

NAME

sem_timedwait, **sem_clockwait_np** - lock a semaphore

LIBRARY

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <semaphore.h>
```

```
#include <time.h>
```

int

```
sem_timedwait(sem_t * restrict sem, const struct timespec * restrict abs_timeout);
```

int

```
sem_clockwait_np(sem_t * restrict sem, clockid_t clock_id, int flags, const struct timespec * rntp,  
struct timespec * rntp);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **sem_timedwait()** function locks the semaphore referenced by *sem*, as in the **sem_wait(3)** function. However, if the semaphore cannot be locked without waiting for another process or thread to unlock the semaphore by performing a **sem_post(3)** function, this wait will be terminated when the specified timeout expires.

The timeout will expire when the absolute time specified by *abs_timeout* passes, as measured by the clock on which timeouts are based (that is, when the value of that clock equals or exceeds *abs_timeout*), or if the absolute time specified by *abs_timeout* has already been passed at the time of the call.

Note that the timeout is based on the **CLOCK_REALTIME** clock.

The validity of the *abs_timeout* is not checked if the semaphore can be locked immediately.

The **sem_clockwait_np()** function is a more flexible variant of **sem_timedwait()**. The *clock_id* parameter specifies the reference clock. If the *flags* parameter contains **TIMER_ABSTIME**, then the requested timeout (*rntp*) is an absolute timeout; otherwise, the timeout is relative. If this function fails with **EINTR** and the timeout is relative, a non-NULL *rntp* will be updated to contain the amount of time remaining in the interval (the requested time minus the time actually slept). An absolute timeout has no effect on *rntp*. A single structure can be used for both *rntp* and *rntp*.

RETURN VALUES

These functions return zero if the calling process successfully performed the semaphore lock operation

on the semaphore designated by *sem*. If the call was unsuccessful, the state of the semaphore is unchanged, and the function returns a value of -1 and sets the global variable *errno* to indicate the error.

ERRORS

These functions will fail if:

[EINVAL] The *sem* argument does not refer to a valid semaphore, or the process or thread would have blocked, and the *abs_timeout* parameter specified a nanoseconds field value less than zero or greater than or equal to 1000 million.

[ETIMEDOUT] The semaphore could not be locked before the specified timeout expired.

[EINTR] A signal interrupted this function.

SEE ALSO

`sem_post(3)`, `sem_trywait(3)`, `sem_wait(3)`

STANDARDS

The `sem_timedwait()` function conforms to IEEE Std 1003.1-2004 ("POSIX.1"). The `sem_clockwait_np()` function is not specified by any standard; it exists only on FreeBSD at the time of this writing.

HISTORY

The `sem_timedwait()` function first appeared in FreeBSD 5.0. The `sem_clockwait_np()` function first appeared in FreeBSD 11.1.