

Ivory Tower Software

NBB.WRI is the documentation file for *Network Bulletin Board*™ version 1.24

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Network Bulletin Board from **Ivory Tower Software** is an add-in product for *Network Email*. You can download the latest version of *Network Email* (EMAIL.ZIP) from the CompuServe WinShare forum Networks library.

***Network Bulletin Board* Installation**

You must install the *Network Email* program (v. 2.30 or later) before you can use *Network Bulletin Board*.

Copy NBB.EXE to the *Network Email* directory. *Network Bulletin Board* should not be installed as an icon in the user's Program Manager. This is because NBB will not run stand-alone: it must be launched from *Network Email* from the "View" menu. NBB shares some of the user options with *Network Email* and for this reason, it is a smaller and more efficient program than if it were programmed as a stand-alone application.

Network Bulletin Board will create some .YMB data files in the *Network Email* directory. (If you should get a "too many files" error message, you should increase the files= line in your config.sys.) *Network Bulletin Board* messages are limited to 8198 characters, and when they are two weeks old (default age setting) they are automatically deleted.

The system administrator can delete messages, mark particular messages as permanent, and set the message aging period. The initial password is null. Use the "Admin" "Set Password" menu item to change the password. Permanent messages will not age, so they will not be deleted when their ages exceed the message aging period. The logged in system administrator can delete any message at any time, of course. Permanent messages will not look any different than other messages, so you might want to indicate the fact that they are permanent in the message body.

If you should get the error message "Bad record length" it means that one or more of the message database files has become corrupted. The only fix is to delete all the .YMB files and start over. For this reason, if your bulletin messages are important to your enterprise, you should maintain a regular system backup program. This is, of course, standard practice for most networks.

Network Bulletin Board is Shareware

If you like this add-on program for *Network Email*, your registration fee covers your license for your entire local area network with an unlimited number of users. You will also receive a disk with the latest version, a private registration key, and a telephone number for product support. To register, print the registration form from the "File, Print" menu, and follow the instructions given there.

NBB History

Version highlights are listed below:

- 1.01 Happy Birthday NBB! First posting on CompuServe in July 1992.
- 1.02 Error handling implemented in all file access procedures.
- 1.03 Eliminated the "Doing Housekeeping" popup window that accompanied automatic file deletion.
- 1.04 Better error handling prevents concurrency problems, September 29 1992.
- 1.06 Fixes a bug in the housekeeping (delete files older than two weeks) routine and adds system administration features.
- 1.07 (25-Oct-92) Improves the order form printing.
- 1.09 (1-Nov-92) Adds the ability of the system administrator to mark certain messages as permanent and allows him to adjust the aging interval from the default of 14 days. Fixes some very minor bugs.
- 1.10 (13-Nov-92) Increases the message length allowed from 2k to 8k.
- 1.11 (16-Nov-92) Adds message printing capability.
- 1.12 (17-Nov-92) Adds text file loading capability.
- 1.13 (10-Dec-92) Eliminates the startup screen and has a smaller executable size for faster loading.
- 1.14 (26-Dec-92) Compiled with Visual Basic 2.0 for better performance.
- 1.17 (10-Jan-93) Private registration keys implemented.

- 1.18 (22-Jan-93) "Print Order Form" error handling is implemented.
- 1.19 (28-Jan-93) Better error handling is implemented in the housekeeping subroutine.
- 1.21 (25-July-93) Compiled with Visual Basic version 3.0.
- 1.22 (04-Feb-94) Adds better error trapping and diagnostics in the message form load procedure.
- 1.23 (06-Feb-94) Adds the "notify all users" check box option to the post message form to broadcast Email messages to all users notifying them of the new message posting. This was one of our most frequently requested new features.
- 1.22 (03-Mar-94) Fixes the endless loop "bad record length" bug that would occur with a corrupted message file. Now the program will terminate after the error message.

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