

GenMail

COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> GenMail		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY		December 8, 2024	

REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Chapter 1

GenMail

1.1 main

GenMail 1.0

a message robot for the Universal Message System

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. Introduction | some general information about GenMail |
| 2. Usage | how to use GenMail |
| 3. Copyright | the obvious restrictions crap |
| 4. Author | the flames should be sent to... :-) |
| A. Thanks | without these people, I... |
| B. UMS | the Universal Message System |

1.2 introduction

Introduction

GenMail is a message robot for the Universal Message System (UMS); i.e. it writes a message to an UMS message base of your choice.

In the original UMS distribution archive two other tools, which behave similar to GenMail, are included (sumswrite by Stefan Stuntz; WriteMessage by Kai Bolay), but for some reason, sumswrite expects all message data to be entered from stdin, and WriteMessage even uses an interactive user interface, i.e. you have to enter each attribute via stdin when

you're asked to do so via stdout.

Since these methods aren't very suitable for to be used via batch files, GenMail expects the data to be processed to create a message in a different way:

The text of the message is to be specified as a command line parameter, along with e.g. the receipient and his address, the desired attributes, optionally the group the message shall be stored in, etc.

1.3 usage

How to use GenMail

GenMail is started in a way like

```
GenMail <bunch of parameters>
```

where its parameters are expected to be delivered in ReadArgs() style. The parameters template consists of

```
USER/A, PASSWORD/A, SERVER/K,  
TEXTFILE/A,  
TONAME/A, TOADDR/K,  
GROUP/K,  
SUBJECT/K, ATTRIBUTES/K, ORGANIZATION/K,  
REFERID/K, REPLYGROUP/K, REPLYNAME/K, REPLYADDR/K
```

USER/A the name of the user who will log into the message base; his name will appear in the From: field of the message.
If the specified user does not exist, GenMail will exit with an error message.

Examples: "Zaphod Beeblebrox"
 MailDaemon

PASSWORD/A the password of the user specified using USER/A.
If you supply a value different from the user's password as stored in the database, GenMail will exit with an error message.

Eamples: "two words"
 singlewordpassword
 ""

The last example is only valid if the user exists but does not have a password assigned to him.

SERVER/K	<p>the name of the UMS server that manages the message base the message shall be written to.</p> <p>Examples: SERVER "special server" SERVER NetServer</p> <p>Default value: "default"</p>
TEXTFILE/A	<p>the name of the file to be used as message text. It must be specified relatively to the current directory. If GenMail cannot gain access to that file, GenMail will exit with an error message specifying the reason.</p> <p>Examples: textfile spool/pub/txt/Announcement UMS:mb/ums.config</p>
TONAME/A	<p>the name of the user the message will be addressed to.</p> <p>Examples: "Ford Prefect" "Joe X Sysop" AreaFix</p>
TOADDR/K	<p>the address of the user specified by TONAME/A. If you don't supply this value, the message will be sent to a local user, i.e. a user on your own machine.</p> <p>Examples: TOADDR foo@bar.org TOADDR 1:234/567.89@fidonet</p> <p>Default value: ""</p> <p>NOTE: the value supplied with this keyword will be ignored if you specify a group the message shall be put in via GROUP/K.</p>
GROUP/K	<p>the name of the group the message will be written to. If you don't supply this value, the message will be written into the mail folder.</p> <p>Examples: GROUP comp.sys.amiga.programmer GROUP fidonet.AMIGA.GER</p>
SUBJECT/K	<p>the subject to be written to the message header.</p>

Example: SUBJECT "What are chunky pixels ???"

Default value: "robot generated message"

ATTRIBUTES/K

the message attributes to be written to the message header.

Examples: ATTRIBUTES crash
ATTRIBUTES "crash file-attach"
ATTRIBUTES "other attributes"

Default value: ""

NOTE: GenMail does not take any care whether the message attributes supplied by you are supported by any UMS related tool or not - they will be simply written to the message base and be ignored if no one checks for them.

ORGANIZATION/K

the contents of the Organization: line to be written to the message header.

Examples: ORGANIZATION "private Amiga site"
ORGANIZATION "the Pirate BBS - call now!"

Default value: "the community of happy UMS users"

REFERID/K

the RFC style Message-ID: line of the message this message is intended to be a reply to. Usually you don't need this feature, but it might be useful when being called by other programs to write an automatic reply to some messages.

Examples: REFERID 30121993111531xing@some.domain
REFERID 2b53a932@p0.f395.n490.z3.fidonet.org

Default value: ""

REPLYGROUP/K

the name of the group to be written to the Followup-To: line. This parameters specifies the group any Follow-Ups to your message have to be written to.

Example: REPLYGROUP comp.sys.amiga.misc

This might be useful e.g. if you are posting the contents of your FTP server via GenMail in comp.sys.amiga.archive on a regular basis. Since comp.sys.amiga.archive is just for archive listings, any Follow-Ups to your posting should be written to comp.sys.amiga.misc.

Default value: ""

NOTE: if there is no group specified the message shall be posted in, this value will be ignored since you can only reply but not follow-up to a mail.

REPLYNAME/K the name of the person any replies to this message shall be sent to.

Example: REPLYNAME "Joe Postmaster"

This might be useful e.g. if you are sending automatically created message flow statistics to all sites linked to you using "Statistics Generator" as USER/A. Any replies should be sent to you since "Statistics Generator" will, at least in most common cases, be a dumb program expecting no replies.

REPLYADDR/K the address of the user specified by REPLYNAME/K. If you don't supply this value, replies will be sent to a local user, i.e. a user on your own machine.

Examples: foo@bar.org
 1:234/567.89@fidonet

Default value: ""

NOTE: the value supplied with this keyword will be ignored if no REPLYNAME/K was specified.

1.4 copyright

Copyright

GenMail - Copyright © 1993 - Klaus Klein

GenMail.guide - Copyright © 1993 - Klaus Klein

Permission is hereby granted to distribute the GenMail archive containing the executables and documentation for non-commercial purposes so long as the archive and its contents are not modified in any way.

GenMail may not be distributed for profit.

1.5 author

Bug reports, suggestions, flames (...flames ?!) and all other kinds of mail (I'd be happy to hear that at least one person uses this program) are always welcome. Send them to:

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Klaus Klein@2:245/5401.25@fidonet

1.6 thanks

I'd like to thank these people for...

Martin Horneffer	for UMS
the Amiga team at SAS	for SAS/C (guess why)
Mrkus Stipp, Matthias Scheler	for their newsreader, IntuiNews
Katja Reuter	for moral support during the creation of this manual
de.comp.sys.amiga.misc	reading that group keeps you sane!

1.7 ums

Universal Message System

The Universal Message System (UMS) is a system to handle messages from any kinds of mail/news networks stored in a universal message format.

Using the client/server concept (one 'l:umsserver' per message base; 'ums.library' providing functions to access those message bases), one kind of clients are the importers/exporters that handle all kind of conversion between net-specific formats and UMS; the other kind consists of all the existing newsreaders that allow reading and writing messages via an user interface.

The third (and last ?) kind are those little tools (such as Expire, TopTen, and GenMail) which perform mainly maintenance functions.

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