

Errata: Clarification of the Global Lock Example

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Listing 14 (sec. 10.2.3) is confusing

The return value `GASPI_ERROR` is used to notify the user, that a *procedure has terminated due to an error* (sec. 3.11). In listing 14 this value is reused in `global_try_lock` to inform the user, that the lock could not be acquired. This makes it impossible for a caller to distinguish between a true error and a simply failed lock acquisition. In addition it makes the example difficult to understand.

Proposed changes The example should be simplified. The handling of errors and time-outs should be left to the user. Thus use the `SUCCESS_OR_DIE` macro instead of `SUCCESS_OR_RETURN`. The time-out should be removed from the function signature of `global_try_lock`, since time-out handling would complicate the code beyond the scope of the example. Also, introduce some meaningful return values for `global_try_lock`. The listing below has also removed a superfluous comma in the function declaration. For symmetry reasons we should also change the timeout and error handling of the `global_unlock` function.

```

1 //...
2 enum try_lock_t { NO_LOCK_ACQUIRED, LOCK_ACQUIRED };
3
4 try_lock_t
5 global_try_lock ( const gaspi_segment_id_t seg,
6     const gaspi_offset_t off,
7     const gaspi_rank_t rank_loc
8 )
9 {
10     gaspi_rank_t iProc;
11     SUCCESS_OR_DIE (gaspi_proc_rank (&iProc));
12
13     gaspi_atomic_value_t old_value;
14     SUCCESS_OR_DIE (gaspi_atomic_compare_swap (seg
15         , off
16         , rank_loc
17         , VAL_UNLOCKED
18         , iProc
19         , &old_value
20         , GASPI_BLOCK
21     ));
22
23     return (old_value == VALUE_UNLOCKED) ?
24         LOCK_ACQUIRED :
25         NO_LOCK_ACQUIRED;
26 }
27
28 void
29 global_unlock ( const gaspi_segment_id_t seg,
30     const gaspi_offset_t off,
31     const gaspi_rank_t rank_loc
32 )
33 {
34     gaspi_rank_t iProc;
35     SUCCESS_OR_DIE (gaspi_proc_rank (&iProc));
36
37     gaspi_atomic_value_t old_value;
38     SUCCESS_OR_DIE (gaspi_atomic_compare_swap (seg
39         , off
40         , rank_loc
41         , iProc
42         , VAL_UNLOCKED
43         , &old_value
44         , GASPI_BLOCK
45     ));
46
47     assert(old_value == iProc);
48 }

```