



How to cook `std::system_error`

Yury Efimochev

Who am I?

SolarWinds Backup
Principal developer

yury.efimochev@solarwinds.com

efimyury@gmail.com



Example domain



```
struct Item;

class IDataSource
{
public:
    virtual IStreamPtr GetContent(Item const& entity) const = 0;
};

class IStorage
{
public:
    virtual void Place(Item const& entity, IStreamPtr stream) = 0;
};
```

Naive example



```
void Backup(IDataSource const& source, Items const& items, IStorage& storage)
{
    for (auto const& item : items)
    {
        storage.Place(item, source.GetContent(item);
    }
}
```

Example domain



```
struct Item;

class IDataSource
{
public:
    virtual IStreamPtr GetContent(Item const& entity) const = 0;
};

class IStorage
{
public:
    virtual void Place(Item const& entity, IStreamPtr stream) = 0;
};

class Exception : public std::exception { /*...*/ };
```

Error handling



```
void Backup(IDataSource const& source, Items const& items, IStorage& storage)
{
    for (auto const& item : items)
    {
        try
        {
            storage.Place(item, source.GetContent(item));
        }
        catch (Exception const&)
        {
        }
    }
}
```

Error handling



```
class Exception : public std::exception
{
    // ...
    Error GetError() const;
    // ...
};
```


Error handling



```
void Backup(IDataSource const& source, Items const& items, IStorage& storage)
{
    for (auto const& item : items)
    {
        try
        {
            storage.Place(item, source.GetContent(item));
        }
        catch (Exception const& e)
        {
            Error const error = e.GetError();
            std::cerr << "Backup error." <<
                error << ": " << GetErrorText(error) << std::endl;
        }
    }
}
```




Error identification



```
// Error.h
enum class Error
{
    // ...
    InvalidArgument,
    // ...
    Http_AccessDenied,
    // ...
    FileSystem_NotEnoughSpace,
    // ...
    Database_TableIsLocked,
    // ...
    HyperV_ResourceNotFound,
    // ...
};

char const* GetErrorText(Error const error):
```

- High coupling
- Cross-module reuse
- Re-compilation

Plain old int



```
using Error = int;
```

```
// DataSourceError.h
```

```
enum class DataSourceError  
{  
    EntityNotFound = 2000,  
    // ...  
};
```

```
// StorageError.h
```

```
enum class StorageError  
{  
    NoSpaceLeft = 3000,  
    // ...  
};
```

```
// char const* GetErrorText(Error const error);
```

- Range synchronization
- GetErrorText?

Plain old string



```
using Error = char const*;

// DataSourceError.h
namespace DataSourceError
{
    Error EntityNotFound = "DataSource:EntityNotFound";
    // ...
};

// StorageError.h
namespace StorageError
{
    Error NoSpaceLeft = "StorageError:NoSpaceLeft";
    // ...
};

// char const* GetErrorText(Error error);
```

- Localization
- GetErrorText?

<system_error>



std::error_code

std::error_category

std::error_code



```
class error_code
{
private:
    int val;
    error_category const* cat;
    //...
};

class error_category
{
public:
    virtual char const* name() const = 0;
    virtual std::string message(int ev) const = 0;
    // ...
};
```




```
enum class StorageError
{
    NoSpaceLeft,
    AccessDenied,
    IOError,
    TemporaryUnavailable,
    // ...
};
```




```
std::error_category const& GetStorageErrorCategory()
{
    class Category : public std::error_category
    {
        char const* name() const override { return "Storage"; }
        std::string message(int errorValue) const override
        {
            // ...
        }
    };

    static const Category s_category;
    return s_category;
}
```

std::error_code



```
std::error_code const error(  
    static_cast<int>(StorageError::NoSpaceLeft),  
    GetStorageErrorCategory());
```

std::error_code



```
template<>
struct std::is_error_code_enum<StorageError> : public std::true_type {};

std::error_code make_error_code(StorageError e)
{
    return { static_cast<int>(e), GetStorageErrorCategory() };
}
```

std::error_code



```
std::error_code const error = StorageError::NoSpaceLeft;
```



```
void Backup(IDataSource const& source, Items const& items, IStorage& storage)
{
    for (auto const& item : items)
    {
        try
        {
            storage.Place(item, source.GetContent(item));
        }
        catch (Exception const& e)
        {
            std::error_code const error = e.GetError();
            std::cout << "Entity backup failed." <<
                error << " " << std::quoted(error.message()) << std::endl;
        }
    }
}
```

Output example



```
...  
Entity backup failed. Storage:1 "No space left on device"  
Entity backup failed. DataSource:42 "Access denied"  
...
```



Error classification

Backup example



```
void Backup(IDataSource const& source, Items const& items, IStorage& storage)
{
    for (auto const& item : items)
    {
        try
        {
            storage.Place(item, source.GetContent(item));
        }
        catch (Exception const& e) { /* Log */ }
    }
}
```

Critical errors



```
enum class DataSourceError
{
    IOError,
    AccessDenied,
    EntityNotFound,
    // ...
};

enum class StorageError
{
    IOError, // Critical
    NoSpaceLeft, // Critical
    TemporaryUnavailable,
    // ...
};
```

Exception hierarchy



```
class Exception : public std::exception {};  
  
class CriticalException : public Exception {};  
  
class DataSource::IOErrorException : public Exception {};  
class DataSource::AccessDeniedException : public Exception {};  
class DataSource::EntityNotFoundException : public Exception {};  
  
class Storage::IOErrorException : public CriticalException {};  
class Storage::NoSpaceLeftException : public CriticalException {};  
class Storage::TemporaryUnavailableException : public Exception {};
```

Exception hierarchy



```
void Backup(IDataSource const& source, Items const& items, IStorage& storage)
{
    for (auto const& item : items)
    {
        try
        {
            storage.Place(item, source.GetContent(item));
        }
        catch (CriticalException const&) { throw; }
        catch (Exception const& e) { /* Log */ }
    }
}
```

Exception hierarchy



One person's fatal error is another person's common case.

-Anonymized

Restore



```
void Restore(IStorage const& storage, Items const& items, IDataSource& source)
{
    for (auto const& item : items)
    {
        try
        {
            source.Place(item, storage.GetContent(item));
        }
        catch (CriticalException const&) { throw; }
        catch (Exception const& e) { /* Log */ }
    }
}
```

Exception hierarchy



```
enum class DataSourceError
{
    IOError, // Critical for restore
    AccessDenied, // Critical for restore
    EntityNotFound,
    // ...
};

enum class StorageError
{
    IOError, // Critical for backup
    NoSpaceLeft, // Critical for backup
    TemporaryUnavailable,
    // ...
};
```


Exception filter



```
void Backup(IDataSource const& source, Items const& items, IStorage& storage)
{
    for (auto const& item : items)
    {
        try
        {
            storage.Place(item, source.GetContent(item));
        }
        catch (Storage::IOErrorException const&) { throw; }
        catch (Storage::NoSpaceLeftException const&) { throw; }
        catch (Exception const& e) { /* Log */ }
    }
}
```

Exception filter



```
bool IsCriticalBackupException()
{
    try
    {
        throw;
    }
    catch (Storage::IOErrorException const&) { return true; }
    catch (Storage::NoSpaceLeftException const&) { return true; }
    catch (...) { return false; }
}
```

Exception filter



```
void Backup(IDataSource const& source, Items const& items, IStorage& storage)
{
    for (auto const& item : items)
    {
        try
        {
            storage.Place(item, source.GetContent(item));
        }
        catch (Exception const& e)
        {
            if (IsCriticalBackupException()) { throw; }

            // Log
        }
    }
}
```



```
void Backup(IDataSource const& source, Items const& items, IStorage& storage)
{
    for (auto const& item : items)
    {
        try
        {
            storage.Place(item, source.GetContent(item));
        }
        catch (std::system_error const& e)
        {
            if (e.code() == Storage::IOError ||
                e.code() == Storage::NoSpaceLeft) { throw; }

            // Log
        }
    }
}
```



std::error_condition

Samurai without a sword is the same as a samurai with a sword but without a sword.

std::error_condition vs std::error_code



```
class error_code
{
private:
    int val;
    error_category const* cat;
    //...
};

class error_condition
{
private:
    int val;
    error_category const* cat;
    //...
};
```


std::error_condition vs std::error_code



```
bool operator==(std::error_code const& left, std::error_code const& right)
{
    return
        left.category() == right.category() &&
        left.value() == right.value();
}

bool operator==(std::error_code const& error, std::error_condition const& condition)
{
    return
        condition.category().equivalent(error, condition.value()) ||
        error.category().equivalent(error.value(), condition);
}
```


std::error_category



```
namespace std
{
    class error_category
    {
    public:
        // ...
        virtual bool equivalent(
            int code, error_condition const& condition) const noexcept = 0;
        virtual bool equivalent(
            error_code const& code, int condition) const noexcept = 0;
        // ...
    };
}
```

std::error_condition



```
enum class BackupError
{
    Critical,
    Retryable,
    // ...
};

std::error_category const& BackupErrorCategory();

std::error_condition make_error_condition(BackupError e)
{
    return { static_cast<int>(e), BackupErrorCategory() };
}

template<>
struct std::is_error_condition_enum<BackupError> : public std::true_type {};
```

std::error_condition



```
bool BackupErrorCategory::equivalent(
    std::error_code const& code, int value) const noexcept override
{
    auto const condition = static_cast<BackupError>(value);

    switch (condition)
    {
    case BackupError::Critical:
        return
            code == StorageError::IOError ||
            code == StorageError::AccessDenied;
    // ...
    }

    return false;
}
```

std::error_condition



```
void Backup(IDataSource const& source, Items const& items, IStorage& storage)
{
    for (auto const& item : items)
    {
        try
        {
            storage.Place(item, source.GetContent(item));
        }
        catch (std::system_error const& e)
        {
            if (e.code() == BackupError::Critical) { throw; }

            // Log
        }
    }
}
```



Migration tips

Migration tips



```
{
  try
  {
    // ...
  }
  catch (DataSource::NotFoundException const& e) { /* ... */ }
  catch (DataSource::AccessDeniedException const& e) { /* ... */ }
  catch (DataSource::IOException const& e) { /* ... */ }
  catch (DataSource::TemporaryUnavailableException const& e) { /* ... */ }
  catch (Storage::NotFoundException const& e) { /* ... */ }
  catch (Storage::AccessDeniedException const& e) { /* ... */ }
  catch (Storage::IOException const& e) { /* ... */ }
  catch (Storage::TemporaryUnavailableException const& e) { /* ... */ }
  catch (Exception const& e) { /* ... */ }
  catch (std::exception const& e) { /* ... */ }
}
```

Migration tips



```
{
    try
    {
        // ...
    }
    catch (DataSource::NotFoundException const& e) { /* ... */ }
    catch (DataSource::AccessDeniedException const& e) { /* ... */ }
    catch (DataSource::IOException const& e) { /* ... */ }
    catch (DataSource::TemporaryUnavailableException const& e) { /* ... */ }
    catch (Exception const& e) { /* ... */ }
    catch (std::system_error const& e)
    {
        if (e.code() == BackupError::Critical) { throw; }
        if (e.code() == BackupError::Transient) { /*...*/ }
    }
    catch (std::exception const& e) { /* ... */ }
}
```


ExceptionFilter helper



```
class ExceptionFilter
{
    // ...
    using Handler = std::function<void()>;

    template<typename ... Exceptions> ExceptionFilter& Rethrow()
    template<typename ... Exceptions> ExceptionFilter& Ignore();

    template<typename ... Exceptions> ExceptionFilter& On(Handler handler);
    ExceptionFilter& On(std::error_condition, Handler handler);
    ExceptionFilter& On(std::error_code, Handler handler);

    ExceptionFilter& Finally(Handler handler);
    ExceptionFilter& Default(Handler handler);
    void Nevermind();
    // ...
};
```

ExceptionFilter helper



```
class Ok : public std::exception {};  
class TooBad : public std::exception {};  
class Fine : public std::exception {};  
class Alright : public std::exception {};  
class Good : public std::exception {};  
class Well : public std::exception {};
```

ExceptionFilter helper



```
{  
    auto fallback = [](){ /* ... */ };  
    auto whatever = [](){ /* ... */ };  
  
    try  
    {  
        // ...  
    }  
    catch (...)  
    {  
        ExceptionFilter().  
            On<Good>(fallback).Rethrow<Fine>().  
            Ignore<TooBad, Ok, Allright>().  
            On<Well>(whatever).Nevermind();  
    }  
}
```

Migration tips



```
{
    try
    {
        // ...
    }
    catch (DataSource::NotFoundException const& e) { /* ... */ }
    catch (DataSource::AccessDeniedException const& e) { /* ... */ }
    catch (DataSource::IOException const& e) { /* ... */ }
    catch (DataSource::TemporaryUnavailableException const& e) { /* ... */ }
    catch (Exception const& e) { /* ... */ }
    catch (std::system_error const& e)
    {
        if (e.code() == BackupError::Critical) { throw; }
        if (e.code() == BackupError::Transient) { /*...*/ }
    }
    catch (std::exception const& e) { /* ... */ }
}
```


Migration tips



```
{
    try
    {
        // ...
    }
    catch (std::exception const&)
    {
        ExceptionFilter().
            On<DataSource::NotFoundException>(/*...*/).
            On<DataSource::TemporaryUnavailableException>(/*...*/).
            Rethrow<DataSource::AccessDenied, DataSource::IOException>().
            Rethrow(BackupError::Critical).
            On(BackupError::Transinet, /*...*/).
            Default(/*...*/);
    }
}
```



Summary

<system_error>

std::error_code

std::error_category

std::error_condition

std::system_error

std::errc std::generic_category





Provides standard approach for error classification and identification without constraining generation mechanism.

THANK YOU!





Q&A