Accessing ASCII Error Messages

This file explains how to access the ASCII error message file directly from your Informix product.

ASCII Error Message Files

The ASCII error message file that is included with your product contains numbered error messages and their corrective actions for the current and earlier, still-supported versions of Informix products.

Accessing the ASCII Error Message File on Windows

To display the error messages in Windows environments, double-click the **Informix Find Error** icon in the program group for your product.

Accessing the ASCII Error Message File on UNIX

You can use the file that contains the ASCII text version of the error messages and their corrective actions in two ways:

- Use the **finderr** script to display one or more error messages on screen.
- Use the **rofferr** script to format one error message or a range of error messages for printing.

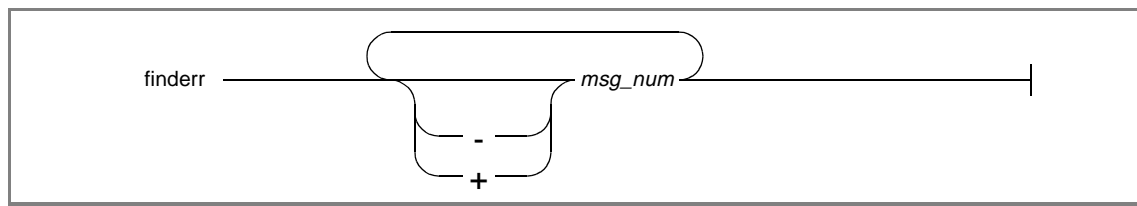The scripts are in the **$INFORMIXDIR/bin** directory. The ASCII file has the following path:

```
$INFORMIXDIR/msg/errmsg.txt
```

The negative error message numbers range from -1 through -55933. When you specify these numbers for the scripts, you can omit the minus sign. More than 100 messages have positive numbers, ranging from 0 through 38095. If you want to display them, you must precede the message number with a + sign.

The messages numbered -1 through -79 can be platform dependent. If the message text does not apply to your platform, check the operating-system documentation for the precise meaning of the message number.

The finderr Script

Use the **finderr** script to display one or more error messages and their corrective actions on screen. The **finderr** script has the following syntax.

msg_num   is the number of the error message to display.

You can specify any number of error messages per **finderr** command. The **finderr** command copies all the specified messages and their corrective actions to standard output.

For example, to display the -359 error message, you can enter the following command:

```
finderr -359
```

The following example shows how to specify a list of error messages. This example pipes the output to the UNIX **more** command to control the display.
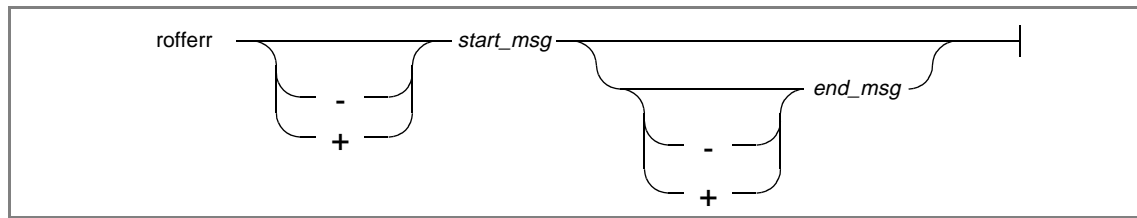
```
finderr 233 107 113 1304 21414 144 33020 | more
```

You can also redirect the output to another file so that you can save or print the error messages.

The rofferr Script

Use the **rofferr** script to format one error message or a range of error messages for printing. By default, **rofferr** displays output on screen. Send the output to **nroff** to interpret the formatting commands and then to a printer or to a file where the **nroff** output is stored until you are ready to print. You can then print the file. For information on using **nroff** and printing files, see your UNIX documentation.

The **rofferr** script has the following syntax.

start_msg	is the number of the first error message to format. This error message number is required.
end_msg	is the number of the last error message to format. This error message number is optional. If you omit *end_msg*, only *start_msg* is formatted.

The following example formats error message -359. It pipes the formatted error message to **nroff** and sends the output of **nroff** to the default printer.

```
rofferr 359 | nroff -man | lpr
```

The following example formats and then prints all the error messages between -1300 and -4999:

```
rofferr -1300 -4999 | nroff -man | lpr
```