Project:ISO JTC1/SC22/WG21: Programming Language C++Doc No:WG21 P0884R0Date:2018-02-10Reply to:Nicolai Josuttis (nico@josuttis.de)Audience:LEWGPrev. Version:

## Extending the noexcept Policy, Rev0

The way, we currently use neexcept in the C++ standard library following the rules of N3279:

- No library destructor should throw. They shall use the implicitly supplied (nonthrowing) exception specification.
- Each library function having a **wide** contract, that the LWG agree cannot throw, should be marked as unconditionally noexcept.
- If a library swap function, move-constructor, or move-assignment operator is conditionally-wide (i.e. can be proven to not throw by applying the noexcept operator) then it should be marked as conditionally noexcept. No other function should use a conditional noexcept specification.
- Library functions designed for compatibility with "C" code (such as the atomics facility), may be marked as unconditionally noexcept.

However, more than once we now had the case that we had types wrapped or extended in a way that the original behavior of the type should only changed as small as possible to make the wrapping/extension as transparent as possible. Examples are:

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- std::atomic<> (see <u>P0883</u>)
- std::function\_ref (proposed in <u>P0792</u>)

## So, I propose the following new rules:

- a) No library destructor should throw. They shall use the implicitly supplied (nonthrowing) exception specification.
- b) Each library function having a wide contract (i.e., does not specify undefined behavior due to a precondition) that the LWG agree cannot throw, should be marked as unconditionally noexcept.
- c) If a library swap function, move-constructor, or move-assignment operator is conditionally-wide (i.e. can be proven to not throw by applying the noexcept operator) then it should be marked as conditionally noexcept.
- d) If a library type has wrapping semantics to transparently provide the same behavior as the underlying type, then default constructor, copy constructor, and copy-assigment operator should be marked as conditionally noexcept the underlying exception specification still holds.
- e) No other function should use a conditional noexcept specification.
- f) Library functions designed for compatibility with "C" code (such as the atomics facility), may be marked as unconditionally noexcept.

## Acknowledgements

Thanks to a lot of people who discussed the issue, proposed information and possible wording.

## **Feature Test Macro**

This is a pure design guideline for the C++ library and needs no feature macro.