

NAME

vmsish - Perl pragma to control VMS-specific language features

SYNOPSIS

```
use vmsish;

use vmsish 'status'; # or '$?'
use vmsish 'exit';
use vmsish 'time';

use vmsish 'hushed';
no vmsish 'hushed';
vmsish::hushed($hush);

use vmsish;
no vmsish 'time';
```

DESCRIPTION

If no import list is supplied, all possible VMS-specific features are assumed. Currently, there are four VMS-specific features available: 'status' (a.k.a '\$?'), 'exit', 'time' and 'hushed'.

If you're not running VMS, this module does nothing.

vmsish status

This makes `$_` and `system` return the native VMS exit status instead of emulating the POSIX exit status.

vmsish exit

This makes `exit 1` produce a successful exit (with status `SS$_NORMAL`), instead of emulating UNIX `exit()`, which considers `exit 1` to indicate an error. As with the CRTL's `exit()` function, `exit 0` is also mapped to an exit status of `SS$_NORMAL`, and any other argument to `exit()` is used directly as Perl's exit status.

vmsish time

This makes all times relative to the local time zone, instead of the default of Universal Time (a.k.a Greenwich Mean Time, or GMT).

vmsish hushed

This suppresses printing of VMS status messages to `SYS$OUTPUT` and `SYS$ERROR` if Perl terminates with an error status. and allows programs that are expecting "unix-style" Perl to avoid having to parse VMS error messages. It does not suppress any messages from Perl itself, just the messages generated by DCL after Perl exits. The DCL symbol `$STATUS` will still have the termination status, but with a high-order bit set:

EXAMPLE: `$ perl -e"exit 44;"` Non-hushed error exit `%SYSTEM-F-ABORT`, abort DCL message `$ show sym $STATUS $STATUS == "%X0000002C"`

```
$ perl -e"use vmsish qw(hushed); exit 44;"           Hushed error
exit
$ show sym $STATUS
$STATUS == "%X1000002C"
```

The 'hushed' flag has a global scope during compilation: the `exit()` or `die()` commands that are compiled after 'vmsish hushed' will be hushed when they are executed. Doing a "no vmsish 'hushed'" turns off the hushed flag.

The status of the `hushed` flag also affects output of VMS error messages from compilation errors. Again, you still get the Perl error message (and the code in `$STATUS`)

EXAMPLE: `use vmsish 'hushed'; # turn on hushed flag use Carp; # Carp compiled hushed exit 44; # will be hushed croak('I die');` `# will be hushed no vmsish 'hushed'; # turn off hushed flag exit 44; # will not be hushed croak('I die2');` `# WILL be hushed, croak was compiled hushed`

You can also control the `'hushed'` flag at run-time, using the built-in routine `vmsish::hushed()`. Without argument, it returns the hushed status. Since `vmsish::hushed` is built-in, you do not need to `"use vmsish"` to call it.

EXAMPLE: `if ($quiet_exit) { vmsish::hushed(1); } print "Sssshhhh...I'm hushed...\n" if vmsish::hushed(); exit 44;`

Note that an `exit()` or `die()` that is compiled `'hushed'` because of `"use vmsish"` is not un-hushed by calling `vmsish::hushed(0)` at runtime.

The messages from error exits from inside the Perl core are generally more serious, and are not suppressed.

See *"Pragmatic Modules" in perlmod*.