

## Re: what's a callback?

**Source:** <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/General/comp.arch.embedded/2004-12/1242.html>

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**From:** Mike Monett (*no\_at\_spam.com*)

**Date:** 12/22/04

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Frank Bemelman wrote:

[...]

> *Nobody forces you to use the latest windows software. If DOS3.22  
> works for you, why upgrade?*

[...]

Actually, it's a complete operating system that runs on top of DOS, the same as earlier versions of Windows. Here's a partial screen shot:

```
..\ 2F87BA86 Previous Directory
\IE50REG 2F87BA86 Backup Copy of MSIE REG16x2.DAT
\REGDATA 2F87BA87 Explorer 5.0 Verisign Certificates 93% slack
\SYSTEM 2F87BA88 System Files
\ZIP 2F87BB39 Backup Directory
NISTIMEW CFG 310B6F05 31 Configure NIST Time
LMOUSE COM 186A1940 34,658 Logitech Mouse
WIN COM 28FA792A 44,170 Win 3.1 Original
ANIMOUSE DAT 30FB555D 28 AniMouse Config
REG DAT 3196691D 55,922 Win 3.1 Original
REG16X2 DAT 2CCD8EFA 58,730 Explorer 5.0 Keep a backup copy in IE50REG
NISTIME DIF 3193BD23 1,079 Nist Time Log
WINSOCK DLL 20489086 30,516 Moved Here From G:\SYMPATIC
HK DOC 2EC67370 9,757 HotKey
ANIMOUSE EXE 1ED12800 378,464 AniMouse
CALC EXE 186A1940 43,072 Win 3.1 Accessories
CALENDAR EXE 186A1940 59,824 Win 3.1 Accessories
```

The columns show the file or directory name, extension, date in hex format, filesize, and a comment field that contains information about the file. This information goes with the file when I move or copy it to a different directory, and the information can be changed as needed without breaking links to other programs, such as image links in html files.

The cursor (not shown) hilites a file in yellow. Pressing various function or command keys will erase the file, copy or move it to a different directory, or

comp.arch.embedded: Re: what's a callback?

execute a specific program associated with the file. For example, it loads an editor or file viewer as needed, or starts Windows and loads the appropriate program all with a single keystroke.

I have numerous search programs that can index the entire disk in minutes and locate any file in seconds. I never have to type in a filename or directory, and all the needed commands are under control of the cursor and function keys. I never have to remember all the options needed with various programs, such as PKZIP or PKUNZIP. They are all encoded and attached when the program loads.

This method is the opposite of the Windows procedure, where you load a program first, then search for the desired file. It is several orders of magnitude faster than Windows, and completely avoids the confusion and errors when you cannot locate the desired file or load the wrong one.

IMHO, this is the way Windows should have been designed from the beginning.

Best,

Mike Monett