NAME

gethostname, **sethostname** - get/set name of current host

LIBRARY

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

#include <unistd.h>

int
gethostname(*char *name*, *size_t namelen*);

int
sethostname(*const char *name*, *int namelen*);

DESCRIPTION

The **gethostname**() function returns the standard host name for the current processor, as previously set by **sethostname**(). The *namelen* argument specifies the size of the *name* array. The returned name is null-terminated unless insufficient space is provided.

The **sethostname**() function sets the name of the host machine to be *name*, which has length *namelen*. This call is restricted to the super-user and is normally used only when the system is bootstrapped.

Applications should use **sysconf**(*_SC_HOST_NAME_MAX*) to find the maximum length of a host name (not including the terminating null).

RETURN VALUES

Upon successful completion, the value 0 is returned; otherwise the value -1 is returned and the global variable *errno* is set to indicate the error.

ERRORS

The following errors may be returned by these calls:

[EFAULT]   The *name* or *namelen* argument gave an invalid address.

[ENAMETOOLONG]
                    The current host name is longer than *namelen*. (For **gethostname**() only.)

[EPERM]   The caller tried to set the host name and was not the super-user.

SEE ALSO

sysconf(3), sysctl(3)

STANDARDS

The **gethostname**() function conforms to IEEE Std 1003.1-2001 ("POSIX.1"). Callers should be aware that {HOST_NAME_MAX} may be variable or infinite, but is guaranteed to be no less than {_POSIX_HOST_NAME_MAX}. On older systems, this limit was defined in the non-standard header *<sys/param.h>* as MAXHOSTNAMELEN, and counted the terminating null. The **sethostname**() function and the error returns for **gethostname**() are not standardized.

HISTORY

The **gethostname**() function appeared in 4.2BSD. The *namelen* argument to **gethostname**() was changed to *size_t* in FreeBSD 5.2 for alignment with IEEE Std 1003.1-2001 ("POSIX.1").