

Mini-Host for Microsoft Windows

Version 1.50

What is New?

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This document contains brief list of new abilities and changes in the new version of Mini-Host comparing to the previous version. The document describing evolution of the software package more detailed may be sent upon special request.

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1. General

The new Mini-Host version is fully Russified. There is English version of the package as well. Also, this version uses special technology, so it can be adapted for any language very quickly.

The on-line help system has been greatly improved.

Lots of bugs and misfeatures of the previous version have been fixed.

2. Installation Program

The installation procedure has been significantly changed:

the installation program consistently leads user through all the necessary installation steps providing alot of context-sensitive help information

after completing all the installation steps the user is allowed to view and change all the settings defined.

The new installation program allows to register several users yet at the time of installation and make on of them host's postmaster.

The new installation program allows to install over a previous existing installation of Mini-Host keeping all the data and settings from the old installation (such as user database and mail database), although the user can change or update the old settings.

When using the Mini-Host pre-installation procedure the new version can properly work with *UUPC for DOS application's* initialization files, that is being offered for RELCOM network

users as basic e-mail processing and networking software.

The installation procedure offers a list of the most popular modems with recommended settings for each of them. Therefore the modem setup procedure is very simple and generally consists of selecting the appropriate modem type from the list.

Besides the modem settings database supplied with Mini-Host software package, the installation program can work with *UUPC for DOS application's* modem settings database.

3. Data Manager Application

The menu system of the program has been significantly changed and improved. The hot keys layout has been accordingly changed.

Powerful and flexible *external processor* mechanism has been provided.

A mail processor could be any external program (such as DOS and Windows programs) or a function invoked from dynamic linking library.

Mail processors can be logically divided into the following groups:

- encoders (UUENCODE, BTOA)
- packers (PKZIP, ARJ)
- editors (Notepad, Write, Quick Edit)
- etc.

In every group a user can have as many mail processors as it needs.

Every message in the mail database can be processed by a mail processor. Messages can be processed by one as well as in groups. A whole message (with envelope) may be processed as well as a part of a message.

Mail processors can be used for such purposes as compressing files and texts on sending, encrypting messages and generating electronic signatures, editing large messages (the ones, that can't be edited with Data Manager built-in editor), and many more.

Mail processors of a special group, so called mail filters can provide automatic processing of every incoming or outgoing message.

Quick *context help* for the tools panels buttons has been implemented.

Now a user can quickly add information from message headers to the address notebook.

Now it become possible to search for a string from the Newsgroups field.

A seen message can be marked as unseen.

If a message has not physically left your computer, then it can be unsent.

Messages printing is now accessible from the Folder and Basket windows and does no longer require a message to be opened. It is possible to print a part of a message. Different parts of a message can be printed using different fonts.

When creating new letters it is possible to define default values for any message header (envelope) field. File attach messages and receipt messages have their own default values for various attributes.

A convenient way of finding and opening parent folder of a message has been implemented.

4. Communication Application

Now the communication port can work on *38400 and 56000 bps*. However, besides the appropriate settings in WinUUCP it requires a special communication port driver for MS Windows.

The WinUUCP application now supports a number of additional g protocol commands (SN6, SN7, SN8), that are being used by the *Taylor UUCP application*.

Looping of aliases has been enabled (It has been interpreted as fatal error in the previous version). If when resolving an alias some name will be encountered more than once, then the name will be interpreted as local user name.

Logging can be turned off. The information supposed to be logged will be printed on the screen anyway. It may help to save disk space, when the system works reliable and stable.

The *service command engine* intended to provide *automatic mail processing* has been greatly enhanced.

A service command can be any external program (DOS or Windows) or dynamic linking library function.

When executing a service command it can receive various parameters (such as the received message itself, some fields from message header, etc). The number and order of parameters can be specified by a user.

Now it become possible to create simple service commands (such as answering machine, etc.) without programming.

The host can implement *XQT commands*, that are similar to service commands, but are better. Access to XQT commands can be restricted by the host's postmaster.

Incoming and outgoing message statistics is being logged in the RMAIL.LOG file. Communication session statistics is being logged in UUIO.LOG file. The both files are intended to perform *ststistical analysis* and have special format, that can be parsed by spreadsheet and DBMS applications.

Reliability of the mail routing (RMAIL.LOG) has been improved.

size increment of every transit message caused by re-routing to another host can be considered

size multiplying when sending a messages several destinations can be considered.

The more complex multi-step identification procedures are supported in the new version.

5. Scheduler Application

When specifying external programs, the Scheduler application controls host operations by, it become possible to enter command line parameters, what makes Scheduler *much more flexible*.

6. Utilities

The Mini-Host software package now includes a *new utility - Monitor*, that allows to operatively monitor state of the mail spooling and input mailboxes. This utility may be very useful when using it on a host with many users or many direct connections to remote hosts and intense transit routing.

The Send File and Remote Exec utilities now can run in *interactive mode* without specifying any command line parameters and use user-friendly dialog interface.

When sending an XQT-command now it become possible to hold the communication session user defined time. This allows to receive results of complex and slow XQT commands without connecting over.