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**File Management**

Your application can easily locate the files it needs by using alias records. An **alias record** is a data structure that identifies a file, folder, or volume. Whenever your application needs to store the location of a file or directory that it might need later, you can record the location and other identifying information in an **alias record**. The next time your application needs the file or directory, you can use the **alias record** to locate it, even if the user has renamed it, copied it, restored it from backup, or moved it. You can also use **alias records** to identify objects on other volumes, including AppleShare volumes. The **Alias Manager** provides routines for managing the information in **alias records**.

Note that the Finder creates alias objects that are visible to the user, while your application usually creates **alias records** when it needs to store identifying information about a file or directory that it uses internally.

You can also quickly search a disk for particular files using **File Manager** routines. You can search for one or more files that match certain criteria that your application specifies. For example, your application can search for all files that have a modification date later than June 15, 1991, and the **File Manager** returns to your application a list of all files that match this specification.

In System 7.0, individuals can share files with other users. A user can make all files within one or more of the folders on a local disk available over a network. This increases the chance that documents created by your application are used in a shared environment.

The **File Manager** provides a new standard format for identifying files. You can use this standard format in **File Manager** routines, and other managers also accept files specified in the new format.

The user interface for opening and saving a file is enhanced in System 7.0. The **Standard File Package** provides two new procedures, **StandardGetFile** and **StandardPutFile**, that your application can use to display the standard user interface for choosing a file. To customize the user interface for choosing a file, you can use the new **CustomGetFile** and **CustomPutFile** procedures.

See the **File Manager** for information on identifying and locating files on a volume, see the **Standard File Package** for information on letting the user choose a file, and see the **Alias Manager** for information on using **alias records**.