

# Dos16SysTrace

## Brief

Writes a trace record to the system trace buffer. It provides a high speed event recording mechanism which may be used by PM and non-PM threads in ring 3 and ring 2 and by detached processes.

## Syntax

```
APIRET16 APIENTRY16 DosSysTrace  
    (USHORT major, USHORT cBuffer, USHORT minor, PCHAR pBuffer)
```

## Parameters

- major (USHORT) input : Major code which identifies the trace record. Range reserved for user is 245-255. Valid range 0-255
- cBuffer (USHORT) input : Length of optional buffer. Valid range
  - 0 - 512 (before 4.0 FP 10 and 3.0 FP 35)
  - 0 - 4099 (from 3.0 FP35 and 4.0 FP10 onwards).
- minor (USHORT) input : Minor code which identifies the trace record. Major-minor code pair should uniquely identify the trace record. Valid range 1 - 255
- pBuffer (PCHAR) input : Pointer to optional buffer. If cBuffer is 0, then pBuffer is ignored.

## Return Code

ulrc (APIRET) returns

DosSysTrace returns one of the following values

- 0 NO\_ERROR
- 150 ERROR\_SYSTEM\_TRACE

## Remarks

DosSysTrace creates a trace record that includes the following items:

- Header Major code, minor code, time stamp, PID of logging process
- Optional System Data Controlled by the TRACE command
- Optional User Data Specified by the pBuffer parameter

To check is tracing enabled use [DosGetInfoSeg](#). GlobalInfoSeg contains 256bit flags area. See [DosGetInfoSeg](#) for more info.

## Example Code

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[], char *envp[]){
    APIRET16 rc=0;           /* default return code */
    USHORT major=255;       /* default major code */
    USHORT minor=1;        /* default minor code */
    USHORT cBuffer=0;       /* default buffer length */
    PCHAR pBuffer=NULL;     /* default buffer address */

    if (argc>1)
    {
        pBuffer = argv[1];
        cBuffer = strlen(argv[1]);
    }

    if (argc>2) major = atol(argv[2]);
    if (argc>3) minor = atol(argv[3]);

    rc = Dos16SysTrace(major, cBuffer, minor, pBuffer);

    if (rc) printf("DosSysTrace returned rc=%u\n", rc);

    return rc;
}
```

## Related Functions

- [DosDumpProcess](#)
- [DosForceSystemDump](#)

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