NAME

life_cycle-rand - The RAND algorithm life-cycle

DESCRIPTION

All random number generator (RANDs) go through a number of stages in their life-cycle:

start This state represents the RAND before it has been allocated. It is the starting state for any life-cycle transitions.

newed

This state represents the RAND after it has been allocated but unable to generate any output.

instantiated

This state represents the RAND when it is set up and capable of generating output.
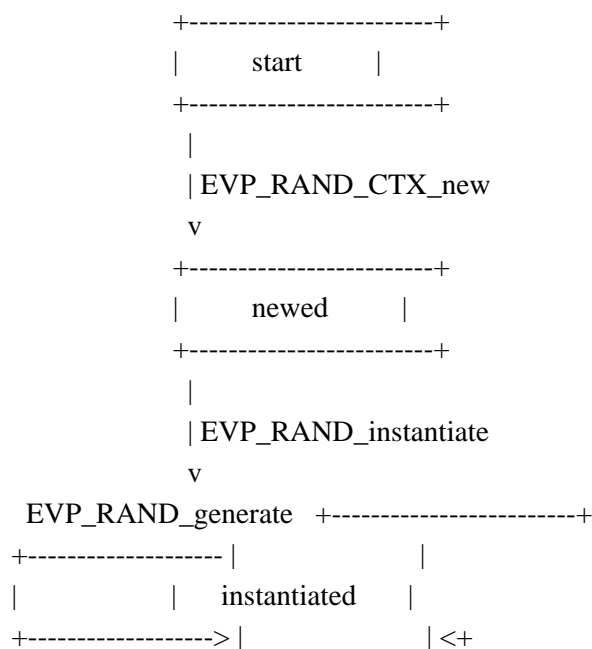
uninstantiated

This state represents the RAND when it has been shutdown and it is no longer capable of generating output.

freed

This state is entered when the RAND is freed. It is the terminal state for all life-cycle transitions.

State Transition Diagram

The usual life-cycle of a RAND is illustrated:

```
               +------------------------+
               |       start        |
               +------------------------+
                |
                | EVP_RAND_CTX_new
                v
               +------------------------+
               |       newed        |
               +------------------------+
                |
                | EVP_RAND_instantiate
                v
     EVP_RAND_generate  +------------------------+
   +-------------------- |                    |
   |                |     instantiated   |
   +------------------->|                    | <+
```

```
          +------------------------+  '
           |                      '
           | | EVP_RAND_uninstantiate  ' EVP_RAND_instantiate
            v                   '
          +------------------------+  '
          |    uninstantiated    | -+
          +------------------------+
            |
            | | EVP_RAND_CTX_free
             v
          +------------------------+
          |        freed        |
          +------------------------+
```

Formal State Transitions

This section defines all of the legal state transitions. This is the canonical list.

Function Call	------------------ Current State ------------------				
	start	newed	instantiated	uninstantiated	freed
EVP_RAND_CTX_new		newed			
EVP_RAND_instantiate			instantiated		
EVP_RAND_generate			instantiated		
EVP_RAND_uninstantiate				uninstantiated	
EVP_RAND_CTX_free		freed	freed	freed	freed
EVP_RAND_CTX_get_params		newed	instantiated	uninstantiated	freed
EVP_RAND_CTX_set_params		newed	instantiated	uninstantiated	freed
EVP_RAND_CTX_gettable_params		newed	instantiated	uninstantiated	freed
EVP_RAND_CTX_settable_params		newed	instantiated	uninstantiated	freed

NOTES

At some point the EVP layer will begin enforcing the transitions described herein.

SEE ALSO

provider-rand(7), **EVP_RAND**(3).

HISTORY

The provider RAND interface was introduced in OpenSSL 3.0.

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