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Subject: Problem with GetTickCount on Linux  
Posted by [steffen](#) on Wed, 30 May 2012 09:38:31 GMT  
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Hi,

On my embedded system I'm using a GPS to correct the system time and I found that adjusting the realtime clock on a posix system, cripples all the timer functions in Upp.

The Posix standard has added some `clock_xxx` functions to handle timers.  
This gives a much better solution than the `gettimeofday` call used today.

Here is an updated function with fallback to the current `gettimeofday` call.

In Core/Util.cpp:

```
#ifdef PLATFORM_POSIX
dword GetTickCount() {
#if _POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 199309L
    struct timespec tp;
    if (clock_gettime(CLOCK_MONOTONIC, &tp) == 0)
    {
        return (dword)((tp.tv_sec * 1000) + (tp.tv_nsec / 1000000));
    }
    return 0; // ?? (errno is set)
#else
    struct timeval tv[1];
    struct timezone tz[1];
    memset(tz, 0, sizeof(tz));
    gettimeofday(tv, tz);
    return (dword)tv->tv_sec * 1000 + tv->tv_usec / 1000;
#endif
}
#endif
```

In Core/TimeDate.cpp there is a `GetSysTime`, but I was missing a `SetSysTime` also.  
Here is one that can be called from a program with administrator privileges:

```
bool SetSysTime(Time &ATime)
{
#ifdef PLATFORM_POSIX
    struct tm tmp_time;
    tmp_time.tm_sec = ATime.second;
    tmp_time.tm_min = ATime.minute;
    tmp_time.tm_hour = ATime.hour;
    tmp_time.tm_mday = ATime.day;
    tmp_time.tm_mon = ATime.month-1;
    tmp_time.tm_year = ATime.year-1900;
```

```
time_t raw_time = mktime(&tmp_time);

struct timespec sys_time;
sys_time.tv_sec = raw_time;
sys_time.tv_nsec = 0;

int result = clock_settime(CLOCK_REALTIME, &sys_time);
return (result == 0);
#endif

#ifndef PLATFORM_WIN32
SYSTEMTIME systime;
systime.wYear = ATime.year;
systime.wMonth = ATime.month;
systime.wDay = ATime.day;
systime.wHour = ATime.hour;
systime.wMinute = ATime.minute;
systime.wSecond = ATime.second;
systime.wDayOfWeek = 0;
systime.wMilliseconds = 0;
return SetSystemTime( &systime );
#endif
}
```

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Subject: Re: Problem with GetTickCount on Linux  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Wed, 30 May 2012 09:58:10 GMT  
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Patches applied, thank you. Welcome to the contributors list.

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Subject: Re: Problem with GetTickCount on Linux  
Posted by [Zbych](#) on Wed, 30 May 2012 10:16:58 GMT  
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Hi Steffen,

CLOCK\_MONOTONIC is what I was looking for for  
But I think it is not obligatory on all platforms.

Quote:

On POSIX systems on which these functions are available, the symbol \_POSIX\_TIMERS is defined in <unistd.h> to a value greater than 0. The symbols \_POSIX\_MONOTONIC\_CLOCK, \_POSIX\_CPUTIME, \_POSIX\_THREAD\_CPUTIME indicate that CLOCK\_MONOTONIC, CLOCK\_PROCESS\_CPUTIME\_ID, CLOCK\_THREAD\_CPUTIME\_ID are available.

So maybe GetTickCount should fall back to gettimeofday in case of error?

```
#ifdef PLATFORM_POSIX
dword GetTickCount() {
#if defined(_POSIX_TIMERS) && defined(_POSIX_MONOTONIC_CLOCK)
static bool no_monotonic = false;
if (!no_monotonic)
{
    struct timespec tp;
    if (clock_gettime(CLOCK_MONOTONIC, &tp) == 0)
    {
        return (dword)((tp.tv_sec * 1000) + (tp.tv_nsec / 1000000));
    }
    no_monotonic = true;
    LOG("MONOTONIC CLOCK ERROR");
}
#endif
struct timeval tv[1];
struct timezone tz[1];
memset(tz, 0, sizeof(tz));
gettimeofday(tv, tz);
return (dword)tv->tv_sec * 1000 + tv->tv_usec / 1000;
}
#endif
```

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Subject: Re: Problem with GetTickCount on Linux  
Posted by [Steffen](#) on Wed, 30 May 2012 10:36:03 GMT  
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Hi Mirek,  
Thank you for the fast response. I see you changed the argument name in SetSysTime from ATime to time, could you please also run a search and replace to correct all the references?

Zbych,  
My first version actually was calling the gettimeofday part if the call to CLOCK\_MONOTONIC was failing, but I don't know if that was correct and I could not test it on any of my systems.  
With the macros you found it would be safe to do something like this:

```
#ifdef PLATFORM_POSIX
```

```
dword GetTickCount() {
#if defined(_POSIX_TIMERS) && defined(_POSIX_MONOTONIC_CLOCK)
    struct timespec tp;
    if (clock_gettime(CLOCK_MONOTONIC, &tp) == 0)
    {
        return (dword)((tp.tv_sec * 1000) + (tp.tv_nsec / 1000000));
    }
#endif
    struct timeval tv[1];
    struct timezone tz[1];
    memset(tz, 0, sizeof(tz));
    gettimeofday(tv, tz);
    return (dword)tv->tv_sec * 1000 + tv->tv_usec / 1000;
}
```

```
#endif
```