Queue Editor Overview

The WinNET Mail Outgoing Mail and NEWS queue editor is a companion program to the WinNET Mail program and service.

After you click the 'Done' button to post a mail message or news article, your message or article stays temporarily on your system's hard disk until you invoke the communications program (UUCICO.EXE) to transfer the items to CWI's server.   The Queue Editor allows you to review, modify, save copies of, or delete messages before UUCICO starts calls your messages in to WinNET.

The QE is designed to be run at the same time as WNM and other programs.   It is designed to cooperate with Windows to take up a very minimal system load, so that your other programs can function normally, and it can still keep its display up to date.

When you start the QE, you will first see the CWI logo, followed by a list of the outgoing messages. Each message lists the type (Mail or News), the size to send (in 64 byte packets), to whom the message is (no CC or Followup is listed) and the Subject.   The TO and Subject fields may be shortened, to allow them to fit on the display.   If there are more items in the queue than the display will show, the scroll bar is active and you may see the others by sliding it up and down.

If you find a size and location you like for the QE, it will remember its last position the next time you start the program. If you change the display size between sessions, the program will compensate.

In the menus section you will see a MENU and HELP selection. These two menus will give you access to the complete range of QE controls.   Their are very few of them, but they are powerful.   See the COMMANDS section for more information on the specifics of what you can do with them.   To access a command from the keyboard, hold ALT and type the underlined key.   Take a look at Help|About for more information on the program and on your system resources.

All of the MENU commands are also shown in the TOOL BAR section, which is right below the menu commands.   You must use a pointer (mouse usually) to access the commands in this fashion.   The NEXT, VIEW and PREV buttons are for viewing messages.   SAVE, DELETE, RECYCLE and EDIT make the obivious changes.   RESCAN is for emptying the display and having the QE recheck all of the outgoing files. It is often used to recheck the file sizes.   See all of these in the COMMANDS section of this file.

UnKnown and missing files

Besides the above mentioned functions, the QE will also check for Unknown files, and for messages containing less than the required files.   Each message is actually three files, one local control, one remote control and one message file.   If any of the parts are missing or unrecgnizable, the QE will inform you of such.   Some files can be VIEWed and SAVEd.   All messages that persist as missing parts or just unknown should be deleted before UUCICO makes the next call.   Bad files are a sure way to confuse either your machine or the server.

Do not be concerned if you have random errors during a UUCICO session.   Certain parts of the message will be deleted before other parts, and if the QE scans at just the right time, it will complain about bad or missing files.   Just be patient and these will go away.   The important thing is to have a neat list _before_ the UUCICO session starts.

COMMANDS

The QE has just ten commands.   They should all be fairly self explanatory.   This section lists additional details for each of the commands.   If you did not recognize a command at first, or if you are still having problems, let us know.   At least we should be able to clear up your confusion, and if we hear any sort of common difficulties or requests, we will happily make the necessary changes.   Now for the commands themselves.

HELP - ABOUT

This command will display program information and credits and list the available memory and harddisk as

reported by Windows.

HELP - INDEX

This command will display the hyperlinked help files.

MENU - PREVIOUS
This command will display message just previous to the last one displayed.   If a Multiple Selection is active, this command will display the previous message in the selection list.

MENU   OPEN (VIEW TOOL)

This command will display the currently selected message, or the first message in a Multiple Selection.

MENU   NEXT

This command will display the next message after the last one
displayed.   If a Multiple Selection is active, this command will display the next message in the selection list.

MENU..RECYCLE

This command will take an E-Mail message out of the outgoing queue and send it back to the Incoming Mail Folder.   Any E-Mail message that is Recycled, will not be sent until it is reforwarded.   News articles are not Recycled, because they are automatically posted in your News Folders in the group they were sent to or into the news.bad.or.stale group if you posted to a group to which you have not subscribed.

MENU   SAVE

This command will take a message and save the actual data (but not the control files) and save them into the directory and filename you choose.

MENU   EDIT HEADER

This command is the most involved of those the QE offers.   It will display a dialog with the original TO, CC, REPLY-TO and SUBJECT fields (NEWSGROUPS and FOLLOWUP-TO for News) from the message.

The fields may be edited, deleted or added as you choose.   Drop down lists of Newsgroups and Aliases

are available for the corresponding fields.

The REPLY-TO field should be changed with care, as this can be a very powerful tool, or it can be abused.   Most mail systems do not provide such functionality.

Clicking the CANCEL button cancels all editing.   Clicking the ORIGINAL button, will reset the fields to the setting when this particular session was started.   If the fields were edited and then the OK button was clicked, there is no way to go back to anything prior to the OK.

Clicking the OK button will construct the new message, including control files and replace the existing files.   This can take a while with large files, as they must be rewritten.   There are several times during an Edit|OK that Windows is given time to execute other programs.

MAIL - RESCAN FOLDER

This command will clear the list box display, clear the list from memory, and rescan all of the messages on the disk.   Note that this scanning includes several calls to Windows to allow other programs to execute.   One of the best reasons for using this command is to recheck the listed file size.   If the QE scans for messages during a file update by WNM, especially large files, the listed file size will be too small.   This is because the QE finds the required few lines, and uses the current size of a file that may still be growing.   The QE does not recheck these sizes to cut down on disk thrashing.   Running the Mail| Rescan command will clear the buffers and recheck all file sizes.

MAIL - DELETE

This command will delete one or more messages.   It will also delete partial messages and UnKnown files.   If you select Mail|Delete, it will display an 'Are you Sure?' and give you the chance to cancel.   Any file that is Deleted is unretrieveable from WNM or the
QE.   Use with caution!   Use to clean out all broken files before starting UUCICO or either your system or the server may hang.

DOs and DON'Ts

DON'T fool with messages while UUCICO is running.   If you modify a file just as UUCICO is accessing it, you are sure to crash the system.

DON'T deleted messages until you are sure that is what you want to do.   Deleted messages are gone. Period.

DON'T change the REPLY-TO field to an unwilling receipent.

DON'T expect that the display will instantly update.   It may take several seconds for the QE to get a bit of time from Windows to do its work.