeEvent](#)

Initializes an event object as a synchronization (single waiter) or notification (multiple waiters) type event and sets up its initial state (Signaled or Not-Signaled).

[ExInitializeFastMutex](#)

Initializes a fast mutex variable that is used to synchronize mutually exclusive access to a shared resource by a set of threads.

[KeInitializeMutex](#)

Initializes a mutex object at a given level number as set to the Signaled state.

[KeInitializeSemaphore](#)

Initializes a semaphore object to a given count and specifies an upper bound for the count.

[IoCreateNotificationEvent](#)

Initializes a named notification event to be used to synchronize access between two or more components. Notification events are not automatically reset.

[IoCreateSynchronizationEvent](#)

Initializes a named synchronization event to be used to serialize access to hardware between two otherwise unrelated drivers.

[PsCreateSystemThread](#)

Creates a kernel-mode thread that is associated with a given process object or with the default system process. Returns a handle for the thread.

[PsTerminateSystemThread](#)

Terminates the current thread and satisfies as many waits as possible for the current thread object.

[KeSetBasePriorityThread](#)

Sets up the run-time priority, relative to the system process, for a driver-created thread.

[KeSetPriorityThread](#)

Sets up the run-time priority for a driver-created thread with a real-time priority attribute.

[MmIsThisAnNtAsSystem](#)

Returns TRUE if the current platform is a server, indicating that more resources are likely to be necessary to process I/O requests than if the machine were a client.

[MmQuerySystemSize](#)

Returns an estimate (small, medium, or large) of the amount of memory available on the current platform.

[ExInitializeNPagedLookasideList](#)

Initializes a lookaside list of nonpaged memory. After a successful initialization, fixed-size blocks can be allocated from and freed to the lookaside list.

[ExInitializePagedLookasideList](#)

Initializes a lookaside list of paged memory. After a successful initialization, fixed-size blocks can be allocated from and freed to the lookaside list.

[ExInitializeResourceLite](#)

Initializes a resource, for which the caller provides the storage, to be used for synchronization by a set of threads.

[ExReinitializeResourceLite](#)

Reinitializes an existing resource variable.

[ExDeleteResourceLite](#)

Deletes a caller-initialized resource from the system's resource list.

[ObReferenceObjectByHandle](#)

Returns a pointer to the object body and handle information (attributes and granted access rights), given the handle for an object, the object's type, and a mask. Specifies the desired access to the object and the preferred access mode. A successful call increments the reference count for the object.

[ObReferenceObjectByPointer](#)

Increments the reference count for an object so the caller can ensure that the object is not removed from the system while the caller is using it.

[ObReferenceObject](#)

Increments the reference count for an object, given a pointer to the object.

[ObDereferenceObject](#)

Releases a reference to an object (decrements the reference count), given a pointer to the object body.

[RtlInitString](#)

Initializes a counted string in a buffer.

[RtlInitAnsiString](#)

Initializes a counted ANSI string in a buffer.

[RtlInitUnicodeString](#)

Initializes a counted Unicode string in a buffer.

[InitializeObjectAttributes](#)

Initializes a parameter of type OBJECT_ATTRIBUTES for a subsequent call to a **ZwCreate** *Xxx* or **ZwOpen** *Xxx* routine.

[ZwCreateDirectoryObject](#)

Creates or opens a directory object with a specified set of object attributes and requests one or more types of access for the caller. Returns a handle for the directory object.

[ZwCreateFile](#)

Creates or opens a file object that represents a physical, logical, or virtual device, a directory, a data file, or a volume. Returns a handle for the file object.

[ZwCreateKey](#)

Creates or opens a key object in the registry and returns a handle for the key object.

[ZwDeleteKey](#)

Deletes an existing, open key in the registry after the last handle for the key is closed.

[ZwMakeTemporaryObject](#)

Resets the "permanent" attribute of an opened object, so that the object and its name can be deleted when the reference count for the object becomes zero.

[ZwClose](#)

Releases the handle for an opened object, causing the handle to become invalid, and decrements the reference count of the object handle.

[PsGetVersion](#)

Indicates whether the driver is running on a free or checked build of Windows NT/Windows 2000, and optionally supplies information about the operating system version and build number.

[ObGetObjectSecurity](#)

Returns a buffered security descriptor for a given object.

[ObReleaseObjectSecurity](#)

Releases the security descriptor returned by **ObGetObjectSecurity**.

1.1.5 Initializing Driver-Managed Queues

[KeInitializeSpinLock](#)

Initializes a variable of type KSPIN_LOCK. An initialized spin lock is a required parameter to the **Ex..InterlockedList** routines.

[InitializeListHead](#)

Sets up a queue header for a driver's internal queue, given a pointer to driver-supplied storage for the queue header and queue.

[ExInitializeSListHead](#)

Sets up the queue header for a sequenced, interlocked, singly-linked list.

[KeInitializeDeviceQueue](#)

Initializes a device queue object to a Not Busy state, setting up an associated sp in lock for multiprocessor-safe access to device queue entries.

1.2.1 Processing IRPs

[IoGetCurrentIrpStackLocation](#)

Returns a pointer to the caller's I/O stack location in a given IRP.

[IoGetNextIrpStackLocation](#)

Returns a pointer to the next-lower-level driver's I/O stack location in a given IRP.

[IoCopyCurrentIrpStackLocationToNext](#)

Copies the IRP stack parameters from the current stack location to the stack location of the next-lower driver and allows the current driver to set an I/O completion routine.

[IoSkipCurrentIrpStackLocation](#)

Copies the IRP stack parameters from the current stack location to the stack location of the next-lower driver and does not allow the current driver to set an I/O completion routine.

[IoGetRelatedDeviceObject](#)

Returns a pointer to the device object represented by a given file object.

[IoGetFunctionCodeFromCtlCode](#)

Returns the value of the function field within a given IOCTL_XXX or FSCTL_XXX.

[IoSetCompletionRoutine](#)

Registers a driver-supplied IoCompletion routine for an IRP, so the IoCompletion routine is called when the next-lower-level driver has completed the requested operation in one or more of the following ways: successfully, with an error, or by canceling the IRP.

[IoCallDriver](#)

Sends an IRP to a lower-level driver.

[PoCallDriver](#)

Sends an IRP with major function code IRP_MJ_POWER to the next-lower driver.

[IoMarkIrpPending](#)

Marks a given IRP indicating that STATUS_PENDING was returned because further processing is required by another driver routine or by a lower-level driver.

[IoStartPacket](#)

Calls the driver's StartIo routine with the given IRP for the given device object or inserts the IRP into the device queue if the device is already busy, specifying whether the IRP is cancelable.

[IoAcquireCancelSpinLock](#)

Synchronizes cancelable state transitions for IRPs in a multiprocessor-safe manner.

[IoSetCancelRoutine](#)

Sets or clears the Cancel routine in an IRP. Setting a Cancel routine makes an IRP cancelable.

[IoReleaseCancelSpinLock](#)

Releases the cancel spin lock when the driver has changed the cancelable state of an IRP or releases the cancel spin lock from the driver's Cancel routine.

[IoCancelIrp](#)

Marks an IRP as canceled.

[IoReadPartitionTable](#)

Returns a list of partitions on a disk with a given sector size.

[IoSetPartitionInformation](#)

Sets the partition type and number for a (disk) partition.

[IoWritePartitionTable](#)

Writes partition tables for a disk, given the device object representing the disk, the sector size, and a pointer to a buffer containing the drive geometry.

[IoAllocateErrorLogEntry](#)

Allocates and initializes an error log packet; returns a pointer so that the caller can supply error-log data and call [IoWriteErrorLogEntry](#) with the packet.

[IoWriteErrorLogEntry](#)

Queues a previously allocated and filled-in error log packet to the system error logging thread.

[IoIsErrorUserInduced](#)

Returns a Boolean value indicating whether an I/O request failed due to one of the following conditions: STATUS_IO_TIMEOUT, STATUS_DEVICE_NOT_READY, STATUS_UNRECOGNIZED_MEDIA, STATUS_VERIFY_REQUIRED, STATUS_WRONG_VOLUME, STATUS_MEDIA_WRITE_PROTECTED, or STATUS_NO_MEDIA_IN_DEVICE. If the result is TRUE, a removable-media driver must call [IoSetHardErrorOrVerifyDevice](#) before completing the IRP.

[IoSetHardErrorOrVerifyDevice](#)

Supplies the device object for which the given IRP was failed due to a user-induced error, such as supplying the incorrect media for the requested operation or changing the media before the requested operation was completed. A file system driver uses the associated device object to notify the user, who can then correct the error or retry the operation.

[IoGetDeviceToVerify](#)

Returns a pointer to the device object, representing a removable-media device that is the target of the given thread's I/O request. Useful only to file systems or other highest-level drivers.

[IoRaiseHardError](#)

Notifies the user that the given IRP was failed on the given device object for an optional VPB, so that the user can correct the error or retry the operation.

[IoRaiseInformationalHardError](#)

Notifies the user of an error, providing an I/O error status and an optional string supplying more information.

[ExRaiseStatus](#)

Raises an error status and causes a caller-supplied structured exception handler to be called. Useful only to highest-level drivers that supply exception handlers, in particular to file systems.

[IoStartNextPacket](#)

Dequeues the next IRP for a given device object, specifies whether the IRP is cancelable, and calls the driver's StartIo routine.

[IoStartNextPacketByKey](#)

Dequeues the next IRP for a device object according to a specified sort-key value, specifies whether the IRP is cancelable, and calls the driver's StartIo routine.

[IoCompleteRequest](#)

Completes an I/O request, giving a priority boost to the original caller and returning a given IRP to the I/O system for disposal: either to call any IoCompletion routines supplied by higher-level drivers, or to return status to the original requestor of the operation.

[IoGetCurrentProcess](#)

Returns a pointer to the current process. Useful only to highest-level drivers.

[IoGetInitialStack](#)

Returns the initial base address of the current thread's stack. Useful only to highest-level drivers.

[IoGetRemainingStackSize](#)

Returns the amount of available stack space. Useful only to highest-level drivers.

[IoGetStackLimits](#)

Returns the boundaries of the current thread's stack frame. Useful only to highest-level drivers.

1.2.2 Driver-Allocated IRPs

[IoBuildAsynchronousFsdRequest](#)

Allocates and sets up an IRP that specifies a major function code (IRP_MJ_PNP, IRP_MJ_READ, IRP_MJ_WRITE, IRP_MJ_SHUTDOWN, or IRP_MJ_FLUSH_BUFFERS) with a pointer to:

- ?? The lower driver's device object on which the I/O should occur
- ?? A pointer to a buffer which will contain the data to be read or which contains the data to be written
- ?? The length of the buffer in bytes
- ?? The starting offset on the media
- ?? The I/O status block where the called driver can return status information and the caller's IoCompletion routine can access it.

Returns a pointer to the IRP so the caller can set any necessary minor function code and set up its IoCompletion routine before sending the IRP to the target driver.

[IoBuildSynchronousFsdRequest](#)

Allocates and sets up an IRP specifying a major function code (IRP_MJ_PNP, IRP_MJ_READ, IRP_MJ_WRITE, IRP_MJ_SHUTDOWN, or IRP_MJ_FLUSH_BUFFERS) with a pointer to:

- ?? The lower driver's device object on which the I/O should occur;
- ?? A buffer which will contain the data to be read or which contains the data to be written
- ?? The length of the buffer in bytes,
- ?? The starting offset on the media;
- ?? An event object to be set to the Signaled state when the requested operation completes
- ?? The I/O status block where the called driver can return status information and the caller's IoCompletion routine can access it.

Returns a pointer to the IRP so the caller can set any necessary minor function code and set up its IoCompletion routine before sending the IRP to the target driver.

[IoBuildDeviceIoControlRequest](#)

Allocates and sets up an IRP specifying a major function code (either IRP_MJ_INTERNAL_DEVICE_CONTROL or IRP_MJ_DEVICE_CONTROL) with an optional input or output buffer; a pointer to the lower driver's device object; an event to be set to the Signaled state when the requested operation completes; and an I/O status block to be set by the driver that receives the IRP. Returns a pointer to the IRP so the caller can set the appropriate IOCTL_XXX before sending the IRP to the next-lower-level driver.

[IoRequestPowerIrp](#)

Allocates and initializes an IRP with major function code IRP_MJ_POWER and then sends the IRP to the top-level driver in the device stack for the specified device object.

[IoSizeOffIrp](#)

Returns the size in bytes required for an IRP with a given count of I/O stack locations.

[IoAllocateIrp](#)

Allocates an IRP, given the number of I/O stack locations (optionally, for the caller, but at least one for each driver layered under the caller) and whether to charge quota against the caller. Returns a pointer to an IRP in nonpaged system space if successful; otherwise, returns NULL.

[IoInitializeIrp](#)

Initializes an IRP, given a pointer to an already allocated IRP, its length in bytes, and its number of I/O stack locations.

[IoSetNextIrpStackLocation](#)

Sets the current IRP stack location to the caller's location in an IRP. The stack location must have been allocated by a preceding call to **IoAllocateIrp** that specified a stack-size argument large enough to give the caller its own stack location.

[IoAllocateMdl](#)

Allocates an MDL large enough to map the starting address and length supplied by the caller; optionally associates the MDL with a given IRP.

[IoBuildPartialMdl](#)

Builds an MDL for the specified starting virtual address and length in bytes from a given source MDL. Drivers that split large transfer requests into a number of smaller transfers can call this routine.

[IoFreeMdl](#)

Releases a given MDL allocated by the caller.

[IoMakeAssociatedIrp](#)

Allocates and initializes an IRP to be associated with a master IRP sent to the highest-level driver, allowing the driver to "split" the original request and send associated IRPs on to lower-level drivers or to the device.

[IoSetCompletionRoutine](#)

Registers a driver-supplied IoCompletion routine with a given IRP, so that the IoCompletion routine is called when lower-level drivers have completed the request. The IoCompletion routine lets the caller release the IRP it allocated with **IoAllocateIrp** or **IoBuildAsynchronousFsdRequest**; to release any other resources it allocated to set up an IRP for lower drivers; and to perform any I/O completion processing necessary.

[IoCallDriver](#)

Sends an IRP to a lower-level driver.

[IoFreeIrp](#)

Releases an IRP that was allocated by the caller.

[IoReuseIrp](#)

Reinitializes for reuse an IRP that was previously allocated by **IoAllocateIrp**.

1.2.3 File Objects

[InitializeObjectAttributes](#)

Initializes a parameter of type OBJECT_ATTRIBUTES for a subsequent call to a **ZwCreateXxx** or **ZwOpenXxx** routine.

[ZwCreateFile](#)

Creates or opens a file object representing a physical, logical, or virtual device, a directory, a data file, or a volume.

[ZwQueryInformationFile](#)

Returns information about the state or attributes of an open file.

[IoGetFileObjectGenericMapping](#)

Returns information about the mapping between generic access rights and specific access rights for file objects.

[ZwReadFile](#)

Returns data from an open file.

[ZwSetInformationFile](#)

Changes information about the state or attributes of an open file.

[ZwWriteFile](#)

Transfers data to an open file.

[ZwClose](#)

Releases the handle for an opened object, causing the handle to become invalid and decrementing the reference count of the object handle.

1.3.1 Driver Routines and I/O Objects

[KeSynchronizeExecution](#)

Synchronizes the execution of a driver-supplied SynchCriticalSection routine with that of the ISR associated with a set of interrupt objects, given a pointer to the interrupt objects.

[IoRequestDpc](#)

Queues a driver-supplied DpcForIsr routine to complete interrupt-driven I/O processing at a lower IRQL.

[KeInsertQueueDpc](#)

Queues a DPC to be executed as soon as the IRQL of a processor drops below DISPATCH_LEVEL; returns FALSE if the DPC object is already queued.

[KeRemoveQueueDpc](#)

Removes a given DPC object from the DPC queue; returns FALSE if the object is not in the queue.

[KeSetImportanceDpc](#)

Controls how a particular DPC is queued and, to some degree, how soon the DPC routine is run.

[KeSetTargetProcessorDpc](#)

Controls on which processor a particular DPC subsequently will be queued.

[AllocateAdapterChannel](#)

Connects a device object to an adapter object and calls a driver-supplied AdapterControl routine to carry out an I/O operation through the system DMA controller or a busmaster adapter as soon as the appropriate DMA channel and any necessary map registers are available. (This routine reserves exclusive access to a DMA channel and map registers for the specified device.)

[FreeAdapterChannel](#)

Releases an adapter object, representing a system DMA channel, and optionally releases map registers, if any were allocated.

[FreeMapRegisters](#)

Releases a set of map registers that were saved from a call to **AllocateAdapterChannel**, after the registers have been used by **IoMapTransfer** and the busmaster DMA transfer is complete.

[IoAllocateController](#)

Connects a device object to a controller object and calls a driver-supplied ControllerControl routine to carry out an I/O operation on the device controller as soon as the controller is not busy. (This routine reserves exclusive access to the hardware controller for the specified device.)

[IoFreeController](#)

Releases a controller object, provided that all device operations queued to the controller for the current IRP have completed.

[IoStartTimer](#)

Enables the timer for a given device object and calls the driver-supplied IoTimer routine once per second thereafter.

[IoStopTimer](#)

Disables the timer for a given device object so that the driver-supplied IoTimer routine is not called unless the driver re-enables the timer.

[KeSetTimer](#)

Sets the absolute or relative interval at which a timer object will be set to the Signaled state and optionally supplies a timer DPC to be executed after the interval expires.

[KeSetTimerEx](#)

Sets the absolute or relative interval at which a timer object will be set to the Signaled state, optionally supplies a timer DPC to be executed when the interval expires, and optionally supplies a recurring interval for the timer.

[KeCancelTimer](#)

Cancels a timer object before the interval passed to **KeSetTimer** expires; dequeues a timer DPC before the timer interval, if any was set, expires.

[KeReadStateTimer](#)

Returns whether a given timer object is set to the Signaled state.

[IoStartPacket](#)

Calls the driver's StartIo routine with the given IRP for the given device object or inserts the IRP into the device queue if the device is already busy, specifying whether the IRP is cancelable.

[IoStartNextPacket](#)

Dequeues the next IRP for a given device object, specifying whether the IRP is cancelable, and calls the driver's StartIo routine.

[IoStartNextPacketByKey](#)

Dequeues the next IRP, according to the specified sort-key value, for a given device object. Specifies whether the IRP is cancelable and calls the driver's StartIo routine.

[IoSetCompletionRoutine](#)

Registers a driver-supplied IoCompletion routine with a given IRP, so the IoCompletion routine is called when the next-lower-level driver has completed the requested operation in one or more of the following ways: successfully, with an error, or by cancelling the IRP.

[IoSetCancelRoutine](#)

Sets or clears the Cancel routine in an IRP. Setting a Cancel routine makes an IRP cancelable.

[KeStallExecutionProcessor](#)

Stalls the caller (a device driver) for a given interval on the current processor.

[ExAcquireResourceExclusiveLite](#)

Acquires an initialized resource for exclusive access by the calling thread and optionally waits for the resource to be acquired.

[ExTryToAcquireResourceExclusiveLite](#)

Acquires a given resource for exclusive access immediately or returns FALSE.

[ExAcquireResourceSharedLite](#)

Acquires an initialized resource for shared access by the calling thread and optionally waits for the resource to be acquired.

[ExAcquireSharedStarveExclusive](#)

Acquires a given resource for shared access without waiting for any pending attempts to acquire exclusive access to the same resource.

[ExAcquireSharedWaitForExclusive](#)

Acquires a given resource for shared access, optionally waiting for any pending exclusive waiters to acquire and release the resource first.

[ExReleaseResourceForThreadLite](#)

Releases a given resource that was acquired by the given thread.

[ZwReadFile](#)

Reads data from an open file. If the caller opened the file object with certain parameters, the caller can wait on the file handle for completion of the I/O.

[ZwWriteFile](#)

Writes data to an open file. If the caller opened the file object with certain parameters, the caller can wait on the file handle for completion of the I/O.

1.3.2 IRQL

[KeRaiseIrql](#)

Raises the hardware priority to a given IRQL value, thereby masking off interrupts of equivalent or lower IRQL on the current processor.

[KeRaiseIrqlToDpcLevel](#)

Raises the hardware priority to IRQL DISPATCH_LEVEL, thereby masking off interrupts of equivalent or lower IRQL on the current processor.

[KeLowerIrql](#)

Restores the IRQL on the current processor to its original value.

[KeGetCurrentIrql](#)

Returns the current hardware priority IRQL value.

1.3.3 Spin Locks and Interlocks

[IoAcquireCancelSpinLock](#)

Synchronizes cancelable state transitions for IRPs in a multiprocessor-safe manner.

[IoSetCancelRoutine](#)

Sets or clears the Cancel routine in an IRP during a cancelable state transition. Setting a Cancel routine makes an IRP cancelable.

[IoReleaseCancelSpinLock](#)

Releases the cancel spin lock when the driver has changed the cancelable state of an IRP or releases the cancel spin lock from the driver's Cancel routine.

[KeInitializeSpinLock](#)

Initializes a variable of type KSPIN_LOCK, used to synchronize access to data shared among nonISR routines. An initialized spin lock also is a required parameter to the **ExInterlockedXxx** routines.

[KeAcquireSpinLock](#)

Acquires a spin lock so the caller can synchronize access to shared data safely on multiprocessor platforms.

[KeReleaseSpinLock](#)

Releases a spin lock that was acquired by calling **KeAcquireSpinLock** and restores the original IRQL at which the caller was running.

[KeAcquireSpinLockAtDpcLevel](#)

Acquires a spin lock, provided that the caller is already running at IRQL DISPATCH_LEVEL.

[KeReleaseSpinLockFromDpcLevel](#)

Releases a spin lock that was acquired by calling **KeAcquireSpinLockAtDpcLevel**.

[ExInterlocked..List](#)

Insert and remove IRPs in a driver-managed internal queue, which is protected by an initialized spin lock for which the driver provides the storage.

[Ke..DeviceQueue](#)

Insert and remove IRPs in a driver-allocated and managed internal device queue object, which is protected by a built-in spin lock.

[ExInterlockedAddUlong](#)

Adds a value to a variable of type ULONG as an atomic operation, using a spin lock to ensure multiprocessor-safe access to the variable; returns the value of the variable before the call occurred.

[ExInterlockedAddLargeInteger](#)

Adds a value to a variable of type LARGE_INTEGER as an atomic operation, using a spin lock to ensure multiprocessor-safe access to the variable; returns the value of the variable before the call occurred.

[InterlockedIncrement](#)

Increments a variable of type LONG as an atomic operation. The sign of the return value is the sign of the result of the operation.

[InterlockedDecrement](#)

Decrements a variable of type LONG as an atomic operation. The sign of the return value is the sign of the result of the operation.

[InterlockedExchange](#)

Sets a variable of type LONG to a specified value as an atomic operation; returns the value of the variable before the call occurred.

[InterlockedExchangeAdd](#)

Adds a value to a given integer variable as an atomic operation; returns the value of the variable before the call occurred.

[InterlockedCompareExchange](#)

Compares the values referenced by two pointers. If the values are equal, resets one of the values to a caller-supplied value in an atomic operation.

[InterlockedCompareExchangePointer](#)

Compares the pointers referenced by two pointers. If the pointer values are equal, resets one of the values to a caller-supplied value in an atomic operation.

[ExInterlockedCompareExchange64](#)

Compares one integer variable to another and, if they are equal, resets the first variable to a caller-supplied ULONGLONG-type value as an atomic operation.

[KeGetCurrentProcessorNumber](#)

Returns the current processor number when debugging spin lock usage in SMP machines.

1.3.4 Timers

[IoInitializeTimer](#)

Associates a timer with the given device object and registers a driver-supplied IoTimer routine for the device object.

[IoStartTimer](#)

Enables the timer for a given device object and calls the driver-supplied IoTimer routine once every second.

[IoStopTimer](#)

Disables the timer for a given device object so the driver-supplied IoTimer routine is not called unless the driver re-enables the timer.

[KeInitializeDpc](#)

Initializes a DPC object and sets up a driver-supplied CustomTimerDpc routine that can be called with a given context.

[KeInitializeTimer](#)

Initializes a notification timer object to the Not-Signaled state.

[KeInitializeTimerEx](#)

Initializes a notification or synchronization timer object to the Not-Signaled state.

[KeSetTimer](#)

Sets the absolute or relative interval at which a timer object will be set to the Signaled state; optionally supplies a timer DPC to be executed when the interval expires.

[KeSetTimerEx](#)

Sets the absolute or relative interval at which a timer object will be set to the Signaled state; optionally supplies a timer DPC to be executed when the interval expires; and optionally supplies a recurring interval for the timer.

[KeCancelTimer](#)

Cancel a timer object before the interval passed to **KeSetTimer** expires; dequeues a timer DPC before the timer interval, if any was set, expires.

[KeReadStateTimer](#)

Returns TRUE if a given timer object is set to the Signaled state.

[KeQuerySystemTime](#)

Returns the current system time.

[KeQueryTickCount](#)

Returns the number of interval-timer interrupts that have occurred since the system was booted.

[KeQueryTimeIncrement](#)

Returns the number of 100-nanosecond units that are added to the system time at each interval-timer interrupt.

[KeQueryInterruptTime](#)

Returns the current value of the system interrupt-time count in 100-nanosecond units.

[KeQueryPerformanceCounter](#)

Returns the system performance counter value in hertz.

1.3.5 Driver Threads, Dispatcher Objects, and Resources

[KeDelayExecutionThread](#)

Puts the current thread into an alertable or nonalertable wait state for a given interval.

[ExInitializeResourceLite](#)

Initializes a resource, for which the caller provides the storage, to be used for synchronization by a set of threads (shared readers, exclusive writers).

[ExReinitializeResourceLite](#)

Reinitializes an existing resource variable.

[ExAcquireResourceExclusiveLite](#)

Acquires an initialized resource for exclusive access by the calling thread and optionally waits for the resource to be acquired.

[ExTryToAcquireResourceExclusiveLite](#)

Either acquires a given resource for exclusive access immediately, or returns FALSE.

[ExAcquireResourceSharedLite](#)

Acquires an initialized resource for shared access by the calling thread and optionally waits for the resource to be acquired.

[ExAcquireSharedStarveExclusive](#)

Acquires a given resource for shared access without waiting for any pending attempts to acquire exclusive access to the same resource.

[ExAcquireSharedWaitForExclusive](#)

Acquires a given resource for shared access, optionally waiting for any pending exclusive waiters to acquire and release the resource first.

[ExIsResourceAcquiredExclusiveLite](#)

Returns whether the calling thread has exclusive access to a given resource.

[ExIsResourceAcquiredSharedLite](#)

Returns how many times the calling thread has acquired shared access to a given resource.

[ExGetExclusiveWaiterCount](#)

Returns the number of threads currently waiting to acquire a given resource for exclusive access.

[ExGetSharedWaiterCount](#)

Returns the number of threads currently waiting to acquire a given resource for shared access.

[ExConvertExclusiveToSharedLite](#)

Converts a given resource from acquired for exclusive access to acquired for shared access.

[ExGetCurrentResourceThread](#)

Returns the thread ID of the current thread.

[ExReleaseResourceForThreadLite](#)

Releases a given resource that was acquired by the given thread.

[ExDeleteResourceLite](#)

Deletes a caller-initialized resource from the system's resource list.

[IoQueueWorkItem](#)

Queues an initialized work queue item so the driver-supplied routine will be called when a system worker thread is given control.

[KeSetTimer](#)

Sets the absolute or relative interval at which a timer object will be set to the Signaled state, and optionally supplies a timer DPC to be executed when the interval expires.

[KeSetTimerEx](#)

Sets the absolute or relative interval at which a timer object will be set to the Signaled state. Optionally supplies a timer DPC to be executed when the interval expires and a recurring interval for the timer.

[KeCancelTimer](#)

Cancel a timer object before the interval passed to **KeSetTimer** expires. Dequeues a timer DPC before the timer interval (if any) expires.

[KeReadStateTimer](#)

Returns TRUE if a given timer object is set to the Signaled state.

[KeSetEvent](#)

Returns the previous state of a given event object and sets the event (if not already Signaled) to the Signaled state.

[KeClearEvent](#)

Resets an event to the Not-Signaled state.

[KeResetEvent](#)

Returns the previous state of an event object and resets the event to the Not-Signaled state.

[KeReadStateEvent](#)

Returns the current state (nonzero for Signaled or zero for Not-Signaled) of a given event object.

[ExAcquireFastMutex](#)

Acquires an initialized fast mutex, possibly after putting the caller into a wait state until it is acquired, and gives the calling thread ownership with APCs disabled.

[ExTryToAcquireFastMutex](#)

Acquires the given fast mutex immediately for the caller with APCs disabled, or returns FALSE.

[ExReleaseFastMutex](#)

Releases ownership of a fast mutex that was acquired with **ExAcquireFastMutex** or **ExTryToAcquireFastMutex**.

[ExAcquireFastMutexUnsafe](#)

Acquires an initialized fast mutex, possibly after putting the caller into a wait state until it is acquired.

[ExReleaseFastMutexUnsafe](#)

Releases ownership of a fast mutex that was acquired with **ExAcquireFastMutexUnsafe**.

[KeReleaseMutex](#)

Releases a given mutex object, specifying whether the caller will call one of the **KeWaitXxx** routines as soon as **KeReleaseMutex** returns the previous value of the mutex state (a zero for Signaled; otherwise, Not-Signaled).

[KeReadStateMutex](#)

Returns the current state (one for Signaled or any other value for Not-Signaled) of a given mutex object.

[KeReleaseSemaphore](#)

Releases a given semaphore object. Supplies a (run-time) priority boost for waiting threads if the release sets the semaphore to the Signaled state. Augments the semaphore count by a given value and specifies whether the caller will call one of the **KeWaitXxx** routines as soon as

KeReleaseSemaphore returns.

[KeReadStateSemaphore](#)

Returns the current state (zero for Not-Signaled or a positive value for Signaled) of a given semaphore object.

[KeWaitForSingleObject](#)

Puts the current thread into an alertable or nonalertable wait state until a given dispatcher object is set to the Signaled state or (optionally) until the wait times out.

[KeWaitForMutexObject](#)

Puts the current thread into an alertable or nonalertable wait state until a given mutex is set to the Signaled state or (optionally) until the wait times out.

[KeWaitForMultipleObjects](#)

Puts the current thread into an alertable or nonalertable wait state until any one or all of a number of dispatcher objects are set to the Signaled state or (optionally) until the wait times out.

[PsGetCurrentThread](#)

Returns a handle for the current thread.

[KeGetCurrentThread](#)

Returns a pointer to the opaque thread object that represents the current thread.

[IoGetCurrentProcess](#)

Returns a handle for the process of the current thread.

[PsGetCurrentProcess](#)

Returns a pointer to the process of the current thread.

[KeEnterCriticalRegion](#)

Temporarily disables the delivery of normal kernel APCs while a highest-level driver is running in the context of the user-mode thread that requested the current I/O operation. Special kernel-mode APCs are still delivered.

[KeLeaveCriticalRegion](#)

Re-enables, as soon as possible, the delivery of normal kernel-mode APCs that were disabled by a preceding call to **KeEnterCriticalRegion**.

[KeSaveFloatingPointState](#)

Saves the current thread's nonvolatile floating-point context so that the caller can carry out its own floating-point operations.

[KeRestoreFloatingPointState](#)

Restores the previous nonvolatile floating-point context that was saved with

KeSaveFloatingPointState.

[ZwSetInformationThread](#)

Sets the priority of a given thread for which the caller has a handle.

[PsGetCurrentProcessId](#)

Returns the system-assigned identifier of the current process.

[PsGetCurrentThreadId](#)

Returns the system-assigned identifier of the current thread.

[PsSetCreateProcessNotifyRoutine](#)

Registers a highest level driver's callback that is subsequently notified whenever a new process is created or existing process deleted.

[PsSetCreateThreadNotifyRoutine](#)

Registers a highest level driver's callback that is subsequently notified whenever a new thread is created or an existing thread is deleted.

[PsSetLoadImageNotifyRoutine](#)

Registers a callback routine for a highest level system-profiling driver. The callback is subsequently notified whenever a new image is loaded for execution.

1.4.1 Buffer Management

[ExAllocatePool](#)

Allocates (optionally cache-aligned) memory from paged or nonpaged system space.

[ExAllocatePoolWithQuota](#)

Allocates pool memory charging quota against the original requestor of the I/O operation. (Only highest-level drivers can call this routine.)

[ExAllocatePoolWithTag](#)

Allocates (optionally cache-aligned) tagged memory from paged or nonpaged system space. The caller-supplied tag is put into any crash dump of memory that occurs.

[ExAllocatePoolWithQuotaTag](#)

Allocates tagged pool memory charging quota against the original requestor of the I/O operation. The caller-supplied tag is put into any crash dump of memory that occurs. Only highest-level drivers can call this routine.

[ExFreePool](#)

Releases memory to paged or nonpaged system space.

[ExInitializeNPagedLookasideList](#)

Initializes a lookaside list of nonpaged memory. After successful initialization of the list, fixed-size blocks can be allocated from, and freed to, the lookaside list.

[ExAllocateFromNPagedLookasideList](#)

Removes the first entry from the specified lookaside list in nonpaged memory. If the lookaside list is empty, allocates an entry from nonpaged pool.

[ExFreeToNPagedLookasideList](#)

Returns an entry to the specified lookaside list in nonpaged memory. If the list has reached its maximum size, returns the entry to nonpaged pool.

[ExDeleteNPagedLookasideList](#)

Deletes a nonpaged lookaside list.

[ExInitializePagedLookasideList](#)

Initializes a lookaside list of paged memory. After successful initialization of the list, fixed-size blocks can be allocated from and freed to the lookaside list.

[ExAllocateFromPagedLookasideList](#)

Removes the first entry from the specified lookaside list in paged memory. If the lookaside list is empty, allocates an entry from paged pool.

[ExFreeToPagedLookasideList](#)

Returns an entry to the specified lookaside list in paged memory. If the list has reached its maximum size, returns the entry to paged pool.

[ExDeletePagedLookasideList](#)

Deletes a paged lookaside list.

[MmQuerySystemSize](#)

Returns an estimate (small, medium, or large) of the amount of memory available on the current platform.

[MmIsThisAnNtAsSystem](#)

Returns TRUE if the machine is running as a Windows NT/Windows 2000 server. If this routine returns TRUE, the caller is likely to require more resources to process I/O requests, and the machine is a server so it is likely to have more resources available.

1.4.2 Long-Term Internal Driver Buffers

[MmAllocateContiguousMemory](#)

Allocates a range of physically contiguous, cache-aligned memory in nonpaged pool.

[MmFreeContiguousMemory](#)

Releases a range of physically contiguous memory when the driver unloads.

[MmAllocateNonCachedMemory](#)

Allocates a virtual address range of noncached and cache-aligned memory in nonpaged system space (pool).

[MmFreeNonCachedMemory](#)

Releases a virtual address range of noncached memory in nonpaged system space when the driver unloads.

[AllocateCommonBuffer](#)

Allocates and maps a logically contiguous region of memory that is simultaneously accessible both from the processor and from a device, given access to an adapter object, the requested length of the

memory region to allocate, and access to variables where the starting logical and virtual addresses of the allocated region are returned. Returns TRUE if the requested length was allocated. Can be used for continuous busmaster DMA or for system DMA using the autoinitialize mode of a system DMA controller.

FreeCommonBuffer

Releases an allocated common buffer and unmaps it, given access to the adapter object, the length, and the starting logical and virtual addresses of the region to be freed when the driver unloads. Arguments must match those passed in the call to **AllocateCommonBuffer**.

1.4.3 Buffered Data and Buffer Initialization

RtlCompareMemory

Compares data, given pointers to caller-supplied buffers and the length in bytes for the comparison. Returns the number of bytes that are equal.

RtlCopyMemory

Copies the data from one caller-supplied buffer to another, given pointers to both buffers and the length in bytes to be copied.

RtlMoveMemory

Copies the data from one caller-supplied memory range to another, given pointers to the base of both ranges and the length in bytes to be copied.

RtlFillMemory

Fills a caller-supplied buffer with the specified UCHAR value, given a pointer to the buffer and the length in bytes to be filled.

RtlZeroMemory

Fills a buffer with zeros, given a pointer to the caller-supplied buffer and the length in bytes to be filled.

RtlStoreUshort

Stores a USHORT value at a given address, avoiding alignment faults.

RtlRetrieveUshort

Retrieves a USHORT value at a given address, avoiding alignment faults, and stores the value at a given address, that is assumed to be aligned.

RtlStoreUlong

Stores a ULONG value at a given address, avoiding alignment faults.

RtlRetrieveUlong

Retrieves a ULONG value at a given address, avoiding alignment faults, and stores the value at a given address, that is assumed to be aligned.

1.4.4 Address Mappings and MDLs

MmGetPhysicalAddress

Returns the corresponding physical address for a given valid virtual address.

MmGetMdlVirtualAddress

Returns a (possibly invalid) virtual address for a buffer described by a given MDL; the returned address, used as an index to a physical address entry in the MDL, can be input to **MapTransfer** for drivers that use DMA.

MmGetSystemAddressForMdl

Returns a system-space virtual address that maps the physical pages described by a given MDL for drivers whose devices must use PIO. If no virtual address exists, one is assigned. If none are available, a bug check is issued. Windows 2000 drivers should use

MmGetSystemAddressForMdlSafe instead.

MmGetSystemAddressForMdlSafe

Returns a system-space virtual address that maps the physical pages described by a given MDL for drivers whose devices must use PIO. If no virtual address exists, one is assigned.

MmBuildMdlForNonPagedPool

Fills in the corresponding physical addresses of a given MDL that specifies a range of virtual addresses in nonpaged pool.

MmGetMdlByteCount

Returns the length in bytes of the buffer mapped by a given MDL.

MmGetMdlByteOffset

Returns the byte offset within a page of the buffer described by a given MDL.

MmMapLockedPages

Maps already locked physical pages, described by a given MDL, to a returned virtual address range.

MmUnmapLockedPages

Releases a mapping set up by **MmMapLockedPages**.

MmIsAddressValid

Returns whether a page fault will occur if a read or write operation is done at the given virtual address.

MmSizeOfMdl

Returns the number of bytes required for an MDL describing the buffer specified by the given virtual address and length in bytes.

MmCreateMdl

Allocates and initializes an MDL describing a buffer specified by the given virtual address and length in bytes; returns a pointer to the MDL.

MmPrepareMdlForReuse

Reinitializes a caller-created MDL for reuse.

MmInitializeMdl

Initializes a caller-created MDL to describe a buffer specified by the given virtual address and length in bytes.

MmMapIoSpace

Maps a physical address range to a cached or noncached virtual address range in nonpaged system space.

MmUnmapIoSpace

Unmaps a virtual address range from a physical address range.

MmProbeAndLockPages

Probes the pages specified in an MDL for a particular kind of access, makes the pages resident, and locks them in memory; returns the MDL updated with corresponding physical addresses. (Usually, only highest-level drivers call this routine.)

MmUnlockPages

Unlocks the previously probed and locked pages specified in an MDL.

IoAllocateMdl

Allocates an MDL large enough to map the starting address and length supplied by the caller; optionally associates the MDL with a given IRP.

IoBuildPartialMdl

Builds an MDL for the specified starting virtual address and length in bytes from a given source MDL. Drivers that split large transfer requests into a number of smaller transfers can call this routine.

IoFreeMdl

Releases a given MDL allocated by the caller.

1.4.5 Buffer and MDL Management

ADDRESS AND SIZE TO SPAN PAGES

Returns the number of pages required to contain a given virtual address and size in bytes.

BYTE OFFSET

Returns the byte offset of a given virtual address within the page.

BYTES TO PAGES

Returns the number of pages necessary to contain a given number of bytes.

PAGE ALIGN

Returns the page-aligned virtual address for the page that contains a given virtual address.

ROUND TO PAGES

Rounds a given size in bytes up to a page-size multiple.

1.4.6 Device Memory Access

For the following, `XXX_REGISTER_XXX` indicates device memory that is mapped onto system space, while `XXX_PORT_XXX` indicates device memory in I/O space.

[READ_PORT_UCHAR](#)

Reads a UCHAR value from the given I/O port address.

[READ_PORT_USHORT](#)

Reads a USHORT value from the given I/O port address.

[READ_PORT_ULONG](#)

Reads a ULONG value from the given I/O port address.

[READ_PORT_BUFFER_UCHAR](#)

Reads a given count of UCHAR values from the given I/O port into a given buffer.

[READ_PORT_BUFFER_USHORT](#)

Reads a given count of USHORT values from the given I/O port into a given buffer.

[READ_PORT_BUFFER_ULONG](#)

Reads a given count of ULONG values from the given I/O port into a given buffer.

[WRITE_PORT_UCHAR](#)

Writes a given UCHAR value to the given I/O port address.

[WRITE_PORT_USHORT](#)

Writes a given USHORT value to the given I/O port address.

[WRITE_PORT_ULONG](#)

Writes a given ULONG value to the given I/O port address.

[WRITE_PORT_BUFFER_UCHAR](#)

Writes a given count of UCHAR values from a given buffer to the given I/O port.

[WRITE_PORT_BUFFER_USHORT](#)

Writes a given count of USHORT values from a given buffer to the given I/O port.

[WRITE_PORT_BUFFER_ULONG](#)

Writes a given count of ULONG values from a given buffer to the given I/O port.

[READ_REGISTER_UCHAR](#)

Reads a UCHAR value from the given register address in memory space.

[READ_REGISTER_USHORT](#)

Reads a USHORT value from the given register address in memory space.

[READ_REGISTER_ULONG](#)

Reads a ULONG value from the given register address in memory space.

[READ_REGISTER_BUFFER_UCHAR](#)

Reads a given count of UCHAR values from the given register address into the given buffer.

[READ_REGISTER_BUFFER_USHORT](#)

Reads a given count of USHORT values from the given register address into the given buffer.

[READ_REGISTER_BUFFER_ULONG](#)

Reads a given count of ULONG values from the given register address into the given buffer.

[WRITE_REGISTER_UCHAR](#)

Writes a given UCHAR value to the given register address in memory space.

[WRITE_REGISTER_USHORT](#)

Writes a given USHORT value to the given register address in memory space.

[WRITE_REGISTER_ULONG](#)

Writes a given ULONG value to the given register address in memory space.

[WRITE_REGISTER_BUFFER_UCHAR](#)

Writes a given count of UCHAR values from a given buffer to the given register address.

[WRITE_REGISTER_BUFFER_USHORT](#)

Writes a given count of USHORT values from a given buffer to the given register address.

[WRITE_REGISTER_BUFFER_ULONG](#)

Writes a given count of ULONG values from a given buffer to the given register address.

1.4.7 Pageable Drivers

[MmLockPagableCodeSection](#)

Locks a set of driver routines marked with a special compiler directive into system space.

[MmLockPagableDataSection](#)

Locks data marked with a special compiler directive into system space, when that data is accessed infrequently, predictably, and at an IRQL less than `DISPATCH_LEVEL`.

[MmLockPagableSectionByHandle](#)

Locks a pageable section into system memory using a handle returned from [MmLockPagableCodeSection](#) or [MmLockPagableDataSection](#).

[MmUnlockPagableImageSection](#)

Releases a section that was previously locked into system space when the driver is no longer processing IRPs, or when the contents of the section is no longer required.

[MmPageEntireDriver](#)

Lets a driver page all of its code and data regardless of the attributes of the various sections in the driver's image.

[MmResetDriverPaging](#)

Resets a driver's pageable status to that specified by the sections which make up the driver's image.

1.4.8 Sections and Views

[InitializeObjectAttributes](#)

Sets up a parameter of type `OBJECT_ATTRIBUTES` for a subsequent call to a `ZwCreate Xxx` or `ZwOpen Xxx` routine.

[ZwOpenSection](#)

Obtains a handle for an existing section, provided that the requested access can be allowed.

[ZwMapViewOfSection](#)

Maps a view of an open section into the virtual address space of a process. Returns an offset into the section (base of the mapped view) and the size mapped.

[ZwUnMapViewOfSection](#)

Releases a mapped view in the virtual address space of a process.

1.5 DMA

[IoGetDmaAdapter](#)

Returns a pointer to an adapter object that represents either the DMA channel to which the driver's device is connected or the driver's busmaster adapter. Also returns the maximum number of map registers the driver can specify for each DMA transfer.

[MmGetMdlVirtualAddress](#)

Returns the base virtual address of a buffer described by a given MDL. The returned address, used as an index to a physical address entry in the MDL, can be input to **MapTransfer**.

[MmGetSystemAddressForMdlSafe](#)

Returns a nonpaged system-space virtual address for the base of the memory area described by an MDL. It maps the physical pages described by the MDL into system space, if they are not already mapped to system space. WDM drivers should use [MmGetSystemAddressForMdl](#) instead.

[ADDRESS AND SIZE TO SPAN PAGES](#)

Returns the number of pages spanned by the virtual range defined by a virtual address and a length in bytes. A driver can use this macro to determine whether a transfer request must be split into partial transfers.

[AllocateAdapterChannel](#)

Reserves exclusive access to a DMA channel and map registers for a device. When the channel and registers are available, this routine calls a driver-supplied `AdapterControl` routine to carry out an I/O operation through either the system DMA controller or a busmaster adapter.

[AllocateCommonBuffer](#)

Allocates and maps a logically contiguous region of memory that is simultaneously accessible from both the processor and a device. This routine returns `TRUE` if the requested length was allocated.

[FlushAdapterBuffers](#)

Forces any data remaining in either a busmaster adapter's or the system DMA controller's internal buffers to be written into memory or to the device.

[FreeAdapterChannel](#)

Releases an adapter object that represents a system DMA channel, and optionally releases any allocated map registers.

[FreeCommonBuffer](#)

Releases and unmaps a previously allocated common buffer. Arguments must match those passed in an earlier call to **AllocateCommonBuffer**.

[FreeMapRegisters](#)

Releases a set of map registers that were saved from a call to **AllocateAdapterChannel**. A driver calls this routine after using the registers in one or more calls to **MapTransfer**, flushing the cache by calling **FlushAdapterBuffers**, and completing the busmaster DMA transfer.

[GetDmaAlignment](#)

Returns the buffer alignment requirements for a DMA controller or device.

[GetScatterGatherList](#)

Prepares the system for scatter/gather DMA for a device and calls a driver-supplied routine to carry out the I/O operation. For devices that support scatter/gather DMA, this routine combines the functionality of **AllocateAdapterChannel** and **MapTransfer**.

[KeFlushIoBuffers](#)

Flushes the memory region described by an MDL from all processors' caches into memory.

[MapTransfer](#)

Sets up map registers for an adapter object previously allocated by **AllocateAdapterChannel** to map a transfer from a locked-down buffer. Returns the logical address of the mapped region and, for busmaster devices that support scatter/gather, the number of bytes mapped.

[PutDmaAdapter](#)

Frees an adapter object previously allocated by **IoGetDmaAdapter**.

[PutScatterGatherList](#)

Frees map registers and scatter/gather list previously allocated by **GetScatterGatherList**.

[ReadDmaCounter](#)

Returns the number of bytes yet to be transferred during the current system DMA operation (in autoinitialize mode).

1.6 PIO

[MmProbeAndLockPages](#)

Probes the pages specified in an MDL for a particular kind of access, makes the pages resident, and locks them in memory; returns the MDL updated with corresponding physical addresses.

[MmGetSystemAddressForMdlSafe](#)

Returns a system-space virtual address that maps the physical pages described by a given MDL for drivers whose devices must use PIO. If no virtual address exists, one is assigned. Windows 98 drivers should use **MmGetSystemAddressForMdl** instead.

[KeFlushIoBuffers](#)

Flushes the memory region described by a given MDL from all processors' caches into memory.

[MmUnlockPages](#)

Unlocks the previously probed and locked pages specified in an MDL.

[MmMapIoSpace](#)

Maps a physical address range to a cached or noncached virtual address range in nonpaged system space.

[MmUnmapIoSpace](#)

Unmaps a virtual address range from a physical address range.

1.7 Driver-Managed Queues

[KeInitializeSpinLock](#)

Initializes a variable of type **KSPIN_LOCK**. An initialized spin lock is a required parameter to the **Ex...InterlockedList** routines.

[InitializeListHead](#)

Sets up a queue header for a driver's internal queue, given a pointer to driver-supplied storage for the queue header and queue. An initialized queue header is a required parameter to the **ExInterlockedInsert/Remove..List** routines.

[ExInterlockedInsertTailList](#)

Inserts an entry at the tail of a doubly-linked list, using a spin lock to ensure multiprocessor-safe access to the list and atomic modification of the list links.

[ExInterlockedInsertHeadList](#)

Inserts an entry at the head of a doubly-linked list, using a spin lock to ensure multiprocessor-safe access to the list and atomic modification of the links in the list.

[ExInterlockedRemoveHeadList](#)

Removes an entry from the head of a doubly-linked list, using a spin lock to ensure multiprocessor-safe access to the list and atomic modification of the links in the list.

[ExInterlockedPopEntryList](#)

Removes an entry from the head of a singly-linked list as an atomic operation, using a spin lock to ensure multiprocessor-safe access to the list.

[ExInterlockedPushEntryList](#)

Inserts an entry at the head of a singly-linked list as an atomic operation, using a spin lock to ensure multiprocessor-safe access to the list.

[IsListEmpty](#)

Returns TRUE if a queue is empty. (This type of doubly-linked list is not protected by a spin lock, unless the caller explicitly manages synchronization to queued entries with an initialized spin lock for which the caller supplies the storage.)

[InsertTailList](#)

Queues an entry at the end of the list.

[InsertHeadList](#)

Queues an entry at the head of the list.

[RemoveHeadList](#)

Dequeues an entry at the head of the list.

[RemoveTailList](#)

Dequeues an entry at the end of the list.

[RemoveEntryList](#)

Returns whether a given entry is in the given list and dequeues the entry if it is.

[PushEntryList](#)

Inserts an entry into the queue. (This type of singly-linked list is not protected by a spin lock, unless the caller explicitly manages synchronization to queued entries with an initialized spin lock for which the caller supplies the storage.)

[PopEntryList](#)

Removes an entry from the queue.

[ExInterlockedPopEntrySList](#)

Removes an entry from the head of a sequenced, singly-linked list that was set up with **ExInitializeSListHead**.

[ExInterlockedPushEntrySList](#)

Queues an entry at the head of a sequenced, singly-linked list that was set up with **ExInitializeSListHead**.

[ExQueryDepthSList](#)

Returns the number of entries currently queued in a sequenced, singly-linked list.

[ExInitializeNPagedLookasideList](#)

Sets up a lookaside list, protected by a system-supplied spin lock, in nonpaged pool from which the driver can allocate and free blocks of a fixed size.

[KeInitializeDeviceQueue](#)

Initializes a device queue object to a not-busy state, setting up an associated spin lock for multiprocessor-safe access to device queue entries.

[KeInsertDeviceQueue](#)

Acquires the device queue spin lock and queues an entry to a device driver if the device queue is not empty; otherwise, inserts the entry at the tail of the device queue.

[KeInsertByKeyDeviceQueue](#)

Acquires the device queue spin lock and queues an entry to a device driver if the device queue is not empty; otherwise, inserts the entry into the queue according to the given sort-key value.

[KeRemoveDeviceQueue](#)

Removes an entry from the head of a given device queue.

[KeRemoveByKeyDeviceQueue](#)

Removes an entry, selected according to the specified sort -key value, from the given device queue.

[KeRemoveEntryDeviceQueue](#)

Determines whether a given entry is in the given device queue and, if so, dequeues the entry.

1.8 Driver System Threads

[PsCreateSystemThread](#)

Creates a kernel-mode thread associated with a given process object or with the default system process. Returns a handle for the thread.

[PsTerminateSystemThread](#)

Terminates the current thread and satisfies as many waits as possible for the current thread object.

[PsGetCurrentThread](#)

Returns a handle for the current thread.

[KeGetCurrentThread](#)

Returns a pointer to the opaque thread object that represents the current thread.

[KeQueryPriorityThread](#)

Returns the current priority of a given thread.

[KeSetBasePriorityThread](#)

Sets up the run-time priority, relative to the system process, for a driver-created thread.

[KeSetPriorityThread](#)

Sets up the run-time priority for a driver-created thread with a real-time priority attribute.

[KeDelayExecutionThread](#)

Puts the current thread into an alertable or nonalertable wait state for a given interval.

[IoQueueWorkItem](#)

Queues an initialized work queue item so the driver-supplied routine will be called when a system worker thread is given control.

[ZwSetInformationThread](#)

Sets the priority of a given thread for which the caller has a handle.

1.9 Strings

[RtlInitString](#)

Initializes the specified string in a buffer.

[RtlInitAnsiString](#)

Initializes the specified ANSI string in a buffer.

[RtlInitUnicodeString](#)

Initializes the specified Unicode string in a buffer.

[RtlAnsiStringToUnicodeSize](#)

Returns the size in bytes required to hold a Unicode version of a given buffered ANSI string.

[RtlAnsiStringToUnicodeString](#)

Converts a buffered ANSI string to a Unicode string, given a pointer to the source-string buffer and the address of caller-supplied storage for a pointer to the destination buffer. (This routine allocates a destination buffer if the caller does not supply the storage.) You can also use the string manipulation routines provided by a compiler to convert ANSI strings to Unicode.

[RtlFreeUnicodeString](#)

Releases a buffer containing a Unicode string, given a pointer to the buffer returned by [RtlAnsiStringToUnicodeString](#).

[RtlUnicodeStringToAnsiString](#)

Converts a buffered Unicode string to an ANSI string, given a pointer to the source-string buffer and the address of caller-supplied storage for a pointer to the destination buffer. (This routine allocates a destination buffer if the caller does not supply the storage.)

[RtlFreeAnsiString](#)

Releases a buffer containing an ANSI string, given a pointer to the buffer returned by [RtlUnicodeStringToAnsiString](#).

[RtlAppendUnicodeStringToString](#)

Concatenates a copy of a buffered Unicode string with a buffered Unicode string, given pointers to both buffers.

[RtlAppendUnicodeToString](#)

Concatenates a given input string with a buffered Unicode string, given a pointer to the buffer.

[RtlCopyString](#)

Copies the source string to the destination, given pointers to both buffers, or sets the length of the destination string (but not the length of the destination buffer) to zero if the optional pointer to the source-string buffer is NULL.

[RtlCopyUnicodeString](#)

Copies the source string to the destination, given pointers to both buffers, or sets the length of the destination string (but not the length of the destination buffer) to zero if the optional pointer to the source-string buffer is NULL.

[RtlEqualString](#)

Returns TRUE if the given ANSI alphabetic strings are equivalent.

[RtlEqualUnicodeString](#)

Returns TRUE if the given buffered strings are equivalent.

[RtlCompareString](#)

Compares two buffered, single-byte character strings and returns a signed value indicating whether they are equivalent or which is greater.

[RtlCompareUnicodeString](#)

Compares two buffered Unicode strings and returns a signed value indicating whether they are equivalent or which is greater.

[RtlUpperString](#)

Converts a copy of a buffered string to uppercase and stores the copy in a destination buffer.

[RtlUppcaseUnicodeString](#)

Converts a copy of a buffered Unicode string to uppercase and stores the copy in a destination buffer.

[RtlIntegerToUnicodeString](#)

Converts an unsigned integer value in the specified base to one or more Unicode characters in a buffer.

[RtlUnicodeStringToInteger](#)

[RtlUnicodeStringToInteger](#) converts the Unicode string representation of an integer into its integer equivalent.

1.10 Data Conversions

[InterlockedExchange](#)

Sets a variable of type LONG to a given value as an atomic operation; returns the original value of the variable.

[RtlConvertLongToLargeInteger](#)

Converts a given LONG value to a LARGE_INTEGER value.

[RtlConvertUlongToLargeInteger](#)

Converts a given ULONG value to a LARGE_INTEGER value.

[RtlTimeFieldsToTime](#)

Converts information in a TIME_FIELDS structure to system time.

[RtlTimeToTimeFields](#)

Converts a system time value into a buffered TIME_FIELDS value.

[ExSystemTimeToLocalTime](#)

Adds the time-zone bias for the current locale to GMT system time, converting it to local time.

[ExLocalTimeToSystemTime](#)

Subtracts the time-zone bias from the local time, converting it to GMT system time.

[RtlAnsiStringToUnicodeString](#)

Converts a buffered ANSI string to a Unicode string, given a pointer to the source-string buffer and the address of caller-supplied storage for a pointer to the destination buffer. (This routine allocates a destination buffer if the caller does not supply the storage.)

[RtlUnicodeStringToAnsiString](#)

Converts a buffered Unicode string to an ANSI string, given a pointer to the source-string buffer and the address of caller-supplied storage for a pointer to the destination buffer. (This routine allocates a destination buffer if the caller does not supply the storage.)

[RtlUpperString](#)

Converts a copy of a buffered string to uppercase and stores the copy in a destination buffer.

[RtlUppcaseUnicodeString](#)

Converts a copy of a buffered Unicode string to uppercase and stores the copy in a destination buffer.

[RtlCharToInteger](#)

Converts a single-byte character value into an integer in the specified base.

[RtlIntegerToUnicodeString](#)

Converts an unsigned integer value in the specified base to one or more Unicode characters in the given buffer.

[RtlUnicodeStringToInteger](#)

Converts a Unicode string representation of an integer into its integer equivalent.

1.11 Access to Driver-Managed Objects

[ExCreateCallback](#)

Creates or opens a callback object.

[ExNotifyCallback](#)

Calls the callback routines registered with a previously created or opened callback object.

[ExRegisterCallback](#)

Registers a callback routine with a previously created or opened callback object, so that the caller can be notified when conditions defined for the callback occur.

[ExUnregisterCallback](#)

Cancels the registration of a callback routine with a callback object.

[IoRegisterDeviceInterface](#)

Registers device functionality (a device interface) that a driver can enable for use by applications or other system components.

[IoSetDeviceInterfaceState](#)

Enables or disables a previously registered device interface. Applications and other system components can open only interfaces that are enabled.

[IoGetDeviceInterfaceAlias](#)

Returns the alias device interface of the specified interface class, if the alias exists. Device interfaces are considered aliases if they are exposed by the same underlying device and have identical interface reference strings, but are of different interface classes.

[IoGetDeviceInterfaces](#)

Returns a list of device interfaces of a particular device interface class (such as all devices on the system that support a HID interface).

[IoGetFileObjectGenericMapping](#)

Returns information about the mapping between generic access rights and specific access rights for file objects.

[IoSetShareAccess](#)

Sets the access allowed to a given file object representing a device. (Only highest-level drivers can call this routine.)

[IoCheckShareAccess](#)

Checks whether a request to open a file object specifies a desired access that is compatible with the current shared access permissions for the open file object. (Only highest-level drivers can call this routine.)

[IoUpdateShareAccess](#)

Modifies the current share-access permissions on the given file object. (Only highest-level drivers can call this routine.)

[IoRemoveShareAccess](#)

Restores the shared-access permissions on the given file object that were modified by a preceding call to [IoUpdateShareAccess](#).

[RtlLengthSecurityDescriptor](#)

Returns the size in bytes of a given security descriptor.

[RtlValidSecurityDescriptor](#)

Returns whether a given security descriptor is valid.

[RtlCreateSecurityDescriptor](#)

Initializes a new security descriptor to an absolute format with default values (in effect, with no security constraints).

[RtlSetDaclSecurityDescriptor](#)

Sets the discretionary ACL information for a given security descriptor in absolute format.

[SeAssignSecurity](#)

Builds a security descriptor for a new object, given the security descriptor of its parent directory (if any) and an originally requested security for the object.

[SeDeassignSecurity](#)

Deallocates the memory associated with a security descriptor that was created with [SeAssignSecurity](#).

[SeValidSecurityDescriptor](#)

Returns whether a given security descriptor is structurally valid.

[SeAccessCheck](#)

Returns a Boolean indicating whether the requested access rights can be granted to an object protected by a security descriptor and, possibly, a current owner.

[SeSinglePrivilegeCheck](#)

Returns a Boolean indicating whether the current thread has at least the given privilege level.

1.12 Error Handling

[IoAllocateErrorLogEntry](#)

Allocates and initializes an error log packet; returns a pointer so the caller can supply error-log data and call [IoWriteErrorLogEntry](#) with the packet.

[IoWriteErrorLogEntry](#)

Queues a previously allocated error log packet, filled in by the driver, to the system error logging thread.

[IoIsErrorUserInduced](#)

Returns a Boolean indicating whether an I/O request failed due to one of the following (user-correctable) conditions: STATUS_IO_TIMEOUT, STATUS_DEVICE_NOT_READY, STATUS_UNRECOGNIZED_MEDIA, STATUS_VERIFY_REQUIRED, STATUS_WRONG_VOLUME, STATUS_MEDIA_WRITE_PROTECTED, or STATUS_NO_MEDIA_IN_DEVICE. If the result is TRUE, a removable-media driver must call [IoSetHardErrorOrVerifyDevice](#) before completing the IRP.

[IoSetHardErrorOrVerifyDevice](#)

Supplies the device object for which the given IRP was failed due to a user-induced error, such as supplying the incorrect media for the requested operation or changing the media before the requested operation was completed. (A file system driver uses the associated device object to send a popup to the user; the user can then correct the error or retry the operation.)

[IoSetThreadHardErrorMode](#)

Enables or disables error reporting for the current thread using [IoRaiseHardError](#) or [IoRaiseInformationalHardError](#).

[IoGetDeviceToVerify](#)

Returns a pointer to the device object, representing a removable-media device, that is the target of the given thread's I/O request. (This routine is useful only to file systems or other highest-level drivers.)

[IoRaiseHardError](#)

Causes a popup to be sent to the user indicating that the given IRP was failed on the given device object for an optional VPB, so that the user can correct the error or retry the operation.

[IoRaiseInformationalHardError](#)

Causes a popup to be sent to the user, showing an I/O error status and optional string supplying more information.

[ExRaiseStatus](#)

Raises an error status so that a caller-supplied structured exception handler is called. (This routine is useful only to highest-level drivers that supply exception handlers, in particular to file systems.)

[KeBugCheckEx](#)

Brings down the system in a controlled manner, displaying the bugcheck code and possibly more information, after the caller discovers an unrecoverable inconsistency that will corrupt the system unless it is brought down. After the system is brought down, this routine displays bug-check and

possibly other information. (This routine can be called when debugging under-development drivers. Otherwise, drivers should never call this routine when they can handle an error by failing an IRP and by calling **IoAllocateErrorLogEntry** and **IoWriteErrorLogEntry**.)

[KeBugCheck](#)

Brings down the system in a controlled manner when the caller discovers an unrecoverable inconsistency that will corrupt the system if the caller continues to run. **KeBugCheckEx** is preferable.

[KeInitializeCallbackRecord](#)

Initializes a bug-check callback record before a device driver calls

KeRegisterBugCheckCallback.

[KeRegisterBugCheckCallback](#)

Registers the device driver's bug-check callback routine, that is called if a system bug check occurs. Such a driver-supplied routine saves driver-determined state information, such as the contents of device registers, that would not otherwise be written into the system crash-dump file.

[KeDeregisterBugCheckCallback](#)

Removes a device driver's callback routine from the set of registered bug-check callbacks.