

# *ScriptableAdmin*

For the Apple Network Server (AIX 4.1.x)

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# *Using ScriptableAdmin*

IPT's ScriptableAdmin application lets the user configure and control Apple Network Server services by using scripts that you write using an Open Scripting Architecture language (e.g. AppleScript). All administration tasks (and many more) that can be accomplished with IPT's EasyAdmin can be performed using ScriptableAdmin. The advantage of using ScriptableAdmin is that instead of performing repetitive tasks by hand, the user can write a script that will perform these tasks automatically.

This version of ScriptableAdmin is a public beta version, not a final version. Therefore, we appreciate your patience with any difficulties that you may encounter in using this product. If you would like to report any problems or "bugs", please contact us by using the information listed in the "Troubleshooting" section of the CanOPI User Guide.

## ScriptableAdmin

IPT's ScriptableAdmin feature allows the user to perform administration tasks using scripts written with an Open Scripting Architecture language (e.g. AppleScript). Use ScriptableAdmin to accomplish all the functions of EasyAdmin, and more.

### How It Works

ScriptableAdmin works by having a script that you write an Open Scripting Architecture language (e.g. AppleScript) reference ScriptableAdmin, then perform the function that you script.

For example, when you run the desired script on your MacOS machine, it references ScriptableAdmin. You are then requested to "find" your IPT EasyAdmin server using a browser window and subsequently log on.

The script runs, requesting information from the EasyAdmin server. This information is returned to your MacOS machine. The resultant information can be displayed in several ways. You can have it appear in a default AppleScript "Results" window, a user-designed window or dialog box, or you can create a custom Graphical User Interface (GUI) using a GUI builder application such as FaceSpan (see the "Additional References" section of this document).

### Advantages

Some advantages of using ScriptableAdmin include:

1. **Full automation** - By using scripts to perform repetitive functions, you can avoid the time spent doing the same functions by hand.

For example, full functionality of EasyAdmin is only allowed to users logging on as "root", or as a member of the "IPTAdmin" group. We recommend creating the "IPTAdmin" group during the CanOPI installation process, however, ScriptableAdmin gives us the potential to write a script that will perform this duty automatically. The user could then simply double-click on an icon and

have this group created on their Apple Network Server (see the “Make IPTAdmin ” example in the “Scripting Examples” section, below).

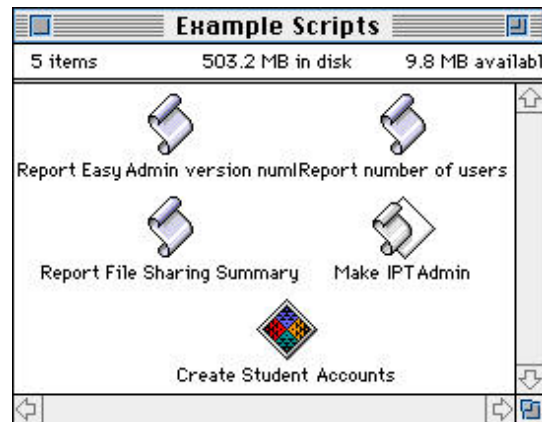
Many other tasks can be envisioned as well, such as automatic creation of groups with user accounts (see the “Create student accounts” example in the “Scripting Examples” section, below).

Just as you can administer Users and Groups, you can use ScriptableAdmin to perform these functions on uShare servers and shared folders.

2. **Localizable** - Since AppleScript can be localized (i.e. configured for multiple languages), it can be set up for use in a local user’s native language.

## Scripting Examples

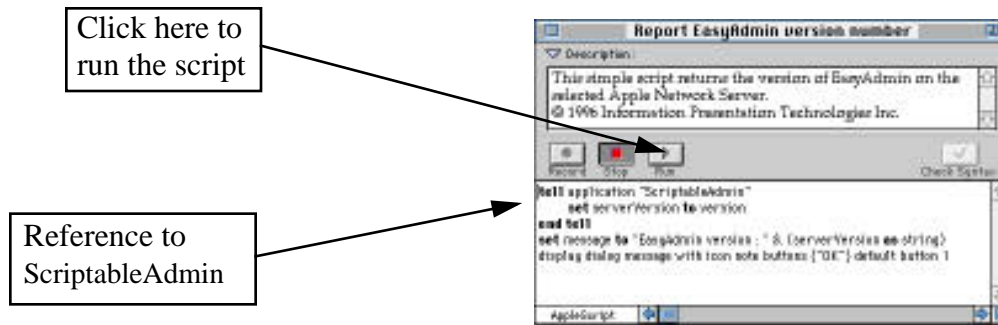
Upon installation of your CanOPI software, a volume entitled “MacApps” is automatically available on your Apple Network Server for mounting. Look in the MacApps>EasyAdmin>ScriptableAdmin folder for a folder called “Example Scripts”. This folder contains several example scripts, shown below.



### 1. Report EasyAdmin version number

This script returns the version of EasyAdmin that is running on the selected Apple Network Server.

Double-click on the “Report EasyAdmin version number” icon. The script will appear in the AppleScript window (the application in which it was written). Notice the reference to the application “ScriptableAdmin”.



Click on the “Run” button to run the script. Unless previously connected, you will be requested to navigate to your Apple Network Server in the resultant browser window, and then to log on in the “Link to” box. Once accomplished, a dialog box will appear, reporting the version number of EasyAdmin that is running on the selected Apple Network Server.



Click the “OK” button to dismiss the dialog box.

## 2. Report number of users

This script returns the number of user accounts that exist on your Apple Network Server.

Double-click on the “Report number of users” icon. The script will appear in the AppleScript window (the application in which it was written). Click on the “Run” button and the script will run and return with a similar result dialog box:



## 3. Report File Sharing Summary

This script returns the number of uShare servers published on your Apple Network Server with total number of shared folders.

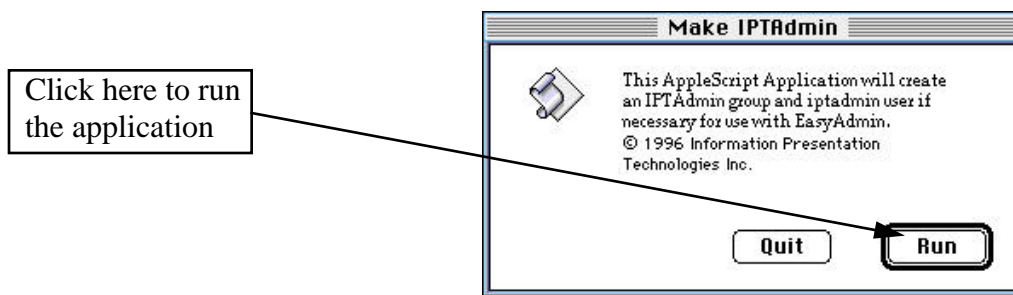
Double-click on the “Report File Sharing Summary” icon. The script will appear in the AppleScript window (the application in which it was written). Click on the “Run” button and the script will run. Unless previously connected, you will be requested to navigate to your Apple Network Server in the resultant browser window, and then to log on in the “Link to” box. Once accomplished, the script will return with a dialog box similar to that shown below, reporting the number of uShare servers and shared volumes on your Apple Network Server:



#### 4. Make IPTAdmin

This application runs a script that automatically creates the group entitled “IPTAdmin” on your Apple Network Server. Since full functionality of EasyAdmin is only available to members of this group (or users who log on as “root”), we recommend that this group be created upon CanOPI installation, and all users included who will have administration privileges.

Double-click on the “Make IPTAdmin” icon in the “Example Scripts” folder to launch the application. You will see the following dialog box:



Click the “Run” button to run the application and dismiss the dialog box.

Unless previously connected, you will be requested to navigate to your Apple Network Server in the resultant browser window, and then to log on in the “Link to” box. Once accomplished, the “IPTAdmin” group will be created. If you wish, you can use IPT’s EasyAdmin feature to verify the operation.



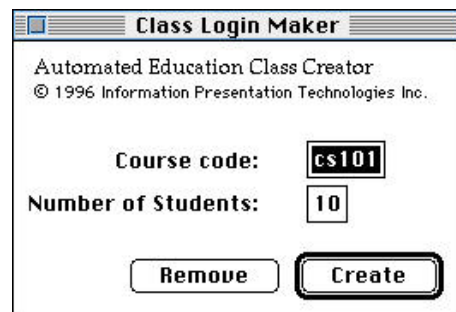
## 5. Create Student Accounts

This script addresses the problem of repetitive account creation. The scenario envisioned is that of an educational institution where an instructor needs to set up student accounts for each student in a particular class, every term. This example script creates a group named “cs101”, and creates 10 user accounts within that group.

This example script returns the results in a customized GUI that was built in FaceSpan. This script is included here as an application, so that in order to run it, you need only double-click on it’s icon.

If you wish to examine the source code, you can download a demonstration version of FaceSpan from their World Wide Web site (<http://www.sdu.com>).

To run the script application, double-click on the “Create Student Accounts” icon in the “Example Scripts” folder. The script application displays a “Class Login Maker” dialog box created using FaceSpan:



The default entries in the “Course Name” and “# of Students” fields are set for the “cs101” course with “10” students, but you could change this to meet your needs.

Click on the “Create” button. Unless previously connected, you will be requested to navigate to your Apple Network Server in the

resultant browser window, and then to log on in the “Link to” box. ScriptableAdmin creates the group “csS101” on the Apple Network Server and creates 10 user accounts in it named cs101u1 through cs101u30.

The script displays the following dialog box:



If you wish, you can use IPT’s EasyAdmin feature to verify the operation.

## Additional References

The power of ScriptableAdmin lies within the user's ability to write scripts. For more information on scripting and script editors we recommend the following sources:

## Books

1. **Goodman, Danny**

*Danny Goodman's AppleScript Handbook*, 2d ed. New York: Random House Electronic Publishing, 1994.

## On-line

2. **Internet**

MacScripting Digest Mailing List

To subscribe, send a mail message to:

LISTSERV@dartmouth.edu

include the following in the body of the message:

SUBSCRIBE MACSCRIPT firstname lastname

3. **AOL**

Computing: Utilities/Desk Accessories: AppleScripting

4. **Compuserve**

MACDEV/Scripting Month

MACDEV/Tools/Debuggers

MACDEV/Other Languages

MACSYS/Utilities

DTPFORUM/Mac DTP Utilities

APPHYPER/XCMDs & XFCNs

APPHYPER/Xpert Alley

DTPFORUM/Program Forum

INETRESOURCE/Mac Internet S/W

MACAP/Databases

MACDEV/C and Pascal

MACAP/Misc. Applications

## Products

### 5. **FaceSpan - The Interface Designer and Application Builder**

Software Designs Unlimited, Inc.

<http://www.facespan.sdu.com>

email: FaceSpan@sdu.com