

**NAME**

**rcmdsh** - return a stream to a remote command without superuser

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

*int*

```
rcmdsh(char **ahost, int inport, const char *locuser, const char *remuser, const char *cmd,  
const char *rshprog);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **rcmdsh()** function is used by normal users to execute a command on a remote machine using an authentication scheme based on reserved port numbers using **rshd(8)** or the value of *rshprog* (if non-NULL).

The **rcmdsh()** function looks up the host *ahost* using **gethostbyname(3)**, returning -1 if the host does not exist. Otherwise *ahost* is set to the standard name of the host and a connection is established to a server residing at the well-known Internet port "shell/tcp" (or whatever port is used by *rshprog*). The *inport* argument is ignored; it is only included to provide an interface similar to **rcmd(3)**.

If the connection succeeds, a socket in the UNIX domain of type **SOCK\_STREAM** is returned to the caller, and given to the remote command as **stdin**, **stdout**, and **stderr**.

**RETURN VALUES**

The **rcmdsh()** function returns a valid socket descriptor on success. Otherwise, -1 is returned and a diagnostic message is printed on the standard error.

**SEE ALSO**

**rsh(1)**, **socketpair(2)**, **rcmd(3)**, **rshd(8)**

**HISTORY**

The **rcmdsh()** function first appeared in OpenBSD 2.0, and made its way into FreeBSD 4.6.

**BUGS**

If **rsh(1)** encounters an error, a file descriptor is still returned instead of -1.