Remote User Account Management

Managing user accounts from anywhere using a Web browser interface.

In general, Rumpus options can be set once and forgotten. That is, you will probably not need to adjust most basic configuration options on a regular basis. The exception to this is configuring User Accounts, which may need to be added, updated, or deleted frequently.

For this reason, Rumpus supports Web-based user account management. This allows you to configure users and their access privileges from anywhere on the Internet using a standard Web browser. In addition, you can allow users to change their own passwords using a Web browser, improving security by encouraging frequent password rotation.

Configuring The Server

In addition to the traditional GUI interface in the application, Rumpus also has remote, Web-based administration pages. The Web admin pages allow the administrator to remotely manage FTP user accounts, and also provide the unique function of allowing users to maintain their own passwords.

Activate the built-in Web server by checking the "Enable Web Server" checkbox on the Web Server tab of the Web Settings window. The default port number is 8000 to prevent conflicts with a Web server already running on the machine. If there is no Web server, select 80, the normal HTTP port, or any other port you wish. Do not select a port number that may already be in use or one assigned to another service. Remember also that accessing the Web admin pages will require specifying the port number in the browser if it is anything other than 80.

You will also need to check the "Enable Web User Administration" checkbox, and supply an administration name and password in the "Web User Account Management" box of the same window. The username and password will be required to access the pages for creating and editing user accounts on the server.

Note that enabling the server and/or changing the service port requires that the Rumpus server be restarted before the changes will take effect. After clicking "OK" to save your Web Settings changes, click the "Stop Server" button, wait a moment for the server to stop, and then restart the Rumpus service.
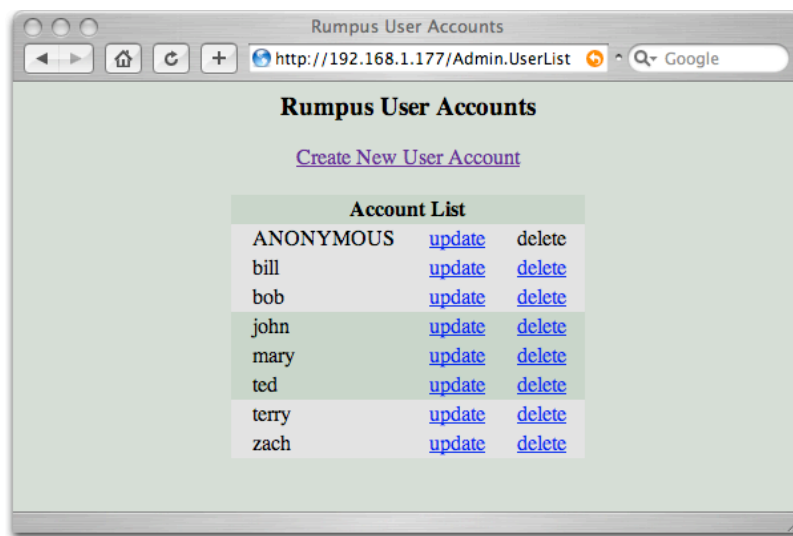
Using Rumpus Remote Administration

To add, delete, or modify user accounts remotely, open a Web browser and enter the URL:

http://www.yourserver.com/Admin.UserList

If you specified a Web server port other than 80, you will also need to include the port number in the URL. For example, if the port has been left at the default of 8000, the URL would be:
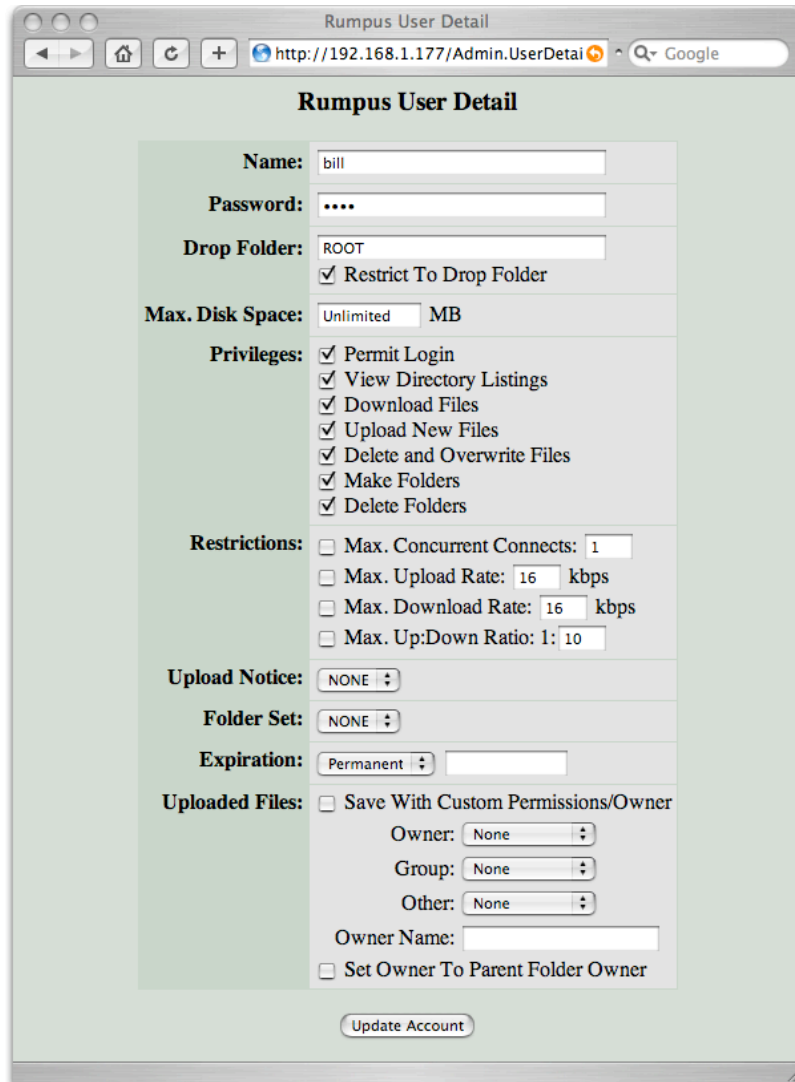
http://www.yourserver.com:8000/Admin.UserList

Of course, you will need to replace "www.yourserver.com" with the domain name or IP address of the Rumpus server. When prompted for a username and password, enter them exactly as you did in the Rumpus Web Settings window. After clicking OK, you will be presented with a Web page listing all the currently configured user accounts.

The User Account List Page

This figure shows several accounts that have already been created. If no accounts have been created yet, then only "ANONYMOUS" will appear in the list.

To create a new user account, click the "CREATE NEW USER" link. This will open the user detail form, shown below.

The User Account Detail Page

Fill in the fields accordingly. The username and password fields are straightforward. To specify a drop folder, you may enter "ROOT" to specify the FTP server root folder, or a complete path to the drop folder in the form "/Users/bill/". This folder will be created for you automatically if it does not already exist. Be very careful when entering the path to the drop folder, as a single typo or mistake will cause the user account to be unusable. You may want to copy and paste the drop folder from a similar user account and make the needed changes, reducing the chance of an error.

Finally, enter the maximum size of the user's drop folder and check the various permissions checkboxes that are appropriate for the defined user. When complete, press the "Update Account" button to save the new user. After saving, a confirmation message will be displayed with a link back to the user accounts list.

From the user accounts list, you can also update and delete users. To modify an existing account, simply press the "Update" link associated with the user you need to change. To delete an account, click the corresponding "Delete" link. When you use the "Delete" link, a warning message will be displayed asking you to confirm the delete action.
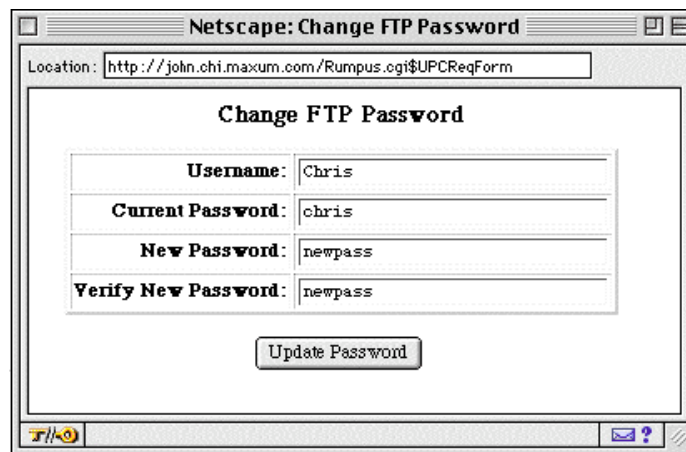
Allowing Users To Change Their Own Passwords

To enable users to update their own passwords, you will first need to configure Rumpus for Web administration, as described above. Also, be sure to check the "Enable User Password Changes" option on the "Web Server" tab of the Web Settings window within Rumpus.

Once Rumpus has been configured, you can access the default password change form using the URL:

> http://www.yourserver.com/UPCReqForm

The change password form is shown below.

Users Can Change Their Own FTP Passwords

This form is straightforward, and can be used simply by linking to the URL from any of your existing Web pages. So, for example, you could have an "FTP Information" page for your users with FTP accounts somewhere on your Web site. This page could then enable users to change their passwords by including a line like:

```
<A HREF="http://www.yourserver.com/UPCReqForm">
Change Your FTP Password</A>
```

Note that you can customize this page to suit your own needs. Start by accessing the page from a browser as described above. Then use the "Save As" command in your browser to save the HTML Source of this page. The change password form page has 5 critical elements that you must maintain:

    1. A text input field called "Name"
    2. A text input field called "CPas"
    3. A text input field called "NPas"
    4. A text input field called "VPas"
    5. The FORM specifies the correct ACTION URL

To customize the password change form, simply create a new Web page with these 5 elements. Use the source of the default page as a reference to creating the new Web page. Any Web form with these 4 input fields that is submitted to Rumpus using the "UserPasswordChange" path argument will be processed accordingly, allowing you complete control over the HTML formatting of the input form. In the example "FTP Information" page above, this form could be incorporated directly into the FTP Information page, or the link could change to something like:

```
<A HREF="MyChangeForm.html">Change Your FTP Password</A>
```