

UpLink Programming Reference

Version 3.0

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Using UpLink 3



4 Using UpLink

Chapter 1: Introduction to UpLink

UpLink is a client API interface that allows applications to request and send data and video to and from video servers.

UpLink is used by applications running on a DAVID device.





Introduction

UpLink is used by applications running on a DAVID[®] device such as a Set Top Box (STB). The library described here is used to request data from a server and to control server data flow.



Note

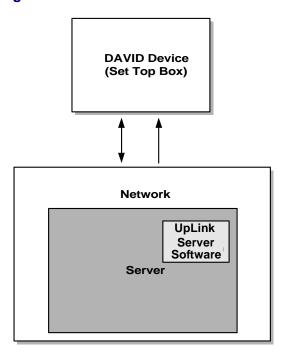
The UpLink protocol resides in the application layer of the OSI model. This document does not cover issues relating to the transport, link, or physical layers that support any protocol at this level. It assumes that the lower layer control channel facilities exist and are reliable.

UpLink is a command protocol Application Programming Interface (API) that resides between DAVID applications and the network. UpLink is used to establish network communications, request data from a server, control server data flow, and manage communications. UpLink provides a common interface layer that hides server-specific details from the application. In this way, applications can be written that are independent of the various servers or networks supporting them. Applications can communicate predictably and transparently with any network or server structure.

Hardware Structure

The UpLink library handles communications between the DAVID device and the network by mapping a standard set of library calls onto the unique services provided by the various networks.

Figure 1-1 Hardware Structure





Note

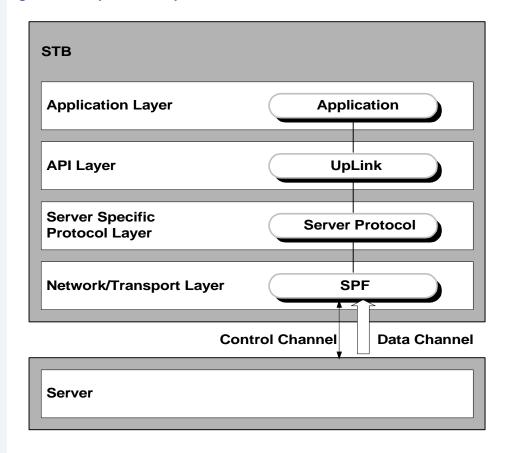
The most important reason for defining a standard API is to enhance the development of application programs for use across a wide variety of networks, running on a variety of devices, and talking to a variety of servers.



Software Structure

UpLink supports several methods of dealing with the control channel. In some cases there is a constant connection; in other cases, such as a modem, there is an on-demand connection. The most common configuration is shown in **Figure 1-1**, showing the UpLink components and a two-way control channel.

Figure 1-2 UpLink Components



When the application needs to access data stored on the server, it makes an API call to UpLink requesting the data by name. UpLink bundles that request into a packet and sends it to the server through the transport protocol native to that server. Requests are always acknowledged (as SUCCESS or FAILURE) with a reply packet. Some requests also result in data delivery (either synchronously or asynchronously). Depending on the UpLink function used, this data is sent in the control channel or in the MPEG transport stream through the data channel following the reply packet.



Chapter 2: UpLink Function Descriptions

This chapter describes the UpLink API. The functions are summarized in **Table 2-1** and are arranged alphabetically.





UpLink Functions

The UpLink functions are described in detail on the following pages. Functions are presented in alphabetical order. The table shown below, summarizes the UpLink functions.

Table 2-1 Summary of UpLink Functions

Function	Description	
ul_avc_abort()	Abort Stream Transmission	
ul_avc_chspeed()	Request Speed Change For Specified Stream Transmission	
ul_avc_continue()	Continue Paused Stream Transmission	
ul_avc_jump()	Jump to Specified Point in Stream	
ul_avc_pause()	Pause Stream Transmission	
ul_avc_play()	Begin a Stream Transmission	
ul_avc_readstream()	Transmit Data Asynchronously	
ul_con_sync()	Verify Server Connection	
ul_init()	Initialize the UpLink API	
ul_rfa_cd()	Change Directory	
ul_rfa_deldir()	Delete Directory	
ul_rfa_delete()	Delete File	
ul_rfa_dir()	Get Directory Information	

Table 2-1 Summary of UpLink Functions (continued)

Function	Description
ul_rfa_dir_size()	Calculate Directory Buffer Size
ul_rfa_getdata()	Retrieve Data From Server
ul_rfa_getinfo()	Get File Information
ul_rfa_mkdir()	Create Directory
ul_rfa_putdata()	Write Data To Server
ul_rfa_setinfo()	Modify File Attributes
ul_term()	Terminate UpLink API



Function Descriptions

The function descriptions are, for the most part, self-explanatory. Each section of a function description is defined below.

Syntax Shows the function prototype with the

required parameters and their data types

Description Provides a description of the purpose of the

function

Parameters Provides details about each of the

parameters

Dependencies Lists files that are required by the original

calling function

Direct Errors Lists error codes that can be returned by the

function call

Indirect Errors Lists other functions called. See the

description of those functions to locate error

codes not specified in **Direct Errors** section

See Also Lists related functions or materials that

provide more information about the function

ul_avc_abort()

Abort Stream Transmission

Syntax

```
#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_avc_abort(
        scb *user_scbs[]
     )
```

Description

```
ul_avc_abort() aborts a stream transmission initiated by
ul_avc_play().
```

If successful, ul_avc_abort() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

user_scbs	Should be the same value that was passed
	to ul_avc_play(). If user_scbs is not
	NULL, ul_avc_abort() will call
	_os_ss_abortstream() for each scb in
	the NULL terminated array.

Direct Errors

EOS_HANGUP	Lost synchronization with daemon
EOS_PARAM	Invalid user_scbs parameter.
EOS_UNID	Bad PID value in one or more of the scbs
EOS_NOPLAY	No stream is currently being transmitted
EOS_NOTRDY	The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_write()
_os_read()
```



```
_os_write()
_os_ss_abortstream()
```

See Also

ul_avc_play()

ul_avc_chspeed()

Request Speed Change For Specified Stream Transmission

Syntax

```
#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_avc_chspeed(
    scb     *user_scbs[],
    int16    speedcode
)
```

Description

ul_avc_chspeed() changes the speed of the stream transmission identified by user_scbs to speedcode.

If successful, ul_avc_chspeed() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

user_scbs	Should be the same value that was passed to
-----------	---

ul_avc_play().

speedcode Indicates the direction and rate for user_scb. The

guaranteed range of values is defined in

 ${\tt uplink.h.}$ Support for values outside the range specified below are Level 2 gateway dependent.

SPEED_RS(-1)Negative value indicates

reverse scan.

SPEED_NORMONormal play

SPEED_FS1Positive value indicates forward

scan



Direct Errors

EOS_HANGUP Lost synchronization with daemon.

EOS_PARAM Invalid SCB.

EOS_UNID Bad PID.

EOS_NOPLAY No stream transmission is associated with this

SCB.

EOS_NOTRDY The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```

```
ul_avc_play()
```

ul_avc_continue()

Continue Paused Stream Transmission

Syntax

Description

ul_avc_continue() resumes a stream transmission identified by user_scbs which was paused by ul_avc_pause(). If the stream was not paused, this call has no effect.

If successful, ul_avc_continue() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

user_scbs	Should be the same value that was passed
-----------	--

to ul_avc_play().

Direct Errors

EOS_PARAM Invalid SCB

EOS_NOPLAY

No stream associated with this SCB

EOS_NOTRDY The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```



```
ul_avc_abort()
ul_avc_pause()
ul_avc_chspeed()
ul_avc_play()
```

ul_avc_jump()

Jump to Specified Point in Stream

Syntax

```
#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_avc_jump(
    scb     *user_scbs[],
    u_int32    position
    )
```

Description

ul_avc_jump() jumps to the specified point (time) in the stream identified by user_scbs.

If successful, $ul_avc_jump()$ returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

user_scbs	Should be the same value that was passed
-----------	--

to ul_avc_play().

position Indicates the location which to jump and is

formatted as hh:mm:ss:ff (hour, minute, second, and frame). For example, the time 7:31:15:02 is represented by 0x071f0f02.

Direct Errors

EOS HANGUP	Lost synchronization with daemon
------------	----------------------------------

EOS_PARAM Invalid SCB

EOS_NOPLAY

No stream associated with this SCB

EOS EOF End of file is reached

EOS_UNID ID is unknown

EOS_ILLPRM Illegal parameter detected



EOS_NOTRDY

The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```

See Also

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```
ul_avc_abort()
ul_avc_pause()
ul_avc_continue()
ul_avc_chspeed()
ul_avc_play()
```

ul_avc_pause()

Pause Stream Transmission

Syntax

```
#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_avc_pause(
          scb      *user_scbs[]
          )
```

Description

ul_avc_pause() pauses the transmission of the stream identified by user_scbs. Transmission does not resume until the server receives a ul_avc_continue() call. If the data stream is already paused, this call has no effect.

If successful, ul_avc_pause() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

user_scbs	Should be the same value that was passed

to ul_avc_play().

Direct Errors

EOS_HANGUP	Lost synchronization with daemon
EOS_PARAM	Invalid SCB

EOS_NOPLAY

No stream is currently being transmitted

EOS_NOTRDY

The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```



```
ul_avc_abort()
ul_avc_continue()
ul_avc_jump()
ul_avc_chspeed()
ul_avc_play()
```

ul_avc_play()

Begin a Stream Transmission

Syntax

Description

ul_avc_play() causes the UpLink server to transmit an MPEG-2 Transport stream to the calling application asynchronously.

If successful, ul_avc_play() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

start_time	The time in hh:mm:ss:ff (hour, minute, second, and frame) at which to begin the play.
stream_name	The pathname to the stream to send.
user_scbs	A NULL terminated aray of scb pointers. For each scb pointer in the array, ul_avc_play() will call _os_ss_readstream(). If, user_scbs is NULL, the stream will be requested from the UpLink server, but no _os_ss_readstream() calls will be made.



Direct Errors

EOS_BPNAM NULL was specified for stream_name

EOS_HANGUP Lost synchronization with the UpLink server

EOS_NOBUFS Packet too large to send using internal

buffer

EOS_PARAM Invalid SCB

EOS_PNNF Path name not found

EOS_NOTRDY The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
_os_ss_readstream()
_os_ss_abortstream()
```

```
ul_avc_readstream()
```

ul_avc_readstream()

Transmit Data Asynchronously

Syntax

Description

ul_avc_readstream() causes the UpLink server to read the specified amount of data from a file, wrap it in an MPEG-2 Transport stream and asynchronously transmit it.

The PID used for the MPEG-2 Transport stream is the PID specified in user_scb.

If successful, ul_avc_readstream() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

offset	is the offset within the file of the data to be
	read.

size is the number of bytes to read.

file_name The name of the file containing the data

requested

user_scb A pointer to an scb. The scls pointed to by

the scb will receive the requested data.



Direct Errors

EOS_BPNAM Bad pathlist

EOS_DEVBSY Data is being downloaded

EOS_HANGUP Lost synchronization with daemon

EOS_NOBUFS Packet too large to send using internal

buffer

EOS_PARAM Invalid SCB

EOS_PNNF Path name not found

EOS_NOTRDY The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
_os_ss_readstream()
_os_ss_abortstream()
```

```
ul_rfa_getdata()
```

ul_con_sync()

Verify Server Connection

Syntax

```
#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_con_sync(void)
```

Description

ul_con_sync() requests an acknowledgment from the server. This allows the application to verify that the connection with the server is still active.

If successful, ul_con_sync() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Direct Errors

EUS HANGUP LOSI SVIICII OHIZAIIOH OI COHHECIIOH WIII	EOS	HANGUP	Lost synchronization or connection with
--	-----	--------	---

server

EOS_NOTRDY The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```





Initialize the UpLink API

Syntax

Description

ul_init() allocates and initializes variables used by the UpLink API. The control_channel and data_channel parameters are stored internally so that they do not need to be specified in the other UpLink API calls.

If successful, ul_init() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.



Note

Example code for identifying and opening the UpLink control and data channels is provided in the source code for the david_demo.l library. The source code for this library is located in \$MWOS/SRC/DAVID/DEMOS/LIBSRC/DAVID_DEMO.

Parameters

control_channel An open path ID to be used as the control

channel

data channel An open path ID to be used as the data

channel

Indirect Errors

EOS_MEMFUL

 ${\tt malloc}(\)$ cannot allocate the global buffer used for packet assembly.

See Also

ul_term()



ul_rfa_cd()

Change Directory

Syntax

```
#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_rfa_cd(
    const char * const
                           dir name
```

Description

ul_rfa_cd() performs a cd or chd command on the server. Restrictions on dir_name are server software dependent.

If successful, $ul_rfa_cd()$ returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

dir name	Pathlist to the new directory

Direct Errors

EOS_BPNAM	Bad pathlist
EOS_HANGUP	Lost synchronization with daemon
EOS_NOBUFS	Packet too large to send using internal buffer
EOS_PNNF	Path name not found.
EOS_NOTRDY	The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```

ul_rfa_deldir()

Delete Directory

Syntax

```
#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_rfa_deldir(
        const char * const dir_name
)
```

Description

ul_rfa_deldir() recursively deletes a directory and all of its contents from the server's file system. Restrictions on dir_name are server software dependent.

If successful, ul_rfa_deldir() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

dir_name	Pathlist to the directory to delete
----------	-------------------------------------

Direct Errors

EOS_HANGUP	Lost synchronization with daemon
EOS_NOTRDY	The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```

```
ul_rfa_delete()
ul_rfa_mkdir()
```



ul_rfa_delete()

Delete File

Syntax

```
#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_rfa_delete(
        const char * const file_name
)
```

Description

ul_rfa_delete() deletes a file from the server. Restrictions on file_name are server software dependent. ul_rfa_delete() does not delete directories.

If successful, ul_rfa_delete() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

file name Pa	athlist to the file to be deleted
--------------	-----------------------------------

Direct Errors

EOS_BPNAM	Invalid file name or path list
-----------	--------------------------------

EOS FNA File not accessible

EOS_HANGUP Lost synchronization with daemon

EOS_NOBUFS Packet too large to send using internal

buffer

EOS_PNNF Path name not found

EOS_NOTRDY The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
os_write()
```

See Also

ul_rfa_putdata()





Get Directory Information

Syntax

Description

ul_rfa_dir() requests directory information from the server. Restrictions on dir_name are server software dependent.

It is important to note the user specifies the maximum size of data to return. The server only returns as many directory entries as fits within that limit.

If successful, ul_rfa_dir() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

dir_name Pathlist to the directory to access

size Pointer to the size of the buffer. After the call

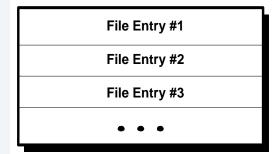
returns, size contains the actual number of

bytes returned.

buf Pointer to buffer to receive the directory

information. See in Figure 2-1.

Figure 2-1 Operation Results



Each file has the form as shown in Figure 2-2.

Figure 2-2 Form of Entry







Note

The caller specifies the maximum size of data to return. The server only returns as many directory entries as fits within that limit.

Direct Errors

EOS_BPNAM Bad pathlist

EOS_HANGUP Lost synchronization with daemon

EOS_NOBUFS Packet too large to send using internal

buffer

EOS_PNNF Path name not found

EOS_NOTRDY The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```

```
ul_rfa_dir_size()
```

ul_rfa_dir_size()

Calculate Directory Buffer Size

Syntax

```
#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_rfa_dir_size(
    const char * const dir_name,
    u_int32 *size
)
```

Description

ul_rfa_dir_size() calculates how large a buffer is needed by ul_rfa_dir() for the entire directory pointed to by dir_name. Restrictions on dir_name are server software dependent.

If successful, ul_rfa_dir_size() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

size	Pointer to where ul_rfa_dir_size()
	stores the amount of buffer space required
dir name	Pathlist to the directory to access

Direct Errors

EOS_BPNAM	Bad pathlist
EOS_HANGUP	Lost synchronization with daemon
EOS_PARAM	NULL parameters for size or name
EOS_PNNF	Path name not found
EOS NOTRDY	The UpLink API has not been initialize

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```



ul_rfa_getdata()

Retrieve Data From Server

Syntax

```
#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_rfa_getdata(
     u int16
                             pid,
     u_int32
                             offset,
     u int32
                              *size,
     u char
                             mode,
     const char * const
                             file_name,
     void
                              *data
     )
```

Description

ul_rfa_getdata() is a synchronous request for data from the server. It is the applications responsibility to ensure an adequate buffer size.

ul_rfa_getdata() returns to the caller after the requested data is received.

If successful, ul_rfa_getdata() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

pid	Packet ID the server should use when returning the data to the DAVID device. This parameter is ignored if you are sending data via the control channel (see MODE_CHAN_CTRL).
offset	Offset within the data from which to begin retrieving data
size	Number of bytes to read. ul_rfa_getdata() returns the actual number of bytes read and places that value in size.



mode Tells the server whether to send the data via

the control channel (MODE_CHAN_CTRL) or

data channel (MODE_CHAN_DATA)

file name Pointer to the name of the data file.

Restrictions on file_name are server

system dependent.

data Requested data is placed in the buffer

pointed to by data

Direct Errors

EOS_BPNAM Bad pathlist

EOS_DEVBSY The data channel is currently in use for

another request

EOS_HANGUP Lost synchronization with daemon

EOS_NOBUFS Packet too large to send

EOS PNNF Path name not found

EOS_READ Data lost

EOS_REQ_TIMEOUT More than three seconds have elapsed

since the last packet was received

EOS_NOTRDY The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

_os_read() _os_write()

See Also

ul_rfa_putdata()



Note

It is the application's responsibility to ensure an adequate buffer size.



ul_rfa_getinfo()

Get File Information

Syntax

Description

ul_rfa_getinfo() requests information about a file on the server. Restrictions on file_name are server software dependent.

If successful, ul_rfa_getinfo() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

		_		
п	n	+	\sim	
_	. 1 1	_	v	

Points to a data structure used to hold information returned concerning the requested file. It contains the following fields:

sizeSize (in bytes) of the file or data set

group Group number of the data

owner Owner of the data

permFile permissions; a bit field defined by

UL_PERM_* constants in

uplink.h

modifiedLast file modification date

file name

Pathlist to the file

Direct Errors

EOS_BPNAM Bad pathlist

EOS_HANGUP Lost synchronization with daemon

EOS_NOBUFS Packet too large to send using internal

buffer

EOS_PNNF Path name not found

EOS_NOTRDY The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```

```
ul_rfa_setinfo()
```



ul_rfa_mkdir()

Create Directory

Syntax

```
#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_rfa_makdir(
    const char * const dir_name,
    u_int16 modes
)
```

Description

ul_rfa_mkdir() creates a directory on the server. Restrictions on dir_name are server software dependent.

If successful, ul_rfa_mkdir() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

7 .		Pathlist to t			
A12	name	Pathligt to t	ne direct	OLA TO C	reate
CLL	manic	i annotio i	iio uiiooi	O O O	ICUIC

modes Bit field specifying the file attributes of the

new directory. Values for this field are the

UL_PERM_* constants defined in

uplink.h.

Direct Errors

EOS_HANGUP Lost synchronization with daemon

EOS_NOTRDY The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```

```
ul_rfa_deldir()
ul_rfa_cd()
```



ul_rfa_putdata()

Write Data To Server

Syntax

Description

ul_rfa_putdata() synchronously writes data to the server. It adds data to or replaces data within a file. If the file does not exist, it is created. If the client wants to replace an entire file, it must first call ul_rfa_delete() to delete the file. Restrictions on file_name are server software dependent.

ul_rfa_putdata() returns to the DAVID device after the data is completely sent and acknowledged.

If successful, ul_rfa_putdata() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

offset Within the file to begin storing data

file name Pathlist to the file

size Number of bytes to write

data Data to store in file name

Direct Errors

EOS_BPNAM Bad pathlist

EOS_HANGUP Lost synchronization with daemon

EOS_NOBUFS Packet too large to send using internal

buffer

EOS_PNNF Path name not found

EOS_NOTRDY The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```

```
ul_rfa_getdata()
```



ul_rfa_setinfo()

Modify File Attributes

Syntax

```
#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_rfa_setinfo(
    const ul_file_info * const info,
    const char * const file_name
)
```

Description

ul_rfa_setinfo() modifies the attributes of a file on the server. It replaces the attributes of the file pointed to by file_name with the attributes specified by the data structure pointed to by info. Restrictions on file_name are server software dependent.

If successful, ul_rfa_setinfo() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.

Parameters

info	Points to a data structure used to specify the new attributes for file_name. It contains the following fields:
	sizeSize (in bytes) of the file or data set
	groupGroup number of the file
	ownerOwner of the data
	permFile permissions; a bit field defined by UL_PERM_* constants in uplink.h
	modifiedLast file modification date
file_name	Pathlist to the file to modify

Direct Errors

EOS_BPNAM Bad pathlist

EOS_HANGUP Lost synchronization with daemon

EOS_NOBUFS Packet too large to send using internal

buffer

EOS_PNNF Path name not found

EOS_NOTRDY The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

```
_os_read()
_os_write()
```

```
ul_rfa_getinfo()
```



ul_term()

Terminate UpLink API

Syntax

#include <uplink.h>
error_code
ul_term(void)

Description

 $ul_term()$ de-initializes the UpLink API. This call allows the library to release global resources allocated on behalf of the application. After a $ul_term()$ call, no other UpLink API calls are allowed until another $ul_init()$ call is made.

If successful, ul_term() returns SUCCESS. Otherwise, the returned value is an error code.



Note

It is the responsibility of the application to close the open control and data paths after calling ul_term().

Closing these paths terminates the UpLink session.

Parameters

None. This call does not communicate with the server.

Direct Errors

EOS_NOTRDY

The UpLink API has not been initialized

Indirect Errors

none

See Also

ul_init()



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Product Discrepancy Report

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Description of Problem:		
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