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CondensedLogo.tiff ↵

The **NEXTTOYOU MailTIFFs database** consists of a set of programs to be installed on your computer and a global MailTIFFs server provided by NEXTTOYOU. It allows you to automatically administrate MailTIFFs from internet users and get their pictures displayed in **Mail.app** as well as newsreaders prepared for this mechanism.

- **mailDBupdate.in** is a replacement for NeXT's **mailDBupdate** for computers which are connected to the internet. **mailDBupdate** can't handle internet users correctly.
- **fetchMailTIFFs** automatically updates your local MailTIFFs database with MailTIFFs newly arrived at the global NEXTTOYOU MailTIFFs server.
- **convertMailTIFFs** converts the names of MailTIFFs you may have already stored to the correct format.

The **NEXTTOYOU MailTIFFs database** is described in full detail in **NEXTTOYOU 97/1** allowing you to understand how it all works.

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If you don't have access to the Web or want to ask special questions, please contact the editorial staff; you may also order single issues there via snail mail (please enclose a cheque!).

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For those of you who are not able to understand German the following document contains very brief installation instructions.

See you in Usenet!

Bye

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MailTIFFs database installation instructions

To install the **MailTIFFs database** you perform three steps:

1. Install the **MailTIFFs database** programs
2. Edit a few NEXTSTEP system files to integrate the **MailTIFFs database** into your system
3. Send your own MailTIFF to the NEXTTOYOU server

1. Installation of the MailTIFFs database programs

Log in as **root**. Copy **mailDBupdate.in**, **fetchMailTIFFs** and **convertMailTIFFs** to **/usr/local/bin**. Copy **mailDBupdate.in.8** and **fetchMailTIFFs.8** to **/usr/local/man/man8**. If you have a **NetInfo** network, install the programs on the machine where **/LocalLibrary** is located.

If you use a NEXTSTEP version <3.3 and do not have **zsh** already installed, you need to get the **zsh** package and copy **zsh** to **/usr/bin**.

If you want to use the MailTIFFs database also for usenet but your newsreader does not yet support it, copy **Alexandra.app** (**version 0.82 modified**) into the appropriate apps directory.

If you want to be able to copy new MailTIFFs to **/LocalLibrary/Images/People** from your user account, or to use **mailDBupdate.in** or **fetchMailTIFFs** from your user account, set the write permissions of **/LocalLibrary/Images/People** to group writeable and make sure your user account belongs to the group **wheel**.

If you have already stored MailTIFFs in **/LocalLibrary/Images/People** that use the old naming convention **user.host.domain.tiff** instead of the correct **user@host.domain.tiff**, start **convertMailTIFFs** by a double click and let it convert your MailTIFF names.

If at the time you install the programs there are already archives in **ftp://ftp.cs.tu-berlin.de/pub/NeXT/misc/NEXTTOYOU/MailTIFFs/Archiv**, be sure to retrieve them (either the global archive or all quarterly archives) and copy the MailTIFFs they contain into **LocalLibrary/Images/People**. MailTIFFs in these archives are *not* accessible separately and cannot be retrieved by **fetchMailTIFFs**.

2. Editing NEXTSTEP system files

mailDBupdate.in and **fetchMailTIFFs** offer quite a few options to be adaptable to specific situations. However, usually they should ^ajust work^o without the need for any options at all.

To get general information about the programs, read the manpage. To get information about the available options, start **mailDBupdate.in** and **fetchMailTIFFs** with the **-h** option. To get logging information, look at **/LocalLibrary/Images/People/log**.

While you may execute the programs from the command line or via double click, to work automatically in the background they need to be started via NEXTSTEP system files.

In the following, strings you'll have to adapt to your specific situation are marked **red**. You may just *copy* and *paste* the entries into your system files. Passages to copy are set in Courier.

/etc/crontab

```
# update the MailTIFF database in /LocalLibrary/Images/People
35 21 * * *root    /usr/local/bin/mailDBupdate.in options
```

This entry executes **mailDBupdate.in** every day at 9:35 p.m. (choose another time if appropriate; when executing the automatic MailTIFF delete function every 10 days, **mailDBupdate.in** will put a heavy load on your system for a couple of minutes).

If in your own email address **user@host.domain**, **host** is *not* the hostname of your computer, add **-a host** (with **host** being the hostname of your email address) as an **option**. Make sure **domain** is correctly configured in the **NetInfo** entry **/locations/resolver** or else in **/etc/resolv.conf**. Note that **host** may be an empty string (**-a ""**) in case your email address is **user@domain**, or else the hostname is already part of your entry in **NetInfo/locations/resolver** or in **/etc/resolv.conf**.

You probably won't need any other options.

Important! Make sure to delete any entry that executes **mailDBupdate**, since it is incompatible with **mailDBupdate.in**. (A good way to prevent **mailDBupdate** from being executed incidentally is to rename it to something like **XmailDBupdate**.)

/etc/ppp/ip-up

```
# get new MailTIFFs
/usr/local/bin/fetchMailTIFFs | logger -p local4.notice -t fetchMailTIFFs -i
```

This entry starts **fetchMailTIFFs** when you connect to the internet. Note that **fetchMailTIFFs** will actually start and connect to the NEXTTOYOU MailTIFFs server only every 10 days. If the **local4** syslog hierarchy is already in use on your system, choose another hierarchy.

If you have a persistent connection to the internet, you will want to execute **fetchMailTIFFs** via **cron**. Make sure to start **fetchMailTIFFs** *daily*; it will take care by itself to connect to the NEXTTOYOU MailTIFFs server only every 10 days, but in case the transmission of new MailTIFFs fails for some reason, this way it can retry already the next day.

/etc/syslog.conf

```
local4.debug          /LocalLibrary/Images/People/log  
local14.debug        /usr/adm/GateKeeper.fifo
```

This entry writes **fetchMailTIFFs**' messages to the syslog. If you've used another syslog hierarchy in **/etc/ppp/ip-up**, you'll have to change this entry accordingly. You will want the second line only if you use **GateKeeper.app**; make sure to use the correct name for the FIFO file.

3. Sending your own MailTIFF to the NEXTTOYOU database

Your MailTIFF should have a size of 64 × 64 pixel and be LZW compressed. Name it **user@address.tiff** (where **user@address** is your complete email address) and mail it to **MailTIFFs@nexttoyou.de** via NeXTMail. If you write from different email addresses, also include an ASCII text file named **user@address.aliases**. In this file, write your *alternative* email addresses, one each line, each line finished by **Return**. If you use no-spam fake addresses in usenet (e.g. **user@address.NOSPAM**), please remember to also include these addresses as aliases. There is *no* risk for you in doing so, but it allows newsreaders to make use of the MailTIFFs database, too.

The following picture gives an example of a correct submission to the NEXTTOYOU MailTIFFs server:

850289_paste.eps ↵

After you sent it to NEXTTOYOU, rename your MailTIFF as **user.tiff** and copy it into your **/LocalLibrary/Images/People** directory.

If **fetchMailTIFFs** returns your own MailTIFF from the NEXTTOYOU MailTIFFs server with your full email address as its name, you should delete it (i.e. the one with the full address as its name), although this is not strictly necessary.

If you want to update your MailTIFF or your aliases, just send new files of the same name to the NEXTTOYOU MailTIFFs server.

4. Troubleshooting

Problem: If an email includes an **X-Face**, it overwrites the MailTIFF of the MailTIFFs database.

Solution: In a **Terminal** window, enter **dwrite Mail NextFaceOverridesXFace YES**

Problem: There were some problems with **mailDBupdate.in**, but now everything seems OK. Nevertheless, internet users don't get listed in **passwd** and therefore don't appear in **Mail.app**.

Solution: Use **mailDBupdate.in** with the **-f** option once to force it to build **passwd** correctly.

Problem: When **mailDBupdate.in** is started, the following message is displayed: **cannot connect to netinfo server: Communication failure**

Solution: The **NetInfo** database is not configured correctly. Perform the following steps:

- In **NetInfoManager.app**, open the **root** domain.
- Click on **machines**.
- You'll get the machines of your network **NetInfo** knows about.
- Double click on the name of your own machine. In the browser window that opens choose **serves**.
- Add ***yourCurrentHostname*/local** as an entry to **serves** (or alternatively, *replace* an according existing entry with a former hostname of yours).