

## HVcreate

int32 HVcreate(int32 *file\_id*, uint16 *tag*, uint16 *ref*)

<i>file_id</i>	IN: Identifier of the file the new element will be written to
<i>tag</i>	IN: Tag of the element to be created
<i>ref</i>	IN: Reference number of the element to be created

**Purpose** Creates a new variable-length stream element.

**Return value** The access identifier for the new stream element or `FAIL` (or `-1`) otherwise.

**Description** **HVcreate** promotes an HDF element to be a variable-length stream element. It becomes a linked list of variable-length blocks that can be easily appended. If the element already exists, it is promoted to a variable-length stream element, otherwise a new element is created.

Each block of the linked list can be of varying size. They are generally created by appending them to the end of the file until another piece of data is written. At that point a new block is created at the end of the file.