

Silver Xpress Off-Line Mail/Fax/Forms System
User's Guide
Version 4.00

Santronics Software

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1 Introduction to the Silver Xpress Mail System

Welcome! You have just taken your first step in using the most advanced electronic mailXE "Electronic Mail"§ system available today - the **Silver Xpress Mail system!**

Silver Xpress (SX) was first designed in early 1988 as a means to automatically retrieve electronic mail from remote hostXE "Remote Host"§ services, commonly known as Bulletin BoardXE "BBS"§ Systems (BBS), to read mail off-line on your PersonalXE "Personal Mail"§ Computer. At the same time, SX allows you to create replies and new messages, at your leisure, to later send back to the BBS.

This process, called Off-line Mailing, saves you countless hours of on-line time, and results in a tremendous reduction in phone charges. This makes Silver Xpress a very cost-effective product, and the payoff is usually realized immediately.

Required Background

To understand Silver Xpress, you will need a minimal knowledge about telecommunicationsXE "Telecommunications Software"§ software, compression software, the DOS operating system such as subdirectories, and the basic components of your computer - i.e., RAM memory, hard disk, floppy disk, keyboard, monitor, etc.

You do not need to know anything about remote host systems other than the Silver Xpress Mail System being offered on the host system.

Conventions

During the course of this manual, many references will be made to certain definitions or symbols. Most of the definitions can be found in the glossary in the appendix.

<cr>	Hit carriage return or ENTER
[]	optional parameter
< >	required parameter
%1	parameter number 1
%s	substituted parameter

NEW USER

If this is the first time you are installing Silver Xpress, and you never saw Silver Xpress in action, we recommend reading "How Silver Xpress works" below. This should give a quick overview of the basic operations of the Silver Xpress Mail System.

EXPERIENCED USER

If you're a veteran Silver Xpress sysop, you can jump to the installation section.

Keep in mind, Silver Xpress was designed for many bulletin boards and although each BBS works and operates in similar ways, there are dramatic differences for each model. Fortunately, the Silver Xpress Mail system is consistent on all BBS types. The Silver Xpress Reader program is the same. There is only one model of the reader, and this model works with all the different Silver Xpress Mail Systems specifically written for each Bulletin Board Service.

How Silver Xpress Works

The Silver Xpress Mail System is a system of 5 parts:

- **On-Line Service:** XE "On-Line Service"§ This is the bulletin board system or BBS such as Remote Access, PCBoard, Maximus, RoboBoard, ProBoard, Opus, RBBS, QBBS, Wildcat, TAG or any other on-line remote host program on which the Silver Xpress QWK/OPX Mail Door, or a non-Silver Xpress, QWK-based Mail Door can be found.
- **Telecommunications Program:** This is the program used to call the on-line BBS system to download and upload Xpress mail packets.
- **Silver Xpress Mail Door:** This is the Silver Xpress BBS add-on program known as a door program, which is the first main component of Silver Xpress. It scans and packs mail, and allows you to download what is called the Xpress Mail Packet, a file with the extension OPX or QWK§. Conversely, the mail door allows you to upload Xpress reply packets, (REP files). which is mail you created.
- **Silver Xpress Mail Reader:** This is the second main component of the Silver Xpress mail system. This program is used to read mail off-line, and to create new mail and replies to send back to the mail door.
- **File Compression**XE "Compression"§/ExpansionXE "Expansion"§ **Utilities:** These include PKZIP, LHARC, ARJ, PAK and similar utilities. Within the mail door, you will have the option to select which is the preferred method to compress and expand mail. These utilities are offered by the sysop or administrator of the Silver Xpress Mail Door. Conversely, you must have the same utility to expand mail on your PC.

To make Xpress work for you, you will need 3 of the 5 parts:

- **Telecommunication program.** Check off one of the following. If you have one of these or another communication package, you will be able to call a remote host and download Xpress mail.

TERMINATE

QMODEM

MS-Windows Terminal

TELIX

PROCOMM

CROSSTALK

TELEMATE

COMMO

- **Silver Xpress Mail Reader**

- **File Compression**XE "Compression"/ExpansionXE "Expansion"§ utility. If you have any one of the following 3rd party programs, you will be able to save lots of money by compressing your mail.

PKZIP/PKUNZIP ARJ LHARC or LHA ZOO

ARC PAK PKPAK/PKUNPAK

NOTE: You may purchase the PKZIP/PKUNZIP utility from Santronics Software directly, at a substantial discount, as a registered user of Silver Xpress.

Once you have these programs, you need to understand what would be the basic flow or operation in using Silver Xpress: The chart below illustrates the steps in the normal usage of Silver Xpress.Usage Steps

μ §

Step 1 Use your favorite communication program to call the remote hostXE "Remote Host"§ or bulletin board. Log in by using your login name and password.

Step 2 The bulletin board will offer a menu which will say "OFF-LINE READER" or "XPRESS MAIL". If the BBS offers the Silver Xpress Mail Door or a QWKXE "QWK"§ mail door system, you can begin to scan for new mail. These mail doors will compress, and begin to send, all new mail available to you. ***The Silver Xpress Mail Door will allow you to "massage" the mail to reduce its size by using the Silver Xpress Flex Commands.*** The mail door will create a file, called a Mail packet. It will have an extension of OPXXE "OPX"§ (for QWKXE "QWK"§ systems, the extension will be QWKXE "QWK"§).

Once you finish downloading the mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§, you may send any mail you have created from a previous session. When you are finished sending/receiving mail, log off the BBS, and proceed to step 3.

Step 3 Use the Silver Xpress Reader to unpack the downloaded mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§, and begin reading the mail at your leisure. If you create or reply to mail, or you wish to once again download new mail, you simply restart the process and repeat step 1.

2 Why Silver Xpress?

If you ever call remote hostXE "Remote Host"§ systems to read electronic mailXE "Electronic Mail"§, or if you work in a business environment where your computer is linked in any way to other computers, it is likely you communicate with your co-workers or friends using an electronic mail system. Electronic mail systems are one of the fastest growing industries in the world. Everyone, whether for hobby or business, wants to communicate electronically! It is no longer a local practice. Electronic Mail holds no international barriers.

Silver Xpress is an electronic mail system which is guaranteed to save you or your business thousands of dollars but, more importantly, improve the effectiveness of your communications.

The Silver Xpress Mail System is a very effective alternative to the traditional text screen capturing method of electronic mail. Without Silver Xpress, you would have to instruct your communication program to capture incoming information with little or no control on the amount or selection of mail. Silver Xpress automates the entire process for you in an extremely easy to use fashion.

But Silver Xpress offers more than an electronic mail reading system. Silver Xpress is a batch mail, fax and data entry system. Batch means you can do all your reading or creation of information, "Off-Line", without being tied into a distant computer and, with the push of a button, you can send the information you created to the distant computer. This type of system is called "Store and Forward".XE "Store and Forward"§ With Silver Xpress, you can create and *store* mail, or a fax, or data entry information while on your PC, and later *forward* the information to the main host computer for processing.

Silver Xpress is an excellent Store and Forward system for (but not limited to):

- Hobby or Professional BBS users and subscribers.
- Retail organizations who wish to offer mail, fax and order entry capabilities for their sales force.
- Educators who wish to offer mail, fax and homework questionnaires to their students electronically.

Or for anyone or organization wishing to save countless dollars in the electronic mail world! By far, Silver Xpress offers the best in electronic mailXE "Electronic Mail"§ systems and integration. ***Silver Xpress is - The leader in Off-line Mail Systems!***

3 What Mail Can Silver Xpress Read?

The Silver Xpress Mail system is capable of supporting multiple mail formats. Currently, two formats have been defined with more formats to be supported in the future:

OPXXE "OPX"§ Silver Xpress Mail Format.

QWKXE "QWK"§ Mail format found on PCBOARD and other BBS systems.

OPXXE "OPX"§ SUPPORT:

The Silver Xpress Reader supports the X.2X (X dot 2 X) mail format for Silver Xpress Mail systems. Any BBS offering the Silver Xpress Mail Door System version 2.20 or greater, is supported by the Silver Xpress Reader.

QWKXE "QWK"§ SUPPORT:

Silver Xpress directly supports QWKXE "QWK"§ mail packets. This allows you to benefit from the power of the Silver Xpress Mail Reader for non-Silver Xpress QWKXE "QWK"§ mail systems.

QWKXE "QWK"§ mail formats are not very flexible, so please keep in mind, many features may be disabled with the Silver Xpress Mail Reader when opening a QWK mail packet.

NOTE: QWKXE "QWK"§ mail packets can be different from system to system. Silver Xpress is designed to understand QWKXE "QWK"§ mail formats as originally designed in the QMAIL System developed by Mark Herring of SparkWare. There are many QWKXE "QWK"§ systems that are derived from QMAIL, and are not entirely compatible to QMAIL. If you have problems with a QWKXE "QWK"§ mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§, and it is from a system running a program other than QMAIL, the problem is likely with the format of the mail from the system, and not a problem with the Silver Xpress Reader.

QWKXE "QWK"§ mail files use the file extension QWKXE "QWK"§. If you want to support QWKXE "QWK"§, make sure you define the packet specification in the MAIL LOCATION configuration section, to include the *.Q?? file specification. The default specification is *.Q?? *.O??

Future Formats under consideration:

In the future, Silver Xpress will consider support for commercial mail formats such as MHS. MHS is a mail format found mostly on LAN systems. It was invented by Novell for its electronic mail^{XE} "Electronic Mail"§ system. Other future formats will include MAPI and VIM. (Support for MAPI and VIM will debut in Windows Silver Xpress).

4 Technical SupportXE "Support"§

The support policy behind Silver Xpress and Santronics Software is simple:

*If you are not happy, we are not happy!
We will do whatever it takes to make sure
you are satisfied with **Silver Xpress!***

That is the bottom line with Santronics Software. **Quality Support!**

We offer the following:

- CompuServe Support: Santronics Software has a CompuServe Section in forum PCVENJ (GO PCENVJ). This section is devoted to supporting Silver Xpress for customers around the globe. All updates, patches and upgrade information and files will be made available in the Santronics Software CompuServe Library section of PCVENJ. If you are not a member of CompuServe, as a registered customer of Silver Xpress, you are entitled to a \$15 credit to become a CompuServe member. For more information, contact Santronics Software.
- The Xpress Support Mail ConferenceXE "Mail Conferences"§ is available on the FidoNet Backbone. We highly recommend finding a BBS which offers the Xpress User Support ConferenceXE "Mail Conferences"§. Many times, one question answered to a specific user helps others with similar questions, and there is no better way to do it than with the Xpress Support Mail ConferenceXE "Mail Conferences"§. The FidoNet echo tag for this conference is XPRESS_SUPPORT.
- For System Operators, there is the XPRESS_SYSOP ConferenceXE "Mail Conferences"§ on the Fido Net Backbone. We highly recommend all BBS operators to link up with this echo to get support for the Silver Xpress Mail Door.
- FidoNet Net MailXE "Net Mail"§ Support. Sysops who have problems with Xpress, and need immediate attention can get support via net mail (FidoNet 1:135/382).
- For RIME sysops and users, we offer XPRESS support on RIME. The BBS must link up with the XPRESS forum from your nearest RIME hub using the preferred QWK networking process.
- Voice line support during normal working hours 9am to 7pm EST. New customers can use our 800 phone number for 1 hour of toll free support.
- Xpress Priority Service Plan.

Of course, all of this can only be done within reason. There is a priority level toward support of Xpress customers, which is enumerated as follows:

1. Xpress Priority Service members.
2. Registered Users.
3. Unregistered Users.

To contact Santronics Software for support, you may:

- Call 305-248-3204 between 9am and 7pm EST.
- Call the Xpress Support BBS Center at 305-248-7815 (1200 or above at 8-N-1) 24 hours a day.
- Xpress Priority Service Members have access to a 1-800 line for support. This number is supplied with your registration information.

5 Installing Silver Xpress

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

At a minimum, you should have the following computer components:

- IBM PC or clone
- DUAL FLOPPY with minimum of 720K each
- IBM DOS or MS DOS 3.1 or better
- 512K Ram Memory
- Monochrome/ColorXE "Color"§ Monitor

IDEAL SETUP

Ideally, the best setup would be:

- IBM DOS or MS DOS 3.3 or better
- Color Monitor
- Hard disk with 10 megs or more
- 640K Ram Memory with 2 Meg or more of EMS/EXT memory
- Silver Xpress located on the DOS PATH statement
- Optional, CAS based FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ Card (Intel Model 400) to use the fax system directly

QUICK START

To quickly install Silver Xpress on your personal computer, you may use the INSTALL.EXE program provided on the distribution diskette. This is the quickest way to get started, since it will search for information about your computer and properly set up the required features for running Xpress.

The INSTALL.EXE program will only install Silver Xpress on hard disk systems. It cannot be used for floppies. For floppy installation, follow the installation instructions in section 5.2.

6 Hard DiskXE "Hard Disk"§ System

1. Insert the distribution diskette labeled DISK 1 in diskette drive A or B.
2. Type the following from the DOS prompt:

A:INSTALL or B:INSTALL if the diskette is in drive B. Type INSTALL, if working with the package as electronically distributed on Bulletin BoardXE "BBS"§ systems, from a directory on your hard disk.

3. A menu will be presented at which point you can select the option to begin installation.

The install program will do the following:

1. Check for all available hard drive partitions (drive C, D, E, etc.).
2. Check for sufficient hard drive space. 1 MEG is the minimum.
3. Ask you on what drive to install Xpress.
4. Ask what directory you wish to use; default is \XPRESS.
5. Copy all files from the diskette onto the hard drive.
6. Check for the FILES= in the config.sys file for DOS. (Minimum FILES=20).

Xpress uses 3rd party programs such as archivers and editors. It must be able to find them. You can put them in the same directory as Xpress, or they must be in the PATH.

When the install process is completed, it will automatically put you into the \XPRESS directory. You can now type XPREAD to enable the Silver Xpress Mail Reader.

7 FloppyXE "Floppy Disk"§ Disk System

SINGLE 5.25 360K If you only have a single 5.25, 360K floppy, you will not be able to maximize your use of Silver Xpress. Although it is quite possible to make Silver Xpress work with a single 360K floppy system, we do not recommend it and, therefore, will not spend much time on it.

SINGLE 3.5 720K Silver Xpress can work on a single 3.5 720K floppy disk computer system, but you will be very limited to the size of mail packets you can download and read.

DUAL FLOPPIES SYSTEMS

Silver Xpress can be installed on a double floppy system by keeping the main files on one drive, and the mail files on a second drive.

You must ensure the DOS COMMAND.COM file be located on the same drive as Silver Xpress. This means Silver Xpress should be on a "bootable" diskette. You cannot simply copy this file over to a floppy. You must format the diskette.

The following is the minimum list of files required by Silver Xpress:

- XPREAD.EXE
- XPREAD.OVR
- SXMENU.LIB
- XPLANG.DEF
- ARCHIVER.DEF
- XPREAD.HLP
- XPREAD.CLR (only available after you start XPREAD)
- XPREAD.CFG (only available after you start XPREAD)

These files, plus the space used by DOS to make the floppy bootable, add up to approximately 355K. All other files found in the package are not required, but you will not have features available to you such as Xpress pick list files. Any of the additional files that you need can be placed on your mail disk.

1. To Create a BOOT diskette, use the DOS FORMAT command as follows:

```
FORMAT A: /S<cr>
```

2. Create a CONFIG.SYS file for the BOOT Diskette by typing the following:

```
COPY CON A:\CONFIG.SYS<cr>
FILES=20<cr>
BUFFERS=8<cr>
now press F6
```

3. Create a AUTOEXEC.BAT file for the BOOT Diskette by typing the following:

```
COPY CON A:\AUTOEXEC.BAT<cr>
@ECHO OFF<cr>
PATH A:\<cr>
SET COMSPEC=A:\COMMAND.COM<cr>
SET XOL=A:\<cr>
A:\XPREAD.EXE -MB:\ -RB:\ -WB:\<cr>
now press F6
```

4. Now put the copy of Xpress Files onto this diskette.
5. Format a second diskette on drive B, and label this diskette as your MAIL DISKETTE by typing:

```
FORMAT B:<cr>
```

When you use your communication diskette to call a BBS, make sure your communication program is configured to download the mail packets into DRIVE B.

At this point, you should be completely set up. If you have any problems, call the Xpress Technical SupportXE "Support"§ Center and ask for assistance. We will be very happy to assist you.

8 Installing the Protected ModeXE "Protected Mode"§ Version

The protected mode version of Silver Xpress (Pmode Xpress) is installed in the same manner as the regular version of Silver Xpress. The difference is the name of the file, which is called XPREADP.EXE instead of XPREAD.EXE. Some additional files called DPMI XE "DPMI"§drivers are required. A DPMI driver is supplied by Santronics Software. This driver is part of your protected mode install diskette and is installed manually using the PKUNZIP command.

There are two files on the protected mode diskette:

SXR400PU.ZIP	Protected Mode EXE programs
DPMI110.ZIP	DOS Protected Mode Server and Driver

After you have installed the regular version of Silver Xpress, type the following commands:

1. PKUNZIP -o A:SXR400PU.ZIP
2. PKUNZIP -o A:DPMI110.ZIP

After installation, the protected mode version file name is XPREADP.EXE instead of XPREAD.EXE. Run XPREADP.EXE when you want to start Pmode Xpress.

There are some special considerations to be made when using the protected mode version of Silver Xpress.

What is Protected Mode?

Protected mode is a hardware mode of operation designed for 286, 386 or 486 PC computers. It works on a 286 but more optimally for 386 or 486 machines. Protected mode uses computer memory in a linear fashion without the traditional DOS 640K limitation normally imposed by DOS-based programs. It is called protected mode, because protected mode applications are protected from each other. In other words, a protected mode program can not destroy another program running at the same time or hang the system. What does this all mean for Silver Xpress? With protected mode, Silver Xpress will utilize all of your memory up to 16 megabytes. 2 megabytes are required to use protected mode. You can download and open very large mail packets without any problems! Xpress will run faster because most operations are performed in memory and not on the hard disk which can be time consuming!

Will my Computer Run in Protected Mode?

If you have a 286, 386 or better yet, a 486 computer, with at least 2 megabytes of memory, you can run protected mode applications. In fact, if you run Windows 3.1 or OS/2 2.1, you are already running Protected Mode applications! Windows itself is a protected mode application and OS/2 is a protected mode operating system. Windows and OS/2 have built-in protected mode (DPMI) servers and drivers. Windows and OS/2 will allow applications written for protected mode to run in separate DOS windows! However, you don't need Windows or OS/2 to run the protected mode of Silver Xpress. The DPMI files from Santronics will allow protected mode Silver Xpress to run perfectly in DOS! If you have QEMM, you can run Pmode Xpress. QEMM comes with a QDPMI.SYS driver. See the QEMM manual to install QDPMI.SYS.

9 *Tutorial: Running Xpress the First Time*

Now the fun part! To begin running the reader, type:

`XPREAD<cr> or XPREADP<cr>`

Silver Xpress is pre-packaged to run correctly the first time. If you never ran XPREAD before, you will be presented with the Quick Configuration Setup. All configuration options were defined at the most common level. You have the option to select the simple quick defaults or allow XPREAD to ask you a few questions about your setup.

As soon as you type XPREAD, it will present the mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ loader screen.

§The packet loader displays all available mail packets (OPXXE "OPX"§ or QWKXE "QWK"§ by default) in the current directory or in the MAILBOX directory defined in the configuration section.

If you do not have any mail packets, pick some up from the bulletin board. With the original distribution Silver Xpress diskette, a WELCOME.OPXXE "OPX"§ mail file is available for practice. Open the WELCOME.OPXXE "OPX"§ to see how Silver Xpress works. (NOTE: WELCOME.OPXXE "OPX"§ was compressed using PKZIP. PKZIP/PKUNZIP is required to see this sample OPXXE "OPX"§ mail file).

The main assumption made for correctly running Xpress is that you have enough memory. You should have 300K available, at a minimum.

A second assumption made is that you have the proper archivers set up. Make sure you have the archivers stored in a DOS PATH directory. Xpress will tell you if it has a problem finding the appropriate archiver.

If XPREAD fails to run for you the first time, the odds are extremely high A) you do not have enough memory, or B) it could not find the archiver utilities. Please check these parameters before calling technical support.

If you want to change some options from the command line, see the section on ***Command LineXE "Command Line Parameters"§ Parameters***.

If you want to go directly into configuration, you can type XPREAD -S or, when the packet loader screen is presented, hit the Q for the QUIT option to go to the Silver Xpress Main pull down menu. See the configuration section for a complete description on the Silver Xpress options.

10 Command LineXE "Command Line Parameters"\$ Parameters

You may pass parameters (command line options) to the XPREAD.EXE program to change default or pre-defined options. Silver Xpress offers the following command line options:

- Cxxxx Use XXXX configuration file instead of default XPREAD.CFG.
- Xxxxx Use XXXX menu file instead of default SXMENU.LIB.
- DV Force Desqview Mode.
- V50 Force 43/50 video line mode.
- Wxxxx Define the default work directory. Xpress will always create a directory called WORK from this directory.
- Mxxxx Change the inbound mailbox directory. This is where your mail packetXE "Mail Packet"\$ (OPXXE "OPX"\$,QWKXE "QWK"\$, MHS) files are located.
- Rxxxx Change the outbound reply box directory. This is where the reply packet (REP) files are located.
- Oxxxx DO NOT do any archiving. It was done outside. XXXXXX is not required. If provided, it should be the full path name of the OPXXE "OPX"\$ file.

 Note: HLD and BIF files are created in the path specified by XXXXX, otherwise they are created in the work directory. It is your responsibility, if you go this route, to take this into account.
- TTOff Turn off Ticker Tape (registered user only).
- S Go directly to the configuration menu.
- KW Keep the work directory. Do not delete or remove it.
- Lxxxx Directly load the mail packetXE "Mail Packet"\$ file (xxxx is the file spec). If only 1 file is found, it will be automatically selected and opened.
- SFI Start the reader with the Speech Friendly Interface.
- /CHINESE Use normal ascii characters for drawing boxes.
- /VI Special switch to make certain items more "wordy".
- /MOff Force the mouse support OFF.
- /E3=XX Switch for people (Chinese language) who want to change the default QWKXE "QWK"\$ message delimiter. XX is a HEX number.

Examples:

Define the mail box and reply box, located in a communication program download directory:

XPREAD -mc:\telix\dnld -rc:\telix\dnld

TIP: By default, the reply box will always follow the mailbox directory, UNLESS it is specifically defined in the CONFIG section, or via the command line switches.

If the mailbox and reply box subdirectories are permanent (they never change), you can define these directories in the MAIL LOCATION section for the configuration. This eliminates the need to use the -M and -R switches. Show only QWKXE "QWK"§ files in the packet loader. No MouseXE "Mouse"§ or 50 line mode on a VGA monitor:

XPREAD -L*.QW? /MO -V50

Show only OPXXE "OPX"§ files in the packet loader.

XPREAD -L*.OP?

If you have a mailbox directory defined and a reply box defined in your configuration section, the following can be used to read the packets from the current directory:

XPREAD -M -R

Load a different Xpress Mail Menu:

XPREAD -Xnewmenu.lib

Use the SXDYMENU.EXE program to design and create your own menu for the system, or modify the one distributed with Xpress. See the section on Silver Xpress Dynamic Menu System.

11 Configuration

When you select the configuration option, the following pulldown menu is displayed:

§

There are many options, as you can see. As much as possible, all of the variables and options which belong together have been placed together in their appropriate sections.

If you have a hard time finding an option, the best thing to do is to use the help search system. To make Xpress work for you, the following two items are the minimum configuration considerations needed:

- Expansion and Compression in Archiver Information.
- If you plan to use your own editor, the Editor Command in Editor Information should be considered.

12 Mail Location Options

The MAIL LOCATION section will allow you to define the location of your new mail files and the place your Silver Xpress reply files will be stored.

13 Inbound MailXE "Inbound Mail"\$ Location

The inbound mail location is where the Xpress Packet LoaderXE "Packet Loader"\$ is told to find mail packets. If this field is left blank, Silver Xpress will use the current directory or the directory defined by the -M switch on the command line. The -M switch can be used to override this setting.

View this inbound directory as the default Xpress directory of mail packets.

Typically, a good location for the inbound directory is the download directory of your telecommunications program. Typically, your telecommunications program will download files into the current directory or the directory defined as its download path. Check your telecommunications program documentation for the "download path" option.

By defining the inbound directory as your telecommunications program's download path, you can easily download mail and quickly start up Silver Xpress to display the mail files in the packet loader. For example;

INBOUND MAIL DIRECTORY: C:\TELEX\MAIL

If you do not define an inbound directory, you must copy the downloaded mail packets into the Xpress Mail Directory or you can use the packet loader to manually switch the directory to the mail packetXE "Mail Packet"\$ directory location.

14 Outbound MailXE "Outbound Mail"\$ Location

The outbound mail location is where Xpress will create the REPLY files. REPLY files are the files you will send back, or upload to the BBS, to process new mail you created. If this field is left blank, Silver Xpress will use the current directory, or the directory defined by the -R switch. The -R switch can be used to override this setting.

Typically, the outbound directory is situated at a location where you can get to it easily with your telecommunications program. Often your telecommunications program will have a default "UPLOAD PATH". Setting the Outbound MailXE "Outbound Mail"\$ Location to the default "UPLOAD PATH" will make uploads easier.

OUTBOUND MAIL DIRECTORY: C:\TELEX\MAIL

15 Temporary WorkXE "Work Directory"\$ Location

This is where the Xpress work directory will perform its internal work. By

default, Silver Xpress will create a temporary directory off the current directory called "WORK". For example, if you are in the current directory C:\XPRESS, Silver Xpress will create a work directory called "C:\XPRESS\WORK". Keep in mind, knowledge of the internal workings of the WORK directory is not necessary. Silver Xpress will automatically create and delete this directory.

REMEMBER! Xpress will add WORK to the work location defined. If you want to define a RAM DISK as the work path, only define the root directory of the RAM Drive. i.e., E:\There are two reasons why you should know about the work directoryXE "Work Directory"§:

- 1) You want to use a RAM DRIVE. You should ensure that a ram drive is at least 3 times larger than the size of the largest OPXXE "OPX"§ or QWK XE "QWK"§mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ you plan to open and read.
- 2) You are using an external editor and this editor requires you to know about the work directory for saving files.

16 Packet Search Specification

The packet search XE "Searching Packets"§specification is the mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ search file specified to find QWK, OPX or MHS files. The packet loader will use this specification to find these files. By default, the specification is *.QW? *.OP?. This specification is sufficient to find QWK and OPX mail packets.

If you are not using a QWK mail system, you may change the specification to speed up the search. If the specification is blank, Silver Xpress will use *.OP? automatically. The ? is to cover QWK and OPX files that have had their extensions incremented to allow multiple files from the same BBS. Most telecommunications programs will download files and save them on your PC using a different file extension, if a file with same file name already exists. For example;

PITTX.OPX	Wednesday's mail from Pitt Xpress BBS
PITTX.OP1	Thursday's mail from Pitt Xpress BBS
PITTX.OP2	Friday's mail from Pitt Xpress BBS

Note: Not all telecommunications programs will automatically do this, so check the telecommunications program documentation for this option. Look for "Overwrite Existing File on Downloads". Keep in mind, overwriting an existing file may be exactly what you want to do because you are finished with the older mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§, and do not care to save it. This is a personal file management issue.

17 EditorXE "Editor"§ Information Options

In order to create mail, a text-based editor is necessary. A text-based editor is a program that allows you to compose or create text. Silver Xpress has an internal editor. It is not as powerful as some of the 3rd party editors such QeditXE "QEDIT"§, Word XE "MICROSOFT WORD"§or WordPerfectXE "WordPerfect"§, but it has the minimum basic components necessary to create and reply to mail. The internal editor in Silver Xpress is referred to as the short message editor because, for the most part, the internal editor is quite sufficient to create short messages without the loading overhead and delay required for external editors.

However, there are many situations when you would like to use your own editor, and not the one provided within Silver Xpress. You may simply be more comfortable with the editor to which you have become accustomed. Silver Xpress allows you to define your favorite editor for creating and replying to mail.

This section allows you to define your own editor, and also change some of the attributes for the internal editor, such as the window dimensions and text buffer size.

18 The Xpress Internal EditorXE "Internal Editor"\$XE "Editor"\$

The internal editor in Xpress is intended for creating quick replies and new messages.

The internal editor follows the WORDSTAR standard keyboard mapping.

19 Internal EditorXE "Internal Editor"\$XE "Editor"\$ Screen Dimensions

You may change the appearance of the internal editor window dimensions by changing the parameters shown in this screen. The corners of the windows are available and can be changed to suit your appearance needs. The extra bottom row during VGA value allows you to stretch the length of the window when you are in 43 or 50 row screen mode. Xpress will use the normal bottom row value during 25 row screen mode.

20 Internal EditorXE "Internal Editor"\$XE "Editor"\$ Limits

The internal editor can hold a maximum of 64K of text. If you divide this by 80 characters per line, the result is about 820 lines.

This option allows you to change the maximum lines allowed in the internal editor. The only reason this option exists, rather than leaving it at 820, is to conserve memory. If you are not creating long messages, you can conserve memory by reducing the maximum lines to a reasonable 100 lines. This will also have a minor effect in improving performance.

21 Defining an External EditorXE "Editor"\$ for Longer Messages

When the internal editor is inappropriate for creating or replying to mail, you may define your own 3rd party external editor.

This option allows you to define the program name for your editor, such as Q.EXE for QEDIT.

If your external editor is located on the path, all you need to do is name the editor. If it is not located on the PATH, you must provide the fully qualified path to it.

Examples:

QEDIT by SemWare.

External EditorXE "Editor"\$ Program Filename: C:\UTILS\Q.EXE.

Word Perfect.

External EditorXE "Editor"\$ Program Filename: \$C:\WP5\WP.EXE.

Wordstar.

External EditorXE "Editor"\$ Program Filename: \$C:\WS\WS.EXE.

Silver Xpress will always pass the full file name EMAIL.TXT to the editor. EMAIL.TXT is a flat ASCIIXE "ASCII"\$ file. For example, if you are using Word Perfect, Xpress will perform the following:

\$C:\WP5\WP.EXE C:\XPRESS\WORK\EMAIL.TXT

This means you should save your message using the same file name. By doing so, you will ensure Xpress will pick up EMAIL.TXT and use it for the eventual message. Some editors or word processors such as Word Perfect or WordStar do not save files automatically as ascii files. You must ensure the word processor will save the EMAIL.TXT as an ASCIIXE "ASCII"\$ file.

A program like Word Perfect 5.1 can use the following keystrokes to save a message:

CTRL F5 1 (DOS) 1 (SAVE) SHIFT F10 YES

An explanation of the keystrokes follows:

CTRL F5 to save
1 to use a DOS file (ASCIIXE "ASCII"\$)
1 to Save
SHIFT F10 will recall the original name
YES to replace the original document

You may wish to define a Word Perfect macro to simplify the keystrokes. The same holds true for any other word processor whose native format is not ASCIIXE "ASCII"\$.

If your editor is very large (requiring lots of memory to run, such as Word Star or Word Perfect), it is highly recommended you use EXEC SWAPPING techniques to call the external editor. To use EXEC SWAPPING, prefix the editor command with the \$ or # sign. See the section on EXEC SWAPPING.

When you use an external editor, it can be important to know which files Xpress has created and passed to the editor. This is particularly true for editors such as Word Perfect or Word Star.

The external editor is called from the Xpress startup directory. In other words, Xpress will temporarily switch from the work directory prior to calling the editor.

Xpress will call the editor, and pass to it, a fully qualified path name to the EMAIL.TXT in the work directory; i.e., c:\xpress\work\email.txt.

EMAIL.TXT will be completely empty for a new message you are creating, or have quoted text if you are replying to a message.

When the editor is finished, Xpress will switch back to the work directory and immediately look for the file EMAIL.TXT. It is very important your editor saves the file, EMAIL.TXT, in the XPRESS WORK Directory.

Xpress will reread this file, EMAIL.TXT, and use it for creating the eventual Xpress formatted message.

22 The Default EditorXE "Default Editor"\$

Whenever you want to create a reply or a new message, Silver Xpress will present the MESSAGE HEADER screen. In this screen, there is a prompt that says:

SHORT MESSAGE: YES/NO

If you answer YES to this message, the internal editor will be the default, otherwise your external editor will be the default.

This default editorXE "Default Editor"\$ option allows you to define the initial state of the SHORT MESSAGE question to either YES or NO. This allows you to use one or the other a lot more quickly.

23 Following the Private Mail Flag

Whenever you want to create a reply to a message you are reading, you may wish to follow the PRIVATE or NON-PRIVATE status of the message. If someone writes a private message to you, you may wish to AUTOMATICALLY reply with a private message.

This option allows you to set the default setting that Xpress will offer when replying to mail.

NOTE: This option only makes sense in situations where you are allowed to change the private status. Some conferences are forced private or forced non-private (public), in which case, the FOLLOW PRIVATE FLAG option has no effect.

24 Editor Tab ExpansionThe editor tab expansion is used to expand tabs when creating mail. If a zero value is defined, no tab expansion will take place.

25 Internal Editor Word Wrap Width

When using the internal editor, Xpress will do a word wrap as you type your mail at the defined word wrap column or width. A good width is 72 characters. This allows for future mail quoting.

26 ArchiverXE "Archiver"\$ Information Options

One of the features of Silver Xpress which allows off-line mail processing to be very efficient, is how Silver Xpress uses archivers to compress and expand information. By compressing mail, the Silver Xpress Mail System allows you to retrieve more information from remote hostXE "Remote Host"\$ systems in less time.

Archivers are 3rd party utilities which compress and expand data. Silver Xpress has the ability to dynamically check the mail packets to see which archiver is necessary. This is called the Xpress ArchiverXE "Archiver"§ DetectionXE "Archiver Detection"§ System. In the file called ARCHIVER.DEF, you may declare up to 20 different compression systems. By default, the most common archivers were defined in this file. To change this file, use a text editor.

The default archivers declared in the ARCHIVER.DEF file are pre-defined and fully tested. They should work in all cases. However, they assume the archivers are locatable in a PATHed directory. For ease of use, make a directory called C:\UTILS and place all your compression utilities in it. Add ;C:\UTILS to the end of your path statement in your AUTOEXEC.BAT.

27 The Xpress Archive DetectionXE "Archiver Detection"§ System

The ARCHIVER system in Xpress allows you to define different archivers and not be stuck with just one. This is what the ArchiverXE "Archiver"§ DetectionXE "Archiver Detection"§ System (ADS) does for you. With ADS enabled, Xpress will check the compressed format of a mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ and call the proper expansion program.

If you turn this option off, you must explicitly define the archiver for your mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§.

NOTE: In order for the ADS system to work, Xpress must find the ARCHIVER.DEF file. It will check for this file in the same directory as XPREAD.EXE. If not found, the ADS system is shut off and you cannot use this intelligent archiver detection system.

28 Packet List File Check

The Xpress Packet LoaderXE "Packet Loader"§ will use the defined packet search specification to search and display the packets to be opened. For example, a packet specification of *.O?? will display all files with an extension beginning with the letter O.

Sometimes this extension will result in files being displayed, which are not true Xpress Mail packets. If the Packet List File Check is enabled (YES), Xpress will use the archiver detection system to check for true Xpress Mail Packets.

If you are very sure you do not have any other files existing with extensions of O?? other than Xpress Mail Packets, turning this option off will speed up Xpress.

29 Packet ExpansionXE "Expansion"§/CompressionXE "Compression"§ Commands

The expansion and compression commands are used to decompress Xpress Mail Packets and compress Xpress Mail Reply files. It is very important these commands are defined correctly.

If the ArchiverXE "Archiver"§ DetectionXE "Archiver Detection"§ System is ON, it does not matter what you type here. The EXPANSION and COMPRESSION commands will be automatically retrieved from the ARCHIVER.DEF file.

If the ArchiverXE "Archiver"§ DetectionXE "Archiver Detection"§ System is OFF, you must define an EXPANSION COMMAND and a COMPRESSION COMMAND.

One way to speed up Xpress is to be specific with the archiver you are using, and shut off the archiver detection system. For example, if you are only using the PKZIP utilities to compress and expand mail, shut off the ArchiverXE "Archiver"§ DetectionXE "Archiver Detection"§ System, and hardcode the following expansion and compression commands:

```
EXPANSION COMMAND :      PKUNZIP -O %1
COMPRESSION COMMAND :      PKZIP -M %130      Internal
unzipper
```

This option is only available in the protected mode version of Silver Xpress. The internal unzipper is a decompression system which supports the PKZIP version 1.1x compression format. Please note this does not support the PKZIP 2.04g format. If you are using PKZIP 2.04g format, you must turn this option off. Please note, the internal unzipper is not as fast as PKUNZIP.

31 Quoting Mail Options

When reading messages, you can reply to the message and include parts of it in your reply. A very popular feature in electronic mail^{XE} "Electronic Mail"[§] conversations is to quote part of the original message with the author's initials marked with a >.

32 When to Quote Mail

This option gives you three choices:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| NEVER: | Will set the QUOTE MESSAGE to NO at the message header screen as a default. The prompt will be skipped. |
| ALWAYS | Will set the QUOTE MESSAGE to YES at the message header screen as a default. The quote prompt will be skipped. |
| PROMPT | Will set the QUOTE MESSAGE to YES at the message header screen as a default, however, you will be allowed to change it for a given reply. |

33 Quoting Characters

If the Quoting characters are blank, the original author's initials for the message you are replying to are used for the quote characters.

If the quote characters are not blank, it will be used for the quoting characters when replying.

The most common quote character used is the author's initials with a >, because it gives a little history on who wrote the message. But " > " is also a common quote character.

34 Quote^{XE} "Quoting Mail"[§] Width

When Xpress quotes messages, it must format the paragraph to prefix the paragraph with the quote characters. To do this, it must have a quote width, which appears on the right side margin of the screen.

The recommended value is 72-75.

35 Defining Your Own Mail Quote System

Silver Xpress offers the ability to define your own quoting system. If you define a quote program, Silver Xpress will call this program instead of using the internal quoting logic.

If you define a quote program, Silver Xpress will create an ASCII^{XE} "ASCII"[§] version of the original message and pass it to the quote program. It is the quote program's responsibility to read this file, and properly massage and rewrite the file, using the same file name.

If you have or find a quote program and wish to use it, put the program name in this option and add the %1 parameter to it. For example:

QUOTE PROGRAM : QUOTE.EXE %1

Xpress will substitute %1 with the fully qualified file name to EMAIL.TXT which will be stored in the work directory. Xpress will then call this quote program. When it returns, Xpress will use the same file name for the resultant quoted message, and take you immediately to your editor.

The EMAIL.TXT file Xpress creates for quoting will have the following format:

XQF-1 (c) copyright statement

DATE: YYMMDDHHMMSS

FROM:

TO:

SUBJ:

<blank line>

TEXT

The date YYMMDDHHMMSS is formatted to allow for easy data interpretation.

YY-Year

MM-Month

DD-Day

HH-Hour (military 24 hr basis)

MM-Minutes

SS-Seconds

36 Reply Headers

Reply headers allow users to better identify participants in a message thread. These headers are particularly useful in replying to messages posted to ALL, or interjecting comments in a message posted to someone else.

A short pick list file of reply headers called REPLYHDR.LIS is available, and it includes icons called "Xpress Tokens" for creating your own customized list of reply headers. When you reply to a message, you will be given an option to select a line from predefined reply headers.

Define the file name of the reply header file. Prefix the file name with the @ character. Once you have defined a file REPLYHDR.LIS, your customized list will appear after completing the information in a message header dialog screen. Highlight the header you wish to use and it will appear at the beginning of your reply message.

For example, a typical reply header may said:

On Dec 25, 1993, Andrea Santos said to Gary Petersen the following:

Silver Xpress has the intelligence to customize reply headers based on the author and the recipient of the message using what are called Xpress TokensXE "XPRESS TOKENS"§. For example, the reply header given above was defined with a reply header selected from the REPLYHDR.LIS:

On @D@, @AN@ wrote to @RN@:\n

The @D@ puts the date of the message, the @AN@ puts in the author's name and the @RN@ puts in the recipient's name. The \n will add a carriage return and line feed. There is a long list of reply tokens. See APPENDIX E, "Xpress Tokens," for a full description of the available Xpress Tokens which can be used to construct different reply header lines.

37 Printing Mail Options

Silver Xpress will allow you to print mail to your local printer or device defined. When you are reading mail, you can use the P key to begin printing the message.

You may also print messages you created, or use the Xpress SearchXE "Searching Mail"§ Facility to print mail in a group.

38 When to Eject the Paper

When printing mail to a printer, it is sometimes desirable to eject the paper before or after the message is printed, or to not eject at all.

This option gives you three choices:

NEVER	Send a form feed.
AFTER	Send a form feed after the mail is printed.
BEFORE	Send a form feed before the mail is printed.

There are other ways to tell Xpress when to send form feeds. You may define a print device PICK LIST file and device names having special qualifiers. See PC Printer Device Port.

Note: For faxing mail using a print device, you do not want to issue a form feed. See *Sending a FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ using a PrintXE "Printing Mail"§ Option.*

39 The PC Printer Device Port

Silver Xpress allows you to define the printer device name to print mail. A Printer Device Name is a symbol a PC uses to identify a printer.

For an IBM PC or compatible, there are usually 4 printer devices: LPT1, LPT2, LPT3, LPT4. PRN is a special printer device name and usually means LPT1. However, you are not limited to using the printer device names. Some PC setups use a serial device to print, such as COM1, COM2, etc.

Do not use a serial device name such as COM1, COM2 in Silver Xpress.

If you need to use a serial device name, use the DOS MODE command to tell DOS to substitute the COM device name with a LPT device name, such as LPT2. Then tell Xpress to use LPT2.

PRINTER DEVICE PICK LIST

If you want to display a list of printer devices from which you can choose, use @FILENAME. Using this option is one way to FAX mail. @FILENAME is a list of devices or files to print, formatted like other list files. The default pick list name for this option is PRINT.LIS.

If you use a list file to display printer devices, Xpress will follow the form feed option defined. However, you can override the form feed option by using the following qualifiers for the device names in a pick list:

- /N Never issue a form feed.
- /B Issue a form feed before the print.
- /A Issue a form feed after the print.

For example:

```
%EXTRACT
LPT1            - Your Default Printer
LPT2/N          - FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ card on LPT2/No form
feed
CASFAX/N       - Special keyword for direct CAS-based faxing
FILE.PRN/A     - Send Printout to File
```

40 Sending a FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ Using the PrintXE "Printing Mail"§ Option

Silver Xpress has an internal method for faxing mail using the Intel CAS FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ standard. This is a growing standard and more fax cards are adopting CAS as a standard. See the section on Faxing with Silver Xpress.

This section will show you how you can FAX mail you are reading or creating using a PRINT DEVICE NAME. Since Xpress has print options at nearly every point in the program when reading or creating mail, this is one powerful way to trigger a fax.

Most fax cards come with TSR (Terminate and Stay Resident) software or a fax device driver which allows you to fax anything that is sent to the printer. Usually it is set at LPT2 because LPT1 is reserved for your normal printer.

If you want to fax a message you are reading or creating, there are 3 things you can do:

- Hard Code the PRINTER DEVICE NAME to LPT2 or whichever is your FAX print Device name.
- Use a Pick ListXE "Pick List"§ file @FILENAME to define a list of print devices from which to choose. Include the FAX print device name among your normal print device name, and this gives you the option to easily choose one. Use the optional qualifier /N to tell Xpress not to send a form feed. This will save a page of fax.
- If you have a fax card supporting CAS, you can use the special Xpress printer device name CASFAX in your printer device list.

41 Reader and Viewer Mail Options

42 Mail Width when Viewing Mail

When Xpress is going to display a message in the Read Mail Session, you can change the width of the view with this option. The default setting is 80, and for most situations, you will not need to change it.

43 Display SEEN-BY Lines.

This option is normally turned off.

Seen-by lines are network information normally passed along with mail. Xpress sysops usually don't pass on this information to you, as you don't need it, and it reduces the size of your mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ if it is not passed.

However, if the sysop has passed it on, you have the option to display it or not. If your Sysop is not passing it, this option has no effect.

44 Skipping Xpress WindowXE "Xpress Window"§ Commands

Xpress DOT Commands are special mail commands that will draw windows and play music. Sometimes you don't want to be bothered with the Xpress dot commands. If you have this option off, you will instead see the dot commands

in uninterpreted format. If you want to see them all the time, leave this option ON.

If you turn it off and you do encounter a message with DOT commands, you have the option of hitting the letter W on your keyboard to temporarily turn the Xpress DOT Commands ON while you are reading MAIL. This toggle will remain active until you press "W" again, at which time it will be OFF for reading. This toggle has no permanent effect. When you start the reader next time, the settings in the Reader/Viewer Options will be in effect again.

45 SkipXE "Skipping Mail"\$ MAIL Kludge Lines.

Echo Mail contains information other than the SEEN-BYS listed above. Often, there are what are called KLUDGE LINES. These lines contain additional network information. Among the more common uses are MSID , PID and the INTL lines. All kludge lines begin on column 1 and have a CONTROL A character at the start of the line. If you want to SEE these hidden lines, turn this option ON. For a cleaner look, turn it OFF.

46 ViewingXE "Viewing Mail"\$ ANSI\$ Mail

Xpress has a very fast, built-in ANSI\$ driver to view ANSI\$ "ANSI"\$ mail. If you turn this option on, Xpress will send the mail text through the built-in ANSI\$ interpreter. ANSI\$ "ANSI"\$ messages have ANSI\$ "ANSI"\$ escape sequences to create fancy and colorful displays. This type of mail is usually found in host systems participating in the PCRelay Network (PCBOARD).

NOTE: If you create Ansi mail using THEDRAW or a similar program, you must set the save width to 80 characters or less. Otherwise, Xpress will truncate your mail.

NOTE: If you turn this option off and you encounter a message with ANSI\$ "ANSI"\$ characters, you can turn it on for that message by pressing Ctrl-A or A while reading. It is recommended that you leave this option set to OFF, and use the ALT-A or A keyboard switch when you encounter ANSI\$ "ANSI"\$ mail. As a rule, ANSI\$ "ANSI"\$ mail is STRICTLY FORBIDDEN in Fido Net Echoes. As such, you will usually see ANSI\$ "ANSI"\$ mail only in Echoes specifically designed for ANSI\$ "ANSI"\$ mail. The reason ANSI\$ "ANSI"\$ mail is not generally allowed in Fido Net Echoes, is that some BBS software can not handle the special characters but, more importantly, they carry a huge overhead.

47 Auto Advance when TaggingXE "Tagging Mail"\$ Mail

Xpress has two tagging mechanisms in the read mail session: (T)ag and (K)ill. If you set this option ON, tagging mail will automatically advance you to the next available message. Since most people TAG with one of these options when they are finished reading the current message, ON is the default. If you do not

want to auto advance, set this option OFF.

48 Strip Reply Token

Whenever you reply to a message you are reading, Silver Xpress will retain the original subject line for the new message you are creating. Normally, it will add the prefix "Re:" to the subject line to indicate it is a reply.

For example:

The original subject: "Using Silver Xpress" will have "Re: Using Silver Xpress" in a reply message.

If you do not want this behavior, set "STRIP REPLY TOKEN" to yes. It is recommended you keep this option off or set at NO. This will allow you to keep a better history of mail.

49 Tab Expansion Value

When Silver Xpress displays a message to read, sometimes it will find a tab character embedded in the message. TABS will show up as a block character with a dot in the middle of it (ASCII value 8). By setting the TAB EXPANSION VALUE to a non-zero value, Xpress will "expand" the tabs. Expanding means the tab characters will be replaced with spaces, the amount indicated by this option. The typical tab expansion value is 5, 6, 7 or 8. Recommended value is 5.

50 Mail SearchXE "Searching Mail"\$ Options

51 DirectXE "Direct Mail"\$ and Keyword Mail

When on, DIRECT MAIL with Urgent option will, as part of the GET PERSONAL MAIL on the Mail Menu, gather mail addressed directly to your name. This OPTION defaults to ON, and you will generally have no reason to set it OFF.

When on, KEYWORD MAIL with Urgent OPTION will include mail that matches your KEYWORD list when you download mail from the remote hostXE "Remote Host"\$. By turning this option OFF, you can read only your direct mail, without the added overhead of the KEYWORD mail.

52 Skipping Mail Already Read

This option tells Xpress to skip mail you've already read or received in the Xpress Reader. It allows you to read a mail packetXE "Mail Packet"\$, and stop. When you come back to continue, this option will hide the mail you have

already seen. This makes it easier to read mail you have not yet read. If you want to go back and see the mail you have read, you will have to turn this option OFF, SAVE, and exit and restart the Reader.

53 Skipping Mail Already Marked Killed

This option works like the SKIP MAIL ALREADY READ, except it only effects mail that you have TAGGED with the KILL option in the Read Mail Session.

54 Searching Only Selected Areas

Xpress will allow you to select mail areas with the AREA PICK LIST by hitting the space bar.

If any conferences are selected, and this option is ON, Xpress will only search these areas when looking for mail. Otherwise, all areas are searched for mail.

55 File CabinetXE "File Cabinet"\$ Options

Silver Xpress now offers a flexible file cabinet system designed to augment the storage and retrieval of mail. You can file mail you are reading or mail you create! To use the file cabinet system, you must define a FILE CABINET PICK LIST file. ON is provided, by way of example with this package, as CABINET.LIS.

Xpress uses a simple, built-in method of saving mail in ASCII\$ format in the file cabinet. As an OPTION, you can define your own file cabinet system by defining a FILE CABINET PROGRAM and a FILE CABINET VIEWER.

56 File CabinetXE "File Cabinet"\$ Pick ListXE "Pick List"\$

This is the default pick list for popping up a list of file cabinet names. When you want to save a message using the built-in File CabinetXE "File Cabinet"\$ System in Xpress, hit the F2 key to pop up the list when Xpress prompts you for a file name to save the message. Modify the included CABINET.LIS, sticking to the format shown, to add/remove cabinets.

57 File CabinetXE "File Cabinet"\$ Extensions

This field defines the default file cabinet file name extension to use. The items in the list file, CABINET.LIS, are file names for each file cabinet. If only the file name portion is provided, this extension will be used.

58 File CabinetXE "File Cabinet"\$ Directory

The file cabinet directory is used as the default location to save your file cabinet files. A typical location would be:

C:\XPRESS\CABINET\

Note: XPRESS does not create this directory. You have to create it

before you define it. You can use the Shell to DOS on the Services menu to drop to DOS to quickly add the directory, and type EXIT to return to Xpress.

If no directory is defined, the default startup directory is used as the file cabinet directory.

59 Defining your Own File Cabinet System

60 Filing Mail

Silver Xpress effortlessly allows you to integrate 3rd party software with the Xpress Mail system. If you define a file cabinet program, Xpress will call this program instead of using the built-in file cabinet system. This allows you to provide an alternative mail/filer management system.

When you hit the **S** key (save message) while reading mail, Silver Xpress will create an ASCII "ASCII" file called EMAIL.TXT (fully qualified to the work directory) and pass it to the defined file cabinet "File Cabinet" program. It is the responsibility of the 3rd party file cabinet program to take this EMAIL.TXT file and act accordingly. Enter the name of your 3rd party program, if you plan on using one in the following format:

SAVE FILE CABINET PROGRAM: FILENAME.EXE %1

61 Viewing "Viewing Mail" Mail

By defining a file cabinet viewer, Xpress will call this program instead of using the built-in internal editor to view stored mail.

If you provide a file cabinet viewer, there is no need to provide a %1 after the program name. Xpress will call the viewer and pass the name of the cabinet from the Cabinet "File Cabinet" Pick List "Pick List".

If you save lots of mail to your file cabinets, you may want to define an editor here that can handle large files. The internal editor can handle files up to 64k. If you save a lot of mail to a cabinet, it can quickly exceed 64k. In this case, define an editor you know can handle larger files. One that can handle very large files is QEDIT or KEDIT. For simply viewing with options to mark and extract, use V. Buerger's LIST program.

62 Signatures and Taglines

Silver Xpress has the ability to append to the bottom of your newly created message or reply, signatures and taglines. Signatures are normally your name, where taglines are fancy sayings.

Signatures

You can put your signature into mail you create by defining a signature file. Signatures are placed at the bottom of your text. The following is an example:

Hector Santos, Fidonet 1:135/382

If you have more than one line of signature information, you may use the @ prefix and include a file name, for example, @SIGN.LIS. Xpress will pop up a list of signature files from which to select. Once the selection is made the entire selected file will appear at the bottom of the message. A signature file is a normal ascii text file. Xpress will not add any blank lines before or after the signature information is read. You should take this into account.

For example, in a SIGN.LIS file, you can have something like this:

```
%TITLE Signatures for Mail
YOURNAME      - Use your default user name as supplied by the BBS
YOURALIAS     - Use your default alias name as supplied by the BBS
<HEC>         - My traditional signature
xpress.sig    - signature with Xpress Support Information
```

Note: If you want a multiple line signature file, and want to avoid the pop up list, use the %ITEM keyword in your signature list file. See the section Silver Xpress Pick ListXE "Pick List"\$ System.

Taglines

Taglines are those sayings you often find in public access electronic mailXE "Electronic Mail"\$ systems, at the bottom of messages.

If you want to display a list of signatures, define a tagline pick list file and prefix the list file name with an @ character.

Taglines are considered a privilege on the remote hostXE "Remote Host"\$. Taglines can be disabled by the remote hostXE "Remote Host"\$ operator, either at the forum level, or altogether. What this means is even if you define a Tagline pick list, Xpress will not pop up the list or allow you to add one if Xpress is told by the remote hostXE "Remote Host"\$ not to allow it. Check with your remote hostXE "Remote Host"\$ sysop before talking to Santronics Software about this option.

JOHN HANCOCK Tagline Support

If the tagline is @JH?.REP, Silver Xpress will automatically grab it and use it for the tagline whenever you save the message you are creating. If you define a TAGLINE PROGRAM, Silver Xpress will first run this program before grabbing the JH?.REP. JOHN HANCOCK will allow you to pick a tagline and store it in a file called JH?.REP.

For JOHN HANCOCK support, define the following in Xpress (assuming you have JH3.EXE in the directory C:\JH3):

```
TAGLINE or @PICKLIST  :    @JH?REP
TAGLINE PROGRAM       :    $C:\JH3\JH3.EXE
```


Please note, if you don't have enough memory to run JH3.EXE, prefix the command with the \$ sign for exec swapping as in the above example.

See the section Silver Xpress Pick ListXE "Pick List"§ System for further details on working with Xpress list files.

63 Mail Pick ListXE "Pick List"§ File Options.

When you are creating mail, Xpress will present a message header. In the message header, you will have a TO, FROM, SUBJECT, and other fields to fill out. In each of the fields, you can hit the F2 key to display a PICK LIST for that particular field. For instance, suppose you want to send a message to a person you send mail to frequently. You can put the person's name in a pick list and define the pick list filename in the TO FIELD pick list option. This is the same for all other fields in the message header. Pick ListXE "Pick List"§ files allow you to select the items from a pre-defined pick list to quickly create mail. See the section on Silver Xpress Pick ListXE "Pick List"§ System for information on creating or modifying a pick list.

64 Importing Text

This is the default pick list for popping up a list of pre-defined files you may wish to automatically include in a message. If you use this option when creating or replying to mail, Xpress will skip the editor and simply include the file in the message. To add to or change the included file, select EDIT when the popup list of options appears.

65 Recipient/TO Field List File

This is the default pick list for popping up a list of names to whom you want to send mail. It can be a standard addressee list.

If the mail conference is a NET MAIL mail area, Xpress will present a message header screen with additional fields for entering net mail information.

66 From Field List File

This is the default pick list for popping up a list of names to use in the FROM WHOM field when you are creating or replying to mail. Note: You may not have the opportunity to edit or change the name of the person who is the author of the message, such as yourself. This is only allowed in conferences where anonymous mail is available.

67 Subject Field List File

This is the default pick list for popping up a list of common subjects.

68 FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ Field List File

This is the default pick list for popping up a list of FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ Numbers. The fax field will only appear when your remote service offers an off-line fax service.

69 Net MailXE "Net Mail"§ Name and Address

This is the default pick list for popping up a list of names to whom you want to send net mail. It can be a standard net mail addressee list.

Note: This option is only available to users who have net mail access, as provided by the remote hostXE "Remote Host"§.

70 Net Mail Attribute Field List File

This is the default pick list for popping up a list of net mail attributes for sending net mail. See the documentation for assistance in generating a NETFLAGS pick list file.

Note: This option is only available to users who have net mail access as provided by the sysop.

71 Defining Hot Keys

Silver Xpress allows for 6 hot keys to be defined. These hot keys can be used to call an external program at anytime during the program or, if any are available, it will use the internal operations of Xpress. Although these hold no special meaning, the 6 hot keys designated are somewhat of a standard, in terms of their use in the PC Market. The following are the specified hot keys and their usages. They may be substituted with your own program.

NOTE: Hot Keys are not available while you are shelled to DOS, or in an external program.

ALT C

Typically, ALT-C is defined for calling a communication program such as TELIX.EXE. For example:

ALT C PROGRAM: C:\TELIX\TELIX.EXE

ALT J

Typically, ALT-J is defined for shelling to DOS temporarily. ALT J will shell to DOS when there is nothing defined. EXEC Swapping does not take place. If you want EXEC SWAPPING to take place so that Xpress leaves you with all of your memory to shell to DOS, use the following command:

ALT- J PROGRAM: \$C:\COMMAND.COM

ALT E

Typically, ALT-E is defined for calling an external editor such as Qedit. For example:

ALT E PROGRAM: !Q.EXE ?

If no editor is defined, Xpress will use the internal editor. Xpress will prompt you for the file name before calling the editor. If you define an external editor and you want Xpress to prompt you for a file name, provide a question mark (?) as a parameter to the editor program.

ALT V

This is your VIEW FILE key. At any time, you can hit ALT V and Xpress will ask you for the name of a file to view. If nothing is defined for this key, Silver Xpress will use the internal viewer. If you wish to use an external program, define the name of the program you wish to use. If you want Xpress to prompt you for the file name before calling the external viewing program, provide a question mark (?) as a parameter to the viewing program. For example:

ALT V PROGRAM: \$VIEW ?

ALT P

This is your PICKLIST Editor Key. Silver Xpress uses many pick list files throughout the system so you can select information during various operations, i.e., tags.lis for taglines, signs.lis for signatures, replyhdr.lis for reply headers, cabinet.lis for file folders, etc. See the section on Silver Xpress Pick List System.

When you hit ALT P during any point, Xpress will present the special file PICKLIST.LIS which is a list of all the picklist files used by Silver Xpress. This will allow you to select a picklist file to edit.

If nothing is defined for the ALT P key, Silver Xpress will use the internal editor to edit a pick list file you select. If you would like to use your own editor, define an editor in this field:

ALT P PICKLIST PROGRAM: \$Q.EXE

ALT B

This is your BOSS key. If nothing is defined for this key, Silver Xpress will display the file called BOSS.BSV when this key is used.

To change it to do something more productive, use something else like so:

ALT B PROGRAM: \$C:\123\LOTUS.EXE

72 Miscellaneous File and Program Paths

73 Xpress System Path

This is the directory where Xpress will find new system files such as list files, if they are not found in the current directory, the same directory as Silver Xpress, or on the DOS PATH directories.

If a new file (list file) is being created, Xpress will use the Xpress System Path as the location to store the new file.

This definition is most useful when you are sharing your Xpress system with other people on the same machine or on a network. Each user can define a system path and store it in their personal configuration. If you go with this method, use the -C switch parameter to define the XPREAD.CFG file that belongs to you. For example:

```
XPREAD -Cc:\jaclyn\xpread.cfg
```

However, please note there are other recommended methods for sharing Xpress with other people on a LAN. It is OK to copy Xpress to a common directory but each user should have his or her own directory and before calling Xpress, the user should switch to his personal directory. Xpress will always look in the current directory first, unless the Xpress System Path is defined.

74 Xpress Log File

This is the name of the file that will keep a record of Xpress Activity. If you are having difficulties, the log can be useful for finding and solving problems. Most of the time, you will not want it. Define a FILENAME, or put the word NULL if you don't want a log file. If left blank, Xpress will use the name XPREAD.LOG.

75 File Attachment Storage Directory

This is the directory where FILES which are attached to you will be stored when extracted from the OPXXE "OPX"\$. The location of this directory should not be on a RAM drive or in a WORK directory, as the attached files will be deleted from the OPXXE "OPX"\$, and if placed in the WORK directory or on a RAM Drive, they will be lost. Ensure you define a directory on your HD or a

FLOPPY Drive; i.e., your standard upload or download directory.

76 Spell CheckerXE "Spell Checker"§ Program

Silver Xpress allows you to define a program which can be called from the SAVE MAIL menu after you create a new message.

Although generic in concept, meaning this can be any program, it is currently listed as a spell check option.

Silver Xpress has no built-in spell checker as of yet, but you can use any other spell check program. A good one available is ShareSpell Version 2.3. Xpress defaults to having the entry for running ShareSpell defined. If you want to use another Spell CheckerXE "Spell Checker"§, use the default entry as a guideline.

Spell CheckerXE "Spell Checker"§ Program : \$c:\spell\ss.exe %1

77 Mail ProcessXE "Mail Process"§ Program

This is yet another power feature in Silver Xpress. If you hit the D key while reading mail, you can process the message by sending it to the MAIL PROCESS program, if defined.

If you have more than one mail process to execute, you may define a list file. The default list file is @MAILPROC.LIS

```
%EXTRACT :  
Q.EXE %1      : Edit the File  
SENDFAX %1    : FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ The File
```

The possibilities here are endless and only Silver Xpress offers this feature!

78 CrashXE "Crash Call"§ Call Directory

This subdirectory is where Silver Xpress will create the special XPRESS.CLO file. If no subdirectory is provided, Xpress will create this file in the start up directory.

The XPRESS.CLO is a special file which interfaces with Gold Xpress™, other communication programs and the CRASH CALL option on the packet loader. See the section on the Packet LoaderXE "Packet Loader"§, CALL option.

Gold Xpress™ is a communication program which will regulate your mail and reply packets more efficiently. It is designed to understand mail management, such as when to transfer, delete or file mail.

If you are a registered user of Silver Xpress Plus, you can purchase Gold Xpress™ at a substantial discount.

79 Xpress Nodelist PathXE "XPRESS NODELIST"§

The Xpress Nodelist Path is only used when creating FidoNet NetmailXE "Net Mail"§ messages. The Xpress Nodelist will give you the ability to double check FidoNet Netmail addresses and to create netmail carbon copies. You may create netmail or netmail carbon copies without the Xpress Nodelist file, however, you must know the FidoNet Netmail addresses of the people to whom you are sending mail.

Before you may use netmail, the sysop must be a member of the FidoNet Network and he must give you access to a FidoNet Netmail conference.

In order to use the Xpress NodeList, the sysop must be able to create the Xpress NodeList File using a package called XLAXNODE on his system, and he must enable the Xpress NodeList system specifically for you. If he enables it for you, the Xpress Nodelist will automatically be sent to you via the mail packets you download.

To use the Xpress Nodelist, you must be at the FidoNet Netmail Message Header Dialog Screen. This is a special screen designed specifically for FidoNet compatible systems.

When you are at the TO WHOM or NETMAIL ADDRESS fields in this special netmail dialog screen, you may hit the ALT-F2 key to verify the name or FidoNet address you typed. If the name is correct, Xpress will automatically adjust the netmail address. If you type in a netmail address and hit ALT-F2, Xpress will adjust the recipient's name. If either is incorrect, nothing will happen. If a FidoNet member has more than 1 address, you will be shown a list of multiple addresses from which to select.

Talk to your sysop for more information on FidoNet NetMail.

80 Virtual Disk Directory

This is a special optional directory you may define to store the temporary virtual disk file Silver Xpress will create. This file is only required for the real mode XE "REAL MODE"§version of Silver Xpress. If you are using the protected modeXE "PROTECTED MODE"§ version of Xpress, you will not see this option. It is not required for Protected Mode.

If you are using the real mode, you may define a directory on a RAM drive to speed up operations. However, it is recommended you leave this option alone (blank) unless it is absolutely necessary.

81 VideoXE "Video"\$, MouseXE "Mouse"\$, SoundXE "Sound"\$ and ColorXE "Color"\$ Options

82 Customizing the ColorXE "Color"\$ and SoundXE "Sound"\$ System

The entire color and sound system in Silver Xpress can be customized. This section will allow you to change the colors for each part in Xpress, or you can use a pre-defined COLOR FILE as configured by an Xpress user.

83 Picking a Pre-defined ColorXE "Color"\$ File

A color file is a pre-defined color set, as defined by Xpress users. Xpress will display all color files (*.CLR) in a pick list with a description for each one. You can select one and use it as your color set. If you wish to customize colors in Silver Xpress, use the SXCOLOR.EXE program. With SXCOLOR.EXE, you can customize and create new color files for yourself and for other Xpress users.

84 Setting the Video Mode

Silver Xpress now works with 3 different video modes, 25 line mode or 43/50 line mode. 43 line mode is found on EGA monitors while 50 line mode is found on VGA monitors. Xpress will change its presentation of windows and pick lists to better fit in a large screen space.

You can temporarily switch to 43/50 line mode by using the -V50 command line switch option.

85 Use the MouseXE "Mouse"\$ with Silver Xpress

If this option is ON, and a mouse is available, Xpress will turn on the mouse system. If you have a mouse, but are not interested in using it with the reader, set this option OFF.

If the mouse is enabled for Silver Xpress, a diamond block will be seen on the screen. This is your mouse cursor. When you first start Xpress, the mouse will be placed at the top left hand position of the screen.

86 SoundXE "Sound"\$ Control

Silver Xpress allows you to change the sound frequency and delay of sound. You have the option to make Xpress completely void of noise, or just turn off certain parts of the sound system.

Xpress Music Player

This option will allow you to decide if you will hear the special Xpress Windows Dot Commands "SOUNDS" in your mail. If someone wrote a message using

Xpress Window Dots sound commands, and do not want to hear the sound, you may opt to turn this off. However, you can temporarily hear the sound for the particular message, but hitting the **W** key while reading the message.

Standard Bell

Xpress normally has a standard bell sound at various spots in the system to signify special prompts or events. This option will allow you to define whether you will hear this bell sound or not.

SoundXE "Sound"\$ Frequency/Delay

You can change how you hear the standard bell by changing the frequency and delay of the internal sound system.

DirectXE "Direct Mail"\$ Mail Beeper

If this option is ON, Xpress will ring a little beeper whenever it encounters mail addressed to your name.

87 Screen SaverXE "Screen Saver"\$ Option

The Xpress screen saver, if enabled, will blank out the screen after so many minutes of keyboard inactivity, and present one of several screen displays.

SCREEN SAVER TIME:

To enable the screen saver, type in a non-zero time value. The time is in seconds, so if you want a screen saver in five minutes of inactivity, enter 300 seconds.

SCREEN SAVER PASSWORD:

If you want to enable a password for the screen saver, type in a password. If no password is defined, anyone can hit ANY KEY and the screen saver is deactivated to bring back Silver Xpress.

If a password is defined, you must type in a password to get Silver Xpress back.

SCREEN SAVER ART:

There are several art types the screen saver will display when activated.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | Xpress will blank out the screen. |
| 1 | Xpress will randomly display different colors and characters. |

- 2 Xpress will display the file called SSAVER.BSV which is a binary save file. You can create BSV files with utilities such as THEDRAW.EXE. The SSAVER.BSV is a static file, and is not recommended if the period of time that the screen will be blanked is lengthy.

88 Miscellaneous Options

89 Saving the Last REP Created

When you create or reply to new messages, Xpress will create a reply file with the extension REP. In this file, Xpress will save and compress your newly created messages. If one existed before it creates a new one, turning this option on will tell Xpress to create a backup of this old file. The file will retain the original name with the extension R\$\$.

This option also applies to HOLD files as well.

The bookmark facility allows Xpress to save information regarding where you left off reading mail. Set this OPTION ON, and Xpress will return you to the place you left off reading if you had quit, and later came back, to read an area.

90 SortingXE "Sorting Mail"\$ Mail

The sort facility in Xpress will determine the order in which mail is listed or read. You have the option to sort mail in the following manner:

NUMBER	sorted by message number,
DATE	sorted by date the message was created,
AUTHOR	sorted by the FROM field of the message,
RECEIPT	sorted by the TO field of the message,
THREAD	sorted by topic.

When sorting by THREAD, Xpress will present mail to you in a "threaded" fashion. This means the original message of a certain subject would appear first, followed by replies to the message.

91 Automatically Join Mail Conferences

Auto join allows you to automatically jump into the next available conference with messages, once you reach the end of a mail list in a single conference. Move the cursor RIGHT 3 times at the end of an area, and Xpress will automatically move to the next area message list.

92 SkipXE "Skipping Mail"§ Auto Bulletins

By turning this option ON, you can skip the automatic bulletins which are displayed when you first open an Xpress mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§.

Note: You cannot avoid or bypass the first viewing of these bulletins. This option is only available when the same mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ is opened subsequent times.

93 Keep BBS Information

Keep BBS Information allows you to store information about a remote hostXE "Remote Host"§ so you can use features available only to Gold Xpress™. If this option is ON, Xpress will create files with the extension BIF for each mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§. We recommend you keep this option ON to maximize your use of Silver Xpress.

94 Default Save Mail Option Location

The SAVE MENU appears after you have created mail with the editor. The Save menu presents the options available to further work on a newly created message. This option allows you to define the default position (where the highlighted option is first placed).

Some users may want the spell checker to be the default option, while others may like the VIEW MAIL option.

95 Reader Scroll Bar

While you are reading mail with Silver Xpress, you can use your arrow keys to move around the screen. Xpress will display a scroll bar and move it up and down when you use the up and down arrows. The purpose of the scroll bar is so you can mark the line for quoting or for grabbing the current line to store as a TAGLINE, "stealing taglines".XE "Steal Tagline"§. Some people call this adopting a tagline.XE "Adopting Tagline"§. This option will tell Xpress where to initially place the scroll bar when you first start reading a message. If you answer YES to this question, Xpress will start the scroll bar at the top. Otherwise it will display it at the bottom of the page. Keeping it off will allow you to use the down arrow to quickly start reading the second page of text.

96 DOS Shell Prompt

When you shell to DOS, this option will change the DOS PROMPT command to reflect a Silver Xpress PROMPT line. This prompt will remind you that you are currently in a SHELL so that you begin a large application and forget about

Silver Xpress. See your DOS manual on the PROMPT command.

97 Clear Screen when Calling DOS

Whenever Xpress performs a call to a 3rd party program, it will clear the screen first. If you say NO to this option, Xpress will not clear the screen. This saves about 4K of memory. However, some messages will speed by very quickly, and may be disconcerting to you.

98 Minimizing Prompt Delays

In several areas of Silver Xpress, there is a delay when Xpress displays a message signifying the completion of an operation. You can turn off the delay with this option.

99 Using Short Title Pick ListXE "Pick List"\$

The Conference Pick List window will display, by default, the long titles of the mail conferences. You can both speed up the display and save some memory by turning ON this option. You may want to keep this off until you are familiar with the list of conferences on the host system. When you are comfortable, turn it on to speed up operations.

100 Using the Xpress REP ExtensionXE "REP Extension Logic"\$ Logic

Silver Xpress offers a unique method for matching REPLY files with MAIL PACKET files. The default extension for OPXXE "OPX"\$ and QWKXE "QWK"\$ mail for reply files is REP. However, when you have two mail files which only differ by 1 or 2 letters in the extension, Xpress will try to match the extension of the REP file. For example:

Xpress Packet	Extension matching	No Extension Matching
PITTS.OPXXE "OPX"\$	PITTS.REP	PITTS.REP
PITTS.OP1	PITTS.RE1	PITTS.REP
SANYO.QWK	SANYO.REP	SANYO.REP

XE "QWK"§		
SANYO.Q10	SANYO.R10	SANYO.REP

By using the Xpress REP Extension XE "REP Extension Logic"§ Matching system, Xpress will maintain your reply file per mail packet XE "Mail Packet"§ in an orderly fashion, thus maintaining the history of your replies and mail packets. However, with this option ON, you can combine replies from several packets from the same remote host XE "Remote Host"§ into one REP file.

WARNING: By combining replies into 1 REP FILE, you are guaranteed to lose your mail history, and it is VERY possible to lose a message you created.

It is recommended that you stay with the Xpress REP extension Logic, and keep this option OFF (NO) if you wish to gain the full benefits of Silver Xpress.

101 Check Program Existence

If this option is YES, Silver Xpress will SEARCH for the existence of 3rd party programs which are called from Xpress, such as PKZIP, ARJ, your editor or any other program integrated with Xpress.

Under normal operations, you should turn this option OFF. If you keep your programs in a DOS PATH, or you fully declare the program path, having this option ON will slow down Silver Xpress with needless checking of the program's existence. It is useful to have this option ON when adding new programs. However, once you have everything working, turn it off to speed up operations.

102 Add Drives to Packet Loader

If this option is YES, Silver Xpress will add directories and drives to the packet loader XE "Packet Loader"§. With drives and directories listed in the packet loader, you will be able to change directories and/or drives to look for mail packets.

Having Drives and Directories as part of the listing also gives you the opportunity to better consolidate your mail packets by directories. For example, you may have a directory called BBS1 and BBS2. Each BBS directory will have the mail packets.

103 Use Escape to Quit Silver Xpress

If this option is YES, Silver Xpress will allow you to hit ESCAPE from the main menu to quit Silver Xpress. This is a convenient option for users who like to use the ESCAPE key to exit programs. If this option is YES, Xpress will ask "**ARE**

YOU SURE YOU WANT TO QUIT?" question. If you do not want this question to appear, modify the Xpress language file (XPLANG.DEF) and blank out the string item # 197.

104 Running Xpress on the Remote BBS

In order to use the Silver Xpress Mail Reader, you must download what is called an off-line mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§. The Silver Xpress Mail Reader currently supports 2 different off-line mail packets:

- **OPXXE "OPX"§** Xpress Mail Packet, created by Silver Xpress Mail Doors.
- **QWKXE "QWK"§** QWKXE "QWK"§ Mail Packet, created from other similar QWK Mail Doors.

To pick up QWKXE "QWK"§ mail packets, log into a BBS offering the QWKXE "QWK"§ mail system. The Silver Xpress Reader has been tested on most, popular QWKXE "QWK"§ mail systems.

To pick up an OPXXE "OPX"§ mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§, run the Silver Xpress Mail Door offered by the BBS. The BBS will offer Silver Xpress if the BBS has purchased the Silver Xpress Mail System. This is normally called the Silver Xpress Mail Door.

Typically, the BBS will offer the Silver Xpress Mail Door as an option somewhere within the BBS menu options. Often you will find a BBS menu that includes an option saying "Silver Xpress Mail," "Xpress Mail," "Off-line Mail" or "Off-Line Reader".

Once you start the Silver Xpress Mail Door on the BBS, you will normally see a welcome screen, and maybe some Xpress news. If you are new to the Silver Xpress Mail Door located on that HOST system, you will be greeted as a new user and will be given the opportunity to explore the Silver Xpress introduction.

What follows in this chapter is a description for every option in the Silver Xpress Mail Door. Keep in mind, the BBS operator has full power over the display of the Xpress menus and options. It may be described here, but you may not actually see it on one particular BBS if the Xpress menus were modified.

Once the introduction is completed, the typical main menu in the Silver Xpress Mail Door (version 5.0x) will look like the following:

105 Silver Xpress Main Menu

```

REGISTERED TO Xpress Support Center Node 1 SERIAL # ML-BOSS/PRO

Last Usage/Download Date : Dec 30, 1993 4:07:16am
Mail Packet Format      : OPX
+-----+
|           Silver Xpress Main Menu           |
+-----+
[#]..System Information                        [C]..Configuration

```

[R]..Download Xpress Reader	[X]..Xpress Assistant
[D]..Scan/Download OPX Packet	[K]..Scan/Download QWK Packet
[U]..Upload Your Mail	[V]..Check Vacation Mail
[L]..Personal Log	[?].Show help
[Q]..Return to Main System	[G]..GoodBye (Logoff)

[59 mins] Hector, Enter Command :	

Assuming you already have your configuration options, which will be discussed in detail in this chapter, the normal pattern of Xpress operation is to begin to **Scan and Download** Xpress mail packets (OPX or QWK). After you have downloaded a mail packet, and have read mail using your Silver Xpress Mail Reader, if you created new mail, you then **Upload Your Mail**.

106 Xpress Assistant

For new BBS users in general, and new users of Silver Xpress, an Xpress Assistant tutorial is now available to "walk" you through the basics of BBSing and Off-Line mail reading. If you ever have trouble understanding the Silver Xpress Mail Process, the Xpress Assistant is available to give you a quick tour of the Silver Xpress system. The assistant will take you through four basic operations of the Silver Xpress Mail System:

- Selection of mail conferences or forums (which mail areas will be scanned),
- Selection of archiver (how will the mail be compressed),
- Selection of file transfer protocol (how will mail packets be sent or received to or from your PC),
- And the scanning and downloading of Xpress Mail Packets.

You will be presented with a diagram and listing of typical BBS services. Detailed information about services are as follows:

Hit **F** to explain **Files**

Hit **M** to explain **Mail**

Hit **N** to explain **News**

Hit **S** to explain **Silver Xpress**

Hit **L** to explain **Logoff**

Hit **O** to explain **Options**

Hit **Q** to **Exit** explanation

The Silver Xpress Tutorial is thorough and highly recommended as a way to better understand the bulletin board process and Silver Xpress options and setup.

107 Download Xpress Reader

The **Download Xpress Reader** option allows you to download the latest version of the Silver Xpress Mail Reader, if available on the BBS host. You may have the Silver Xpress Mail Reader already, but you can use this option to check if it has been updated. If you are using the real mode Silver Xpress Mail Reader, this is an excellent opportunity to download the protected mode version of Silver Xpress.

108 User Personal Log

Silver Xpress offers users the ability to view a log or report what mail you scanned, downloaded and uploaded to the system. The log file is detailed and is maintained by Silver Xpress. You have the responsibility of deleting the log file from time to time, however, the sysop of the BBS can delete the log. The log file is useful as it informs you of previous usages, mail packets you downloaded and mail you uploaded. If you need to check if a particular REPLY file was uploaded, or determine the last time you downloaded mail, you can use the log file to verify it.

109 System Information

Information about Silver Xpress is available in the System Information Menu. The options may include a list of the BBS's users, what version of the program the sysop is using, etc. To view the Xpress Sysop Option Menu, type the # sign.

```
----- System Information -----
[1] See User List
[2] See Registered User List
[5] Xpress Variables
[L] List Available Macros
[V] Display Version Information
[Q] Return
-----
[59 mins] Hector, Enter Command :
```

110 Silver Xpress Configuration Options

The Xpress configuration section will allow you to set up all the available options in the Silver Xpress Mail Door. The key items you can configure are shown below:

```
----- Configuration Menu -----
[S]....Select Mail Areas,- 17 selected
[F]....File Transfer Method - Zmodem
[A]....Archiver Method - Phil Katz's PKZip 2.04G
[M]....Mail Option
[X]....Xpress Services
[T]....Terminal Options
[C]....Save Current Configuration
[?]....Show help
[Q]....Return to Main Menu
-----
[59 mins] Hector, Enter Command :
```

The most important options to set up are the first three:

- SELECT MAIL AREAS, *from which conferences to collect mail.*
- FILE TRANSFER METHOD, *how mail is transferred to and from your PC.*
- ARCHIVER METHOD, *how mail is compressed and decompressed.*

For normal operation, all other menu options are optional as far as Xpress is concerned.

111 Selecting Mail Areas or Conferences

Bulletin boards usually carry a tremendous number of mail areas (sometimes called conferences or forums). With Silver Xpress, you can select the conferences of interest and only those conferences selected will be scanned for new mail.

When you choose the SELECT MAIL AREAS option, Xpress will display on the screen the available conferences with numbers next to them within parenthesis. The numbers are called mail area numbers. Typically, mail areas are numbered sequentially.

The mail areas you select will have an asterisk next to them. For example:

Available Mail Conferences (* means selected mail area)

```
* [ 0] --- LOCAL PRIVATE          * [ 1] --- XPRESS SUPPORT
[ 2] --- XPRESS SYSOP            * [ 4] --- NEWS (READONLY)
[ 5] --- COOKING      * [ 10] --- FOR SALE
[ 11] --- FAX MAIL    [ 18] --- MULTI-MEDIA
[ 19] --- NET SYSOP   [ 20] --- POLITICS
[ 21] --- RA SUPPORT  [ 22] --- OFFLINE
* [ 23] --- FLORIDA LIVING          * [ 24] --- SHAREWARE
[ 25] --- MAX SUPPORT              * [ 26] --- PCBOARD SUPPORT
* [100] --- FIDONET NETMAIL
```

Select/Deselect mail areas by typing the number or name in brackets.

[L]ist Areas [D]etail Listing [S]elected Areas [M]ail Pointers

[F]ind <string> [R]eset <areas> [Q]uit [?] for Help

Enter Number/Name or Command :

In this case, the user has selected 8 areas:

#0 LOCAL PRIVATE MAIL
#1 XPRESS SUPPORT
#4 NEWS (READONLY)
#10 FOR SALE
#23 FLORIDA LIVING
#24 SHAREWARE
#26 PCBOARD SUPPORT
#100 FIDONET NETMAIL

Only these mail areas will be scanned by Xpress when the SCAN/DOWNLOAD option is chosen.

SELECTING or DESELECTING MAIL AREAS

To select or deselect areas, type in the area number(s) with a space in between. Multiple area numbers may be typed:

Example; 1 3 4 10

By typing the number, Xpress will toggle the selection. (If selected, it will be deselected. If deselected, it will be selected).

You can force the selection or deselection by prefixing it with a + or - sign. By using the prefix, you can ignore checking to see if the conference is ON or OFF.

Example; +1 -2 +3 +10

CHANGE THE LAST READ POINTERS FOR MAIL AREAS

When Silver Xpress scans for new mail in your selected mail areas, it will only scan for new mail starting at the position from which it last finished, or where Xpress thinks the starting point should be. These starting points are called mail pointers. The BBS maintains the mail pointers from where you last left off with your mail. These pointers or counters are often referred to as ***last read pointers***.

Each mail area has a last read pointer. For instance, if there are 200 new messages numbered 1 to 200 for a particular mail conference, and the last message you read was 125, the next time Xpress scans for new mail, it will begin at 126 and return to you, at most, 75 messages. It's quite possible not all 75 messages will be available, since some messages can be private only to the true recipient of the mail.

Sometimes you may not want to receive so much mail, so you can use the R command to change the last read value.

Example:

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| R 10 15 | Change last read pointers in area 10 and 15. |
| R * | Change pointers in all selected areas. Xpress will prompt you for each selected areas. |
| R * 5 | Reset pointer to 5 in all selected areas. |
| R * HIGH-20 | Reset pointer to 20th message from the HIGHEST in all selected areas. |
| R * LAST-5 | Reset pointer to 5th message from the LAST message you read in all selected areas. |

You may also use the Silver Xpress unique mail bundling system called ***Flex SelectXE "Flex Select"***§ to change the amount of mail which is actually collected. See the FLEX SELECT section.

FINDING AREAS OF INTEREST

Use the **F** command with a keyword to search the list of available areas. For instance, you might be interested in areas pertaining to COOKING, so type **F COOK** to list the areas with this specific interest.

DESCRIBING MAIL AREAS

If the sysop has implemented this feature, you can type **?** followed by the area number to display an abstract about the area before you decide to select the conference.

112 Selecting CompressionXE "Compression"§ Method

This option will list the available archiver programs on the system. Select your favorite archiver for compressing and expanding mail. Below is an example of the ArchiverXE "Archiver"§ Menu.

```

*-----*
Transfer ArchiverXE "Archiver"§ Menu
*-----*
Type
[Z].....PKZip 2.04g
[L].....LHARC 2.13
[P].....PAK 2.50
[A].....ARJ 2.30
[K].....Pkpak/Pkunpak 3.61
[C].....Arc 6.02
[Q].....Exit back to ConfigurationXE "Configuration"§ Menu.
[60 mins] Enter Command:
Whichever archiver you select, make sure you have the
archiver system available on your PC. For instance, if you
choose ARJ 2.30, you must have ARJ Version 3.20 on your
computer. If you don't, the Silver Xpress Reader will
report an error of "WRONG COMPRESSION FORMAT"
or "ARCHIVER NOT FOUND".

```

If you are using PKZIP, make sure your version is compatible with the one being used by the Remote Host. The latest version of PKZIP, 2.04, is not compatible with older versions, and if your version is not the same as the one on the BBS, Xpress will report "Error 29: BRDINFO.DAT".

113 Selecting File TransferXE "File Transfer"§ Method

This option will list the available file transfer protocols for selection. Use your favorite transfer protocol for downloading and uploading mail files, OPXXE "OPX"§ and REP files.

Choose the one you would like to use. The recommended protocol is ZMODEM.

Below is an example of a typical Protocols menu.

```

*-----*
Transfer Protocol Menu
*-----*
Type
[Z].....Z-ModemXE "Zmodem"§
[Y].....Y-Modem
[X].....X-Modem/CRC
[1].....X-Modem-1K
[Q].....Exit back to Configuration Menu
[60 mins] Enter Command:

```

114 Mail Options

The mail option menu allows you to change certain characteristics about the mail you will scan and the mail packets you will download.

```

----- Mail Options -----
[K]....Define Search Rules (Keywords)
[B]....Search Message Body w/ Keywords   - YES
[Y]....Receive Your Own Mail             - YES
[G]....Receive Group Mail                 - YES
[P]....Choose Mail Packet Format          - OPX format
[C]....Use Packet Extension Counter       - YES
[S]....Send Selected Areas Only           - NO
[F]....Use Flex Assistant at Mail Scan    - NO
[O]....Show Areas with Mail Only          - NO
[D]....Change Mail Pointers By Date
[N]....Change Mail Pointers By Number
[R]....Restore Entry Mail Pointers
[?]....Show help
[/]....Main Menu
[Q]....Return to Previous Menu
-----
[56 mins] Hector, Enter Command :

```

K - Define Key Words or Filters for Mail Searching.

With this option, XE "Keyword Scanning"§you can enter keywords and phrases to search. You will always get mail addressed to you personally, however with keywords, you can include mail such as to "ALL," and "DR. DEBUG," subject areas such as "HELP," "OS/2," or anything else.

There is no limit to the number of keywords you may define. Xpress will search the TO, FROM and SUBJECT fields (message header) of each message scanned and optionally search the body or text of the message if the **Seach Body of Text** option is turned on. To define filters, prefix keywords with a negative sign (dash). With filters XE "Filters"§ any message found with the defined keywords will be skipped and not included in the final mail scan.

B - Search Body of Text

This option allows Xpress to search the body of the text when looking for keywords or

filters. If the keyword or filter is not found in the message header, Xpress will then search the body of the message (the actual contents of the message).

Please note that searching the body of the message will drastically slow down the scanning process of Silver Xpress. However, the final scan will present a smaller and more pertinent mail packet to download. The scan table will display more messages with keywords, thus allowing you to download personal mail (direct plus keywords) and not simply all the new mail available. The overall turnover time will be shorter due to downloading smaller mail packets even though the search/scan time will be longer. Searching the body of text is an ideal feature for researchers who are looking for information not often found in the message headers.

Y - Receive your own mail.

This option allows you to include your most recent mail which you created in your next mail download. This is the mail from yourself to others. If you turn this option off, you will not receive the mail you created in your mail packets. Some people like to receive the mail they created as a form of personal verification the message was uploaded correctly. Others do not want to download mail if there is nothing new.

G - Receive Group Mail.

Silver Xpress Mail Doors supports a feature called GROUP MAIL.. A sysop can send general mail to !ALL! users. This type of mail will be picked by Xpress and ADDRESSED directly to you. If the sysop has given you permission to use it, you, too, can use this feature.

If you turn off GROUP MAIL, you will not receive any type of group related messages unless it was written by the sysop or moderator of a conference or forum.

P - Choose Mail Packet Format

You can choose either OPX or QWK as the mail packet format you wish to use. Even though the Xpress Main Menu has the option to scan and download an OPX or QWK mail packet, setting the preferred format here will allow to use the vacation system or any automatic download option the sysop sets up on his bulletin board.

C - Use Packet Extension Counter

If the **Packet Extension Counter** XE "Packet Counter"% is turned off, Silver Xpress will scan, pack up and create an Xpress Mail Packet with the file extension of OPX or QWK. However, if this option is turned on, Xpress will create an Xpress mail packet with a file extension of Oxx or Qxx where xx is the packet count starting at 1 and wrapping around at 99. By turning on this option, Xpress will pass unique packet files which will help in the download process.

S - Send Selected Areas Only

The Silver Xpress Mail Reader will display all areas with messages in the READ MAIL PER CONFERENCE list. When you create mail using the CREATE MAIL option, the list of areas will typically show all the available mail conferences on the BBS. This list will include the mail conferences not selected for mail scanning. This list can be rather long and you may never have an interest in a mail conference in which you did not select for mail scanning. By turning this option ON, Xpress will only send the list of areas selected for mail scanning. This keeps the list of conferences short and can potentially

save memory on very large BBS host systems with lots of mail conferences (over 1500 or so).

F - Use Flex Assistant at Mail Scan

The **Flex Assistant** XE "Flex Assistant"§ is a powerful option unique to the Silver Xpress Mail System. If the Flex Assistant is enabled, Xpress will ask you what mail you wish to download one by one during the mail scanning process.

With this option off, Xpress will do a complete mail scan and present a scan result table of all the new mail available. At the FLEX command prompt you can then type **GO** to pack all the new mail. You may also type in a **Flex Command**.

By using the Flex Assistant, you will quickly come to understand the basic operations of FLEX commands. As each mail area scanning process is completed, Xpress will ask if you want to download **ALL, PERSONAL, DIRECT, KEYWORDS, LAST, FIRST, SKIP or HOLD** your messages for the mail areas.

0 - Show Area With Mail Only

If you select a lot of mail areas (over 23 or so), you may not want to display mail areas which have no mail in the scanning process. By turning this option on, Xpress will present only those areas with new messages. This feature keeps the list shorter and makes it more presentable.

D - Change Mail Pointers by Date

Silver Xpress allows you to change last read numbers by using a date. The last usage date is normally used only if you want to change the scan date for new messages. For new users, Xpress will always prompt for this date when you first log on. This is basically an option to change it.

N - Change Mail Pointers by Number

This option is exactly the same as the RESET pointer option under Selecting Mail Conferences. The option allows you to change last read pointers for each mail conference by typing direct mail numbers.

R - Restore Entry Mail Pointers

This option allows you to restore your last read pointers to what they were when you first entered Xpress. If you have exited, this will not work. It will only work in the same session.

115 Xpress Services


```

----- Xpress Service Options -----
[V]....Xpress Vacation Saver          - OFF
[F]....Scan for New Files              - ON
[C]....Change File Scan Date          - 12/30/93 4:07am
[B]....Receive Bulletins               - ON
[A]....Auto Start Xpress               - NO
[S]....Send REPLY Receipt              - YES
[E]....Erase Mail Recording
[R]....Reader Password
[D]....Door Password
[?]....Show help
[/]....Main Menu
[Q]....Return to Previous Menu
-----
[54 mins] Hector, Enter Command :

```

V - Xpress VacationXE "Vacation Saver"§ Saver

VacationXE "Vacation Saver"§ Saver is a feature your sysop must implement. If you would like to use it, ask your Sysop to set it up. This option sets a flag in your Xpress User Record on the BBS. The BBS runs Xpress in VacationXE "Vacation Saver"§ Saver mode, and packs mail for each user who has this switch activated. The mail is stored for when you return. When you download mail upon return, you will get all the saved mail sent to you. You will receive a mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ (OPXXE "OPX"§) for each day. Remember to disable this option when you return.

F - Scan for New Files

With this option enabled, you will get a list of new files included with your mail DownloadXE "Download"§.

C - Change File Scan Date

This option will allow you to change the date used when scanning for new files on the BBS. Xpress will scan and produce a new files listing if the Scan for New Files option is enabled. Xpress will scan for files and only display files since the last date of a successful download of mail. If you wish to change the date, use this option.

B - Receive Bulletins

Xpress has the ability to pass files or bulletins to the reader. The Silver Xpress reader will display the bulletins when you use the Services "Show Bulletins" option. However, if you do not wish to receive bulletins then turn this option off.

A - Auto Start Xpress

This option is not implemented by Silver Xpress at this time and is reserved for future use.

S - Send REPLY Receipts

If **Send REPLY Receipts** is enabled, Silver Xpress will send you a file called XRECEIPT.DAT after you finish uploading REPLY packets. The XRECEIPT.DAT file contains information the Silver Xpress will read and use for the packet loader to set the "SENT" indicator for the reply packet uploaded.

This is a great feature to use to help verify the REPLY file was successfully uploaded to the Silver Xpress Mail Door. You can then use the packet management system to delete the mail and reply packets.

E - Erase Mail recording.

This option will erase the Xpress answering machine mail recording if you created one with the Silver Xpress mail reader. Mail recordings work exactly like a telephone answering machine. To leave a mail recording, create a message;

TO: XAM

After this message is uploaded, anyone sending a direct message to you with Silver Xpress will receive your personalized mail recording. This is very useful if you plan to be away, and wish to inform people that they will not receive a formal reply from you, until you return.

Xpress Reader Password

If you enter a password with this option, the Xpress BBS door will send with your mail downloads, a password which must be used to read the mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ with the Silver Xpress Reader.

Xpress Door Password

If you enter an Xpress Door Password, Xpress will prompt you for this password each time you enter the Silver Xpress Mail door. This is a good option to prevent mistaken downloads by other users.

116 Terminal Options

The terminal options control the behavior of your screen and Xpress Door menus on the BBS.

----- Terminal Options -----	
[C]....Ansi Color	- ON
[T]....TTY (No Color)	- OFF
[A]....Avatar Graphics	- OFF
[H]....Menu Hot Keys	- OFF
[I]....IBM Characters	- ON
[N]....Novice Menu Mode	- ON
[V]....Veteran Menu Mode	- OFF
[X]....Gold Xpress Menu Mode	- OFF
[G]....Skip RIP Graphics	- NO
[?]....Show help	
[/]....Main Menu	
[Q]....Return Previous Menu	

[54 mins] Hector, Enter Command :	

ANSI COLOR

If you want the Xpress BBS door to show colors on your terminal, select this option ON. Your terminal communications program must support ANSI "ANSI"§ emulation. If you turn this option on, and you begin to see strange characters with lots of brackets and numbers, your terminal program is not supporting ANSI "ASCII"§.

TTY

If you want the Xpress BBS door to show no colors on your terminal, select this option ON. This will disable any color options such as ANSI or AVATAR.

AVATAR

If you want the Xpress BBS door to show colors on your terminal using the special protocol, AVATAR, select this option ON. Your terminal communications program must support AVATAR "AVATAR"§ emulation. If you turn this option on, and you begin to see strange characters with lots of brackets and numbers, your terminal program is not supporting AVATAR "AVATAR"§.

MENU HOT KEYS

At each menu, you can type the option letter followed by a carriage return or, if you turn on menu hot keys, you can type the menu option letter and Xpress will accept it without the need for hitting the carriage return.

Note: Xpress also allows you to stack the menu options. In order to stack menu commands, you must have menu hot keys OFF.

IBM CHARACTERS

This Option tells Xpress if it should use IBM extended line draw characters or text characters when displaying information on-line.

This Option is currently disabled in the Silver Xpress BBS Door 3.00.

MENU NODES (NOVICE, VETERAN, GOLD XPRESS)

Silver Xpress offers three menu levels:

Novice mode Shows the full menu option and description.

Veteran mode Shows only the hot keys and prompt.

Gold Xpress Mode Shows special menu tags designed for Gold Xpress™.

SKIP RIP GRAPHICS

If you turn this option on, all RIP options will be ignored for the section. In order to use RIP, you must call the BBS using a special RIP terminal package. RIP is a new graphical system called Remote Imaging Protocol. It is similar to the ANSI concept, but for graphics. Using a RIP terminal program, Xpress can display graphical menus. The options will be same, but in graphics and will allow you to use a MOUSE remotely.

117 Scanning and Downloading Mail (Getting Mail)

Once you have all of the configuration options set, select D to scan and download mail using the OPX Mail Format, or select K to scan and download mail using the QWK Mail Format. Xpress will begin to scan your selected areas for new mail and produce a table as follows:

```

<<< Mail Scan >>>
-----
Last Usage/Download Date : Dec 01, 1993 9:07pm
Mail Packet Format      : OPX
-----
Scan Area  Description      Total      High   Last   New   Direct  Keyword
0 - LOCAL PRIVATE          194     219    218     1     0       1
1 - XPRESS SUPPORT          184     208    199     9     1       8
2 - XPRESS SYSOP            286     296    285    11     5       1
19 - NET SYSOP              219     416    411     5     0       0
21 - RA SUPPORT             356    1307   1261    44     0       2
22 - OFFLINE                213     220    219     1     0       1
23 - FLORIDA                148     148    147     1     0       0
24 - SHAREWARE              492    2701   2596   105     0      24
25 - MUFFIN                 449    2012   1925    87     0      10
100 - FIDONET NETMAIL       194     199    195     3     0       3
-----
Total                267     6      50
-----Approximate Compressed Mail Packet Size : 137297
(02:29)
[GO] Packup Mail [A] Pack All [P] Pack Personal [Q] Abort [?] Flex Help
FLEX:

```

When the Xpress mail scan is completed, it will ask you for a Flex SelectXE "Flex Select"§ command. The purpose of the Xpress mail scan is to show you all ALL the available mail, then allow you to decide how much mail you wish to pack up and download to read off-line with the Silver Xpress Mail Reader.

If you want all the mail found (as in the 267 messages found above), enter A or GO and press ENTER.

If you want to skip an area, or only take part of the mail selected, this is where the power of Xpress comes into play. You can use some of the more basic flex commands such as P to pack only your personal mail (direct plus keywords), or D for your direct mail only, or use a more sophisticated **FLEX SELECT** command to change the amount of mail to pack before you type GO. See the section describing the list of **FLEX SELECT** commands for detailed explanation of each flex command.

If you want interactive assistance, use the **FLEX ASSISTANT** by typing the command **FLEX**. Xpress will redisplay each conference and allow you to easily decide the amount you want. If you want to use the FLEX ASSISTANT during the mail scan, turn on the option **Use Flex Assistant**, under the configuration mail options.

If you are starting Xpress via a BBS menu option and not the Xpress Main Menu (ie, Auto Download), a flex command may have already been supplied to Xpress. Usually, the AUTO DOWNLOAD flex command is set at A for ALL. If you wish to change this automatic option, use a flex command and save it with the SFLEX option. This will permanently save the FLEX command for future interactive or automatic use. For example:

```
FLEX: SFLEX -*F100 GO
```

After typing a FLEX command, Xpress will proceed to pack the mail into a Xpress Mail Packet.. When it is finished, it will indicate to you to start your download. Start your download protocol as defined in Xpress Configuration and, when finished, quit and logoff, and go to the Silver Xpress Reader and read your mail.

The information on this scan table can be described as follows:

The **Last Download**XE "**Download**"§ **Attempt Date** listed above the table tells when you last downloaded a mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§.

The **Mail Packet Format** is the packet format, OPX or QWK, to create a mail packet.

The # and **Description** match those on the host system (accept for Maximus BBS) and tell you which mail conferences are selected by you for scanning.

The **Total** column is the total number of messages in the area.

The **Highest** is the number of the highest message number in the area.

The **Last** column is the last read you read in the areas. Xpress will look for new mail beyond this last message number you read. After you download, Xpress will update this value to indicate you have read the messages you are downloading.

The **New** column indicates the total number of messages above the Last up to the Highest excluding the private or killed mail which does not belong to you. In an area which is PUBLIC/PRIVATE or PRIVATE, you may find that while there is a wide range between the Last Read and the Highest Message, the number of New Messages is small or none. This is because the other messages are private, and not to/from you.

The **Direct**XE "Direct Mail"§ column indicates the number of messages specifically written to your name. This may also include GROUP MAIL XE "Group Mail"§messages.

The **Keyword**XE "Keyword Scanning"§ column indicates the number of messages found using the keywords defined under the configuration section.

After the table, Xpress will give you a breakdown of totals in each column.

Another piece of information which may be displayed is the File Attachment information. It will indicate how many files are attached and their total size. These files will be enclosed in your mail packet, and the Silver Xpress Reader will, when you open the mail packet, indicate they are there and ask if you want to extract them. If you indicate YES, they will be extracted and moved to the path you define, in the Reader CONFIGURATION, FILE & PROGRAM PATH and ATTACH PATH. After you finish reading, the files will be in the ATTACH PATH for you. Generally, File Attach will be zero. It will only list files as attached if another user or the sysop has attached files to you.

118 Uploading Mail (Sending Mail)

The Silver Xpress Reader will create a REPLY file when you create or reply to messages. The REPLY file is named using the original mail packet name. For example, if you open a mail packet called SOUND.OPX, the reply packet is SOUND.REP. When you are done creating mail, you can then upload the mail to the Silver Xpress Mail Door.

There are often 2 ways to upload mail to the BBS. One is via the interactive Xpress on-line, and the other is an additional menu item on the HOST system. If your HOST system has it defined, you can upload by selecting it and upload when indicated. Otherwise, use the Xpress Interactive interface, and select UPLOAD at the Main Xpress menu. Wait for Xpress to prompt you to begin the upload process. It will say something such as the following:

Start Your System to UploadXE "Upload"§ PITTX.REP with ZMODEM

Although Xpress may say "Upload PITTX.REP" or "Upload XXXXXX.REP" depending on the BBS Xpress Packet Name, the actual extension of your REPLY file may be different, i.e., PITTX.R08 may be created by the Silver Xpress Mail Reader for a mail packet of PITT.O08.

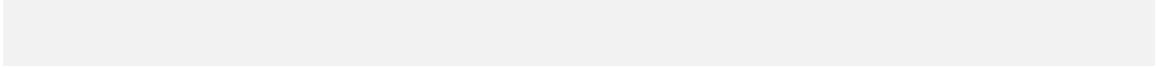
At this point, hit your PGUP key on your keypad to tell your communication program to begin sending a file. (In some communication programs, the upload command may be ALT U). Your communication package will prompt for the file name to upload. Type in the file name of the reply file(s) you wish to send; i.e., PITTX.REP.

If you are using ZMODEM and have multiple reply files, you can use the batch capabilities of ZMODEM to upload all the reply files at once. Xpress is smart enough to handle them.

After the UploadXE "Upload"§ is completed, Xpress will list the new messages as it places them in the message conferences.

If you have told the Silver Xpress Reader to perform a file request, you will see more information about your file request. File Requesting is discussed in the next section.

If you have enabled the "Send Reply Receipt", you will be asked if you wish to receive a receipt of your uploaded mail. The Xpress Receipt File is a good way to inform the reader that your mail has been uploaded and successfully moved into the mail conferences.



119 Xpress Vacation Mail System

Silver Xpress includes a menu option to **Check For Vacation Mail**. If you are going away for business or pleasure, turn **ON** the Xpress Vacation Saver option and Xpress will automatically create mail packets and store it on the BBS for later pickup.

When you return, type **V** at the Main Menu, and your vacation mail packets will be available for you to download and read.

With the Silver Xpress Vacation Saver, your mail is there even when you are not!

120 File Requesting

If your sysop has enabled this feature, you will have the capability, with your Silver Xpress Reader, to perform off-line requesting of files to download.

When you are in the Silver Xpress Reader, go to the Services Menu, and select File Request. Enter the names of the files you want to request. The number of files you can request at a time is controlled by the sysop of your BBS. It can be any number. Typical numbers are 5 or 10 files per request. If your sysop has enabled this feature, he determines how many files you may request. The sysop may decide to completely turn it off as well.

When you perform a file request, upload the reply packet and Xpress will begin to process the request. If the files you requested are found (and have passed the security measures imposed by the sysop), Xpress will confirm the files with you before proceeding with the download. At this point, you can accept the download or postpone the file download until your next mail scan and mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ download.

This feature can save you a lot of time on the BBS, as you will be able to enter the names off-line, and not have to switch areas on the BBS to do your downloads.

121 Modifying Last Read Pointers

The BBS keeps a counter of where you last left off reading your mail. These counters are often referred to as last read XE "Last Read Pointers"§pointers. Each mail area has a last read pointer. For instance, if there are 200 new messages in a mail conference, numbered 1 to 200, and the last message you read was 125, Xpress will scan only from 126 to 200 for new mail, resulting in 75 new messages.

If you want to change your last read pointers, you can do so several ways.

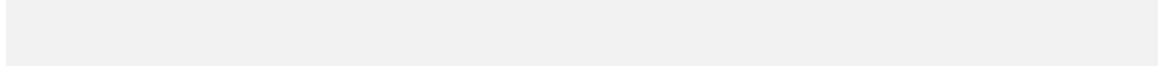
First, you may go to the conference selection section and use the **R** command. This method will allow you more control over the last read pointers, on an area per area basis.

Second, you may use the ***Change Mail Pointers by Date*** or ***Change Mail Pointers by Number*** under the mail options menu of the door. These options allows you to change your last read values by scanning the date you define or by specifically defining the message pointers. The date method is a little more flexible since it allows you to go back in time to re-scan for mail.

122 Flex SelectXE "Flex Select"§ Commands

This option allows you to bundle a combination of mail; i.e., all of one area, personal mail only, direct mail only, the first 10 or last 50, etc. The formats for a **Flex Select™** command are:

- A** - Pack up all new messages (default setting).
- P** - Pack up only personal messages.
- D** - Pack up only direct messages.
- K** - Pack up only keyword messages.
- #** - All messages in area #. Same as A.
- #A** - All messages in area #.
- #** - SkipXE "Skipping Mail"§ area #. Pointers are updated.
- #H** - Hold area #. Like SkipXE "Skipping Mail"§, but pointers are not updated.
- #P** - Select personal mail only in area #. DirectXE "Direct Mail"§ + Keywords.
- #D** - Select direct mail only in area #.
- #K** - Select keyword mail only in area #.
- #Ln** - Select the last n messages in area #.
- #Fn** - Select the first n messages in area #.
- *** - Select all mail in remaining areas.
- *P** - Select PERSONAL only mail in remaining areas.
- TABLE** - Display the Scan Table.
- FLEX** - Enable FLEX Assistant.
- LIST** - Same as TABLE.
- MAIL** - Display the mail table defined by FLEX SELECT commands.
- DFILE** - Display any files attached to mail.
- EFILE** - Erase the attached file(s).
- SFLEX** - Save the current Flex command.
- GFLEX** - Get the saved Flex command and apply it.
- DFLEX** - Display the current Flex command.
- EFLEX** - Erase the current Flex command.
- CLEAR** - Clear Flex Selection.
- GO [stack]** - Accept FLEX SELECT Command and Start Packing.



At first, Xpress will automatically select ALL mail as indicated. If you immediately typed GO, Xpress will begin to pack up all new messages.

If you want to reduce the amount of mail, use a flex command to change the amount of mail. For example:

clear 10 13 14P 16D GO

The above example will clear all areas, and select 10, 13 for all mail, 14 for personal mail and 16 for direct mail only. The GO means start the packaging.

More examples:

***P** Select all PersonalXE "Personal Mail"\$ mail.

***P 10 14 15D** Select all PERSONAL and ALL in 10 & 14, and direct mail in area 15.1

The single letter one-liners will do the following packaging:

A (same as *A GO) Grab all mail and GO!

P (same as *P GO) Grab PersonalXE "Personal Mail"\$ mail and GO!

D (same as *D GO) Grab DirectXE "Direct Mail"\$ only mail and GO!

K (same as *K GO) Grab Keyword only mail and GO!

Combining the letters A,P,D,K with other **FLEX SELECT** commands is invalid. For example:

K 10 17D ← **WRONG!** *Invalid to use single letter one liner with other commands. (Note: 10 and 17D will be processed)*

***K 10 17D** ← **CORRECT!** *Grab all keywords in each area, and all mail in area 10 and direct mail in area 17.*

If you do not use one of the single letter one line commands, the GO command must be the LAST part in a command or the only part in a command.

After you have typed your flex select command, Xpress will begin to bundle the mail and start the download or transfer the packet to your PC. At the download prompt, you may have the option to DOWNLOAD and HANGUP ("G" command). If you use this option, Xpress will transfer your packet and hangup. If you do not wish to wait for the download prompt to issue the "G" command, use the GO stack option. For example;

GO G This will begin the download, and stack the letter G. By stacking it, the next prompt will receive the letter G.

123 Using the Silver Xpress Reader

This section describes the different ways to read, create, delete, file, print and fax mail. To start Silver Xpress, type XPREAD. If you are using the protected mode XE "PROTECTED MODE"%version, type XPREADP.EXE

Silver Xpress has some standard keystrokes which are defined below. These keystroke commands are consistent throughout the entire Silver Xpress system.

124 Standard KeyStrokes

When you use Silver Xpress, you will find a series of keystrokes defined as a standard for Xpress. They can not be changed. The following are the standard keystrokes for the Silver Xpress Reader. Note: These are not the editor commands, but some do overlap.

ESCape	Escape current section. Return to previous section or menu.
F1	Help
F2	Popup a list when available
F3	Quit the current section
F4	Edit file (FAX section only)
F10	Save the current section
ALT P	Display Picklist File
ALT E	Edit a file

ALT V	View a file
Left Arrow	Previous Field or Icon Option
Right Arrow	Next Field or Icon Option
Up Arrow	Move highlighted item up
Down Arrow	Move highlighted item down
Ctrl Enter	Same as F10
Ctrl Y	Delete Field in Form
Ctrl R	Restore Field in Form
End	Move highlighted item to end of list
Home	Move highlighted item to top of list
PgDn	Page down to next listing

PgUp	Page up to previous listing
TAB	Next Field or Icon option
Shift TAB	Previous Field or Icon option

125 Opening MailXE "Opening Mail"§ with the Packet LoaderXE "Packet Loader"§

When you start Silver Xpress by typing XPREAD, the first screen displayed is the list of available mail packets. This screen is called the Xpress Packet LoaderXE "Packet Loader"§ and is illustrated below. The only way to avoid the packet loader is to use the -L switch. If you use the -L switch and only one PACKET is found, Xpress will immediately take the file and begin to open it. If multiple packets are found using the -L switch, only those packets found will be displayed.

§

The **INCOMING MAIL** section shows the list of Xpress Mail Packets available to be opened. The mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ date, time and size are shown (K is kilobytes, M is megabytes, B is bytes). The extension of the file identifies the type of mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§. Each mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ is associated with a single bulletin board or remote hostXE "Remote Host"§. This is a very important concept in Silver Xpress. It is possible to have more than one mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ for a particular remote hostXE "Remote Host"§. It is possible to have many mail packets associated with different remote hosts in the listing. It all depends on your particular taste for handling mail packets. How you consolidate your mail files is very important in understanding which files belong to which remote hostXE "Remote Host"§. Do you put all your mail packets in one directory? Does each remote hostXE "Remote Host"§ have its own directory? A lot of these questions depend on your communication program. Most communication programs simply download files into one directory. Silver Xpress will display the packets in the current directory unless you:

1. Manually change the current directory to the communication program download directory.

2. Use a permanent INBOUND MAILBOX LOCATION defined during configuration to specify the communication program download directory.
3. Use the BOX option to temporarily define a INBOUND MAILBOX LOCATION.
4. Use the command line switches -M and -R.

The **OUTBOUND MAIL** sections show the list of reply files or held files associated with each Xpress Mail packet. If no reply files are available, the --- NO REP MAIL --- message is shown. This means you did not create any replies or new messages for the particular mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§. If you have created a HELD message for the mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§, the message HM will show up in the outbound section. HELD mail should never be uploaded to the Xpress Door on the BBS. It will not accept it

The **%READ** column shows how much of the original mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ you have read so far. If you want to see more specific statistical details about direct mail, use the VIEW option. The reading statistics are stored in a special file Xpress creates for each packet when you open the packet for reading. It is called the BIF ("Biff") file - Board Information File. Each packet will have a BIF file. If you delete the BIF file, all reading statistics for the particular mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ are lost.

126 Opening MailXE "Opening Mail"§ Packets

By selecting the OPEN option, you take the selected mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ and open it by calling the appropriate archiver expansion program. Conceptually, this is akin to opening a mailbox full of mail.

If the highlighted item says [DRIVE] or [DIRECTORY], Xpress will change the drive or change directories respectively. This is similar to the way various file manager programs operate.

127 Managing Mail Packets

The MANAGE option will present to you a menu of packet file maintenance options as shown below.

§

You have the ability to add your own options by modifying the file called XPLANG.DEF. The items #179-#184 in this file can be used for additional packet processors. However, the first 8 options are fixed and cannot be changed.

SORT BY DATE

This is the default packet sort method. Xpress will show the packets in reverse chronological order (newest file at the top).

SORT BY NAME

An alternative sort method is to sort by packet name.

DELETE PACKET

This option will delete the mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ only.

DELETE REPLY FILE ONLY

This option will delete the reply file and held file if available.

DELETE PACKET AND REPLY FILE

This option will delete the mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§, the reply file and the held file, if available.

DELETE BIF FILE

This option will delete the board information file, which is created by Xpress, to retain some history about the packet.

KILL MAIL IN PACKET

This option will delete or erase the mail which is inside the highlighted mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§. This will reduce the mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ to the minimum size Xpress can handle, and it will give

CREATE MAIL only capabilities.

RENAME PACKET

This option will allow you to rename or move the mail packets.

PROCESS PACKET (ADVANCE TOPIC)

This is an example option to illustrate how you can add additional packet manage options. By default, this option will run the DOS batch file called PROPKT.BAT. This file is an example program for processing a mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§. If you have the inclination or the need to add a new packet processor or manager command, the batch file will show you how it can be done.

You can add up to 6 additional options. The XPLANG.DEF file (Xpress Language File), line items #179-#184 must be edited to change the description shown in the MANAGE menu and to actually change the command to be executed.

128 View Option

This VIEW option will display information about the highlighted packet. The purpose is to allow you to see which BBS this packet is from, the telephone number and a breakdown of how much mail you have read.

129 Boxes

The BOXES option will display the MAIL LOCATION configuration screen, so you can quickly change the mail box, the reply box and packet search information. It is not permanently stored unless you go to the configuration menu and save the configuration to disk.

130 CrashXE "Crash Call"§ Calling

By using the CRASH option, Silver Xpress will create a file called XPRESS.CLO and exit immediately. The XPRESS.CLO is designed to interface with telecommunication programs such as Gold Xpress™, Telix or any other communications program. The XPRESS.CLO is an ASCII§ flat file with the following format:

Each line in the file has the following fields:

field1	telephone number of host to call
field2	board id
field3	OPXXE "OPX"§ or QWKXE "QWK"§ file name
field4	REP file name
field5	BIF file name

Silver Xpress will create this file when you hit the CALL option and there is a PACKET highlighted.

There are several methods by which to interface the Silver Xpress CRASH CALL option with your telecommunicationsXE "Telecommunications Software"§ program. One way is to configure your telecommunicationsXE "Telecommunications Software"§ program to call XPREAD.EXE directly. This is the Gold Xpress™ method. However, if your telecommunication program is large, and does not do its own exec swapping logic, you will probably run out of memory to call XPREAD.EXE. Another way is to use a batch file like the one below:

```
-- SX.BAT --
@echo off
xpread %1 %2 %3 %4
if not exist c:\telix\xpress.clo goto quit
cd \telix
telix callxp
:quit
```

This batch file assumes TELIX is the telecommunicationsXE "Telecommunications Software"§ program, and a TELIX script file CALLXP is available. The script would read in XPRESS.CLO and use the information in it to call the BBS.

131 Reading MailXE "Reading Mail"§

When mail is available, Silver Xpress will activate the MAIL menu option off the main pulldown menu automatically. The menu option is illustrated below:

§

There are four ways to find and read mail:

- Use the **READ DIRECT URGENT MAIL** option to search and find your personal direct messages.
- Use the **READ KEYWORD MAIL** option to search and find your mail found using keywords defined at the Silver Xpress Mail Door.
- Use the **READ MAIL PER CONFERENCE** to read mail in a selected conference or forum.
- Use the **MAIL SEARCH** facility to search for mail using keywords or rules.

These options will only be available if mail is found in the mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ just opened using the packet loader. If no mail is found, these options will be disabled and you will not be able to read mail. You will only have the ability to create mail. Note: If you did not open up a mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§, you will not have any create or read options enabled.

To serve as a reminder, mail is broken up into what are called mail conferences or forums. Each mail conference has mail pertaining to the topic of discussion, such as mail about Politics, Programming, Communincations, Xpress Support, Private MailXE "Private Mail"§, etc.

READ DIRECT/URGENT MAIL

Direct mailXE "Direct mail"§ in Silver Xpress are messages directly addressed to your name found during the mail scanning process in the Xpress Door. Usually, this is the first option you select to get the direct mail out of the way before you begin reading public mail in the conferences.

Direct mail may include what are called **Group Mail** messagesXE "Group Mail"§, which are messages sent to many people. Group Mail is put into the direct category so that you will be informed of such mail the fastest way possible. If you do not wish to receive group mail, turn off "Receive Group Messages" at the Silver Xpress Mail Door Mail Options menu or use the Silver Xpress Reader Remote Configuration option under Services.

READ KEYWORD MAIL

KeywordXE "Keyword Mail"§ mail in Silver Xpress are messages picked up during the mail scanning process in the Xpress Door using the keywords defined at the Xpress Door. Using this option is the quickest way to view the messages found using mail door keywords. **Do not confuse the mail door keywords with reader keywords used under Mail Searching.** Reader keywords are for searching mail in your mail packet already downloaded, while mail door keywords are for searching mail during the mail door scanning process prior to downloading. To change your mail door keywords, use the Silver Xpress Mail Door Mail Options or use the Silver Xpress Reader Remote Configuration option under Services.

READ MAIL PER CONFERENCE

When you select the READ MAIL PER CONFERENCE option, Silver Xpress will display a list of all the mail conferences with mail available to read. This is called the Conference List.

When Xpress displays the Conference List, it will be similar to what is shown below:

§

There are 4 columns of information in the Read Mail Per Conference List; the area or conference number, the total number of messages per conference, the amount read by you and the title for the conference.

In the configuration section, under MAIL OPTIONS, if you enabled the option **SkipXE "Skipping Mail"§ Mail Already Read**, only the areas with unread messages will be shown. If all the mail has been read in each area, Xpress will no longer display the Conference List but, instead, display the message "No Mail is Available". The only way to re-read mail at this point, is to use the CLEAR TAG INFORMATION option. After you clear it, you can read mail again.

MAIL SEARCH

This method of reading allows you to search for mail using keywords.

See the Searching for Mail Section for further details on how to set up a mail search.

DISPLAYING THE MESSAGE LIST

When you read mail using the Read Direct, Read Keywords, Reading ConferenceXE "Mail Conferences"§ Mail or Searching for Mail, Silver Xpress will display what is called the Message List. This list is illustrated below:

§

The Message List contains the message "headers". The message header contains (reading left to right) the area number, the message number, the date of the message, the name of person who sent the message, the name of the receiver and the subject of the message.

You can use the UP and DOWN arrow keys to select the message you want to read. Hit the ENTER key and Xpress will display the message.

You may also type the message number to quickly jump to a particular message number.

There are two flag indicators shown after the message number:

- * Star: The message was already read by you.
- ! Exclamation: You created a reply for the message.

DISPLAYING THE MESSAGE

When Xpress displays a message, it will utilize the entire screen to show various parts of the message. For example:

§

The top four lines are used to display the message header information. The body of the message is displayed in the middle section of the screen. The bottom ICON MENU BAR is available for mouse clicking if you use a mouse. Only the more common options are available on the bar. But there are other options. You may hit F1 to see all the options available when you are reading mail. They are summarized below:

CREATING MAIL WHILE READING

While you are reading mail, you can hit the following keys to create a new message including a reply:

- R** Reply XE "Replying to Mail"§to the current message. Your new message will be placed in the same conference and will be addressed to the author of the original message (FROM field).
- O** Similar to the Reply option, but instead the message will be addressed to the person's name in the TO field of the original message.
- X** Reply to the current message in a different conference.
- E** XE "Creating Mail"§Enter a new message in the same conference.

- F** ForwardXE "Forwarding Mail"§ the current message. The forwarded message will be placed in the new conference selected by you. Note: This is a secured feature. You may not have access to the Forward Mail option in Silver Xpress. Check with your local bulletin board sysop.

SAVING THE CURRENT MESSAGE IN A FILE

- S** XE "Saving Mail"§Save the current message in an ASCIIXE "ASCII"§ text file. This is called the file cabinet system. You will be asked to supply the name of the storage file or hit F2 to pick the name of the cabinet file.

PRINTING MAIL

- P** PrintXE "Printing Mail"§ the current message. If you defined a print list file, such as @PRINT.LIS, a list of printers will be displayed. This gives you the opportunity to select different print devices for printing locally or on a LAN. This is also one way to fax a message you are reading.

PROCESSING AN APPLICATION ON THE CURRENT MESSAGE

- D** If the MAIL PROCESS COMMAND option is defined, Xpress will save the current message in an ASCIIXE "ASCII"§ file and call the program command defined. If the @MAILPROC.LIS list file is defined for the MAIL PROCESS COMMAND, a list of programs will be displayed. The purpose of this option is to give you the opportunity to process a program on the current message for whatever application you may have.

TAGGING MAIL FOR LATER PROCESSING

- T** XE "Tagging Mail"§Tag or mark the current message. By tagging the message, you can use the search facility to process mail as a group.

Use the **ALT T** if you want to TAG the entire set of messages currently being read.

- K** XE "Killing Mail"§Tag or mark the current message for later killing. By marking for kill, you can use the Delete Mail option to purge the messages.

Use the **ALT K** if you want to MARK the entire set of messages currently being read.

VIEWS ANSIXE "ANSI"§ MAIL OR XPRESS WINDOWS

Silver Xpress has a built-in ANSIXE "ANSI"§ system. ANSI is a standard set of escape characters used to control the video screen. Some bulletin board systems offer conferences where the participants of the conferences create special messages with ANSI embedded in the text. The result is some fancy, colorful artwork. Xpress will allow you to view the artwork by using the **A** key to toggle ANSI mode. You can permanently keep ANSI MODE on by defining it in the READER/VIEWER configuration section.

Use the **ALT-A** key to display the ANSI message in a full screen window.

To create your own ANSI messages, you must use a program such as THEDRAW.EXE "Ansi TheDraw Editor"§to create the ANSI art work and save it as a file. When you create or reply to a message, you can import it with your editor.

The only rules for creating ANSI MAIL are that ANSI mail must not be more than 80 characters long, and you should not enter ANSI mail in an ECHO, unless it is ALLOWED. Check with the sysop of your system to see what areas, if any, ALLOW ANSI MAIL. When you save your ANSI file with THEDRAW.EXE, it will ask you what length you desire. Make sure you specify a width of 80 or less.

Silver Xpress can interpret special text commands called **Xpress WindowXE "Xpress Window"§ Dot Commands**. This interpretation may be disabled under the READER/VIEWER options in the ConfigurationXE "Configuration"§ Section. If you have Xpress WindowXE "Xpress Window"§ Dot Commands shut off, you may temporarily view a message with Xpress Dot Commands, by hitting the **W** key.

STEALING TAG LINESXE "Stealing Taglines"§

While you are reading mail, you have the ability to borrow or take the tagline for the current message, and use it for your own messages and replies. This is called "Stealing Tag Lines" in the bulletin board world. To steal a tagline, place the cursor on the line you wish to steal, and hit the **ALT-S** key. The stolen tagline will be placed in the file called STOLEN.LIS.

If you are replying to a message where you have just "stolen" a tagline, it will be available immediately for use when you save your reply.

If you wish to edit the STOLEN.LIS file, use the ALT-P picklist editor.

132 Creating or Replying to MailXE "Creating Mail"§

There are 8 ways to create messages with Silver Xpress:

- Use the **CREATE MAIL IN CONFERENCE** menu option. This option will display a listing of all the available mail conferences for the particular remote hostXE "Remote Host"§.
- Use the **R** key while reading mail to reply to a message directing the new message to the person in the FROM field.

- Use the **O** key while reading mail to reply to a message directing the new message to the person in the TO field. This option will allow you to post the new message into another mail area.
- Use the **X** key while reading mail to reply to a message directing the new message to the person in the FROM field. This option will allow you to post the new message into another mail area.
- Use the **E** key while reading mail, to create a new message in the same conference.
- Use the **F** key while reading mail, to forward the message to another conference (controlled by the Host Operator).
- Use the MENU command options ***NEW** or ***FORM**, definable with the Silver Xpress Dynamic Menu EditorXE "Menu Editor", *SXDYMENU.EXE*.

133 Creating a Quoted Reply Message

Quoting Mail XE "Quoting Mail"§ is the ability to keep certain parts of a message you are reading, and prefix the original author's initials to the paragraphs of text. This allows you to reply to the message and keep the main topic of discussion going. The purpose behind quoting mail is to serve as a reminder to others reading the mail, which part of the message was written by whom (see the example below). Silver Xpress offers the ability to choose when you want to quote mail, and what quote character to use.

To begin quoting mail you are reading, hit the **R**, **O** or **X** key. The message header will appear with the question:

QUOTE MESSAGE: YES/NO.

If you select YES, the entire original message will be quoted with the quote characters defined (by default, the original author's initials).

Concept Quoter (CQ)

Another powerful way to quote mail is to use the **Q** key while you are reading mail. This is called the Concept Quoter System. The idea behind the Concept Quoter is to quote only the parts of the message by concept, or the current topic of discussion on a line by line basis, rather than quoting the entire message.

Use the cursor key to position the cursor on the line of message text you are reading. When the **Q** key is hit, Xpress will capture the line (you will hear a beep), quote it and store it in a temporary Xpress file called *XBUFFER.TXT*. You may continue hitting the **Q** key to further quote other lines of interest.

When you wish to reply or add your comment to this concept or topic of discussion, hit the **ALT-Q** key to display the internal editor. You will see the quoted lines and Xpress will automatically put the cursor at the bottom of the editor. At this point, you can enter your reply. Save the text and Xpress will return you back to reading, where you may continue quoting more lines if you wish.

When you are finished quoting, use the **R**, **O** or **X** key to complete the reply. Xpress will now use the import filename *XBUFFER.TXT* to import the quote buffer. Hit F10 and you can save or edit the quoted reply message.

Quote Generation

The quoting logic in Silver Xpress is very unique in that it will not double quote paragraphs but, instead, add generation marks. For instance, if Hector Santos quoted a message written by John Bloom, the paragraphs written by John Bloom would be quoted with a JB in front of each line. For example:

JB> Hector, how about adding a coffee maker to the Silver
JB> Xpress Reader?

Sure! Should it have a timer?

If you were reading this message, and you replied by jumping into the conversation, Xpress would quote the message as follows:

JB>> Hector, how about adding a coffee maker to the Silver
JB>> Xpress Reader? HS> Sure! Should it have a timer?

The double arrows, >>, signify the quote is in its second generation.

If you don't like the quoting logic used in Xpress, the program offers an external hook to call XE "External Quoter"§ your own mail quoting system, if available.

134 Cross Posting Mail into Other Conferences

There are 3 ways to cross post. Cross Posting mail is the ability to reply or forward a message into another conference other than the one the original message was posted. To cross post, use the **O**, **X** or **F** key. Xpress will display the list of available conferences to post the message.

135 Creating Multiple Posting

Creating multiple postings is the ability to create duplicate messages across many conferences. To create multiple postings, you need to select the areas in which you wish to create mail. When displaying the Conference Listing, use the space bar to select the conferences. You will see a check mark appear next to the selected item. Note, the selection will stay on until you deselect the conferences.

When you are finished creating your message, after you save the message, Xpress will ask you if you wish to create a copy of the message in the other selected conferences.

136 Creating Carbon CopiesXE "Carbon Copy"§

Creating carbon copies is the ability to create a single message for many users. Each user will get a carbon copy of the message. Normally, carbon copies are designed for netmail-based systems such as FidoNet. Creating multiple copies of the same message to different users in a local or public forum is consider a taboo and not allowed by electronic mail forum moderators. To create carbon copies for Fidonet Mail, add lines at the top of the message using the following syntax:

cc: <sysop name[@address]>
bc: <sysop name[@address]>

Add a cc: or bc: line for each sysop to whom you are sending mail. The @address is optional if you have the XPRESS NODELIST defined. See XPRESS NODELIST PATH under configuration. If you do not have the Xpress NodeList, you must define the @address.

Example:

```
cc: Scott Nikont
cc: Bob Donaldson
cc: Gary Gilmore
bc: Charlie Smith
bc: Louis Oaken@1:135/292
```

In this example, it is assumed the Xpress Nodelist is defined and available. Otherwise each entry must have a FidoNet address defined. Notice there are two entries with a bc:. This is a Blind Carbon CopyXE "Carbon Copy (blind)"\$. A blind carbon copy is a message of which the other recipients are not aware. In other words, Scott, Bob, Gary and Charlie will not know Louis has recieved a copy of the message. Nor will Louis know Charlie has received a copy of the message.

If the address is provided, Xpress will not search the Xpress NodeList. cc: and bc: lines must be at the very top of the message. The first non cc: or bc: will break the carbon copy chain.

CREATING PCBOARD CARBON COPIESXE "Carbon Copy (PCBoard)"\$

PCboard is a particular type of BBS package and very popular in the QWK world.

Version 15.0 of PCboard supports carbon copy mail. If you want to create carbon copy mail for PCBoard, you must do the following:

- address the message to @LIST@
- instead of using cc: word in the body of the text, use the @cc word. Blind carbon copy is not supported in PCboard.

137 Creating Group MailXE "Group Mail"\$

If you wish to create a message for many users which has the appearance of a direct message in a non-netmail forum, you can use the special Group Macro commands in the TO field of a message header. These special macros are used to create a single message which all users or all users in a group will receive as a direct mail.

In Silver Xpress, we call this the Silver Xpress Group Mail System. Unlike carbon copies which are multiple copies of the same message to many users, a Group mail message is one message sent to all or a group of users as if the mail was directly written to each. Some people may refer to this as "Junk Mail" because group mail addressed to all will be received as unsolicited direct mailXE "Direct Mail"\$

Group Mail will only work within the Silver Xpress Mail System. However some BBS packages do support some form of Group Mail. In other words, if you send a group message, other users will only receive the message as a direct message if they are using the Silver Xpress Mail Door for scanning mail, or a BBS which supports this concept.

The Xpress mail scanner or BBS will detect the special macros and create direct messages to download. Here is a summary of Group Mail Macros supported by Silver Xpress:

!ALL! or @ALL@	All users will receive a direct message as private mail.
@USER@	PCBOARD: Users will receive direct messages as private mail.
@security@	PCBOARD/RA/QBBS: Users with security value will receive direct mail as private mail.
@>security@	RA/QBBS: Users with higher security value will receive direct mail as private mail.
@<security@	RA/QBBS: Users with lower security value will receive direct mail as private mail.
@GRP name@	RA: Users in GROUP name will receive direct mail as private mail. A group name is 4 characters or less.

Example: @GRP PROG@ only users belonging to group PROG will receive the message.

138 Creating Net Mail Messages

Net mail XE "Net Mail"\$messages are special messages designed for the FidoNet XE "FidoNet"\$Electronic Mail Network. Net mail are messages sent directly to other computers (FidoNet Node). They are not placed in public forums or conferences. If the BBS offers netmail and the BBS operator has given you access to the netmail section, Silver Xpress will present to you a unique message header dialog screen when you want to create mail in a netmail section. This netmail message header dialog screen contains more fields than the traditional TO, FROM, SUBJECT message header. A sample netmail dialog is shown below:

§

To send net mail, a FidoNet address is required for the recipient of the message. A FidoNet address holds the following form:

[zone]:net/node>[.point]

Zone Nation, Group of nations or Continent of the FidoNet Node. The current zone addresses are:

- 1 North America
- 2 Europe
- 3 Australia
- 4 South America
- 5 South Africa
- 6 Asia

Net City, state, or area of nation. Network number is where the node is located.

Node The Node number is the number of the computer within a net. The ZONE:NET/NODE address is usually sufficient to send a netmail message to the BBS operator of the computer. For example, the fidonet address for the Xpress Support Center is 1:135/382 (Zone 1 is North America, Net 135 is South Florida/Miami and 382 is the Xpress Support center node number

POINT in Net 135).

A point number is assigned to an individual user who is a member of the FidoNet Node computer or BBS. Usually, the BBS operator will assign point numbers to users under special arrangements. Speak to your BBS operator if you wish to receive a point address. A sample point address is 1:135/382.10. Any netmail sent to computer fido node 1:135/382 will be given to the user assigned the point number 10.

Along with the address, you also have NETMAIL attributes. Netmail attributes tell the BBS how and when to send the netmail message. Usually, the sysop will define these and force them upon you since he may not want you to "immediately crash" a netmail message during peak calling hours of the day. The only guarantee you have the recipient will receive messages is when you receive a reply.

Using NetMail Attributes, you may also send files to another BBS using a FILE ATTACHMENT attribute or request file(s) from another BBS using a FILE REQUEST attribute. If a file attachment or request is defined, the file(s) must be defined on the subject line.

Finally, there is the SEND VIA GATEWAY option. Normally, netmail is sent directly to the address you provided. However, if you are sending international mail (from one zone to another), the cost can be high (calling Asia from the USA). Since the FidoNet Network is worldwide, there are what are called GATES, which are links between the ZONES (the Zone 1 computer which directly links with the Zone 2 computer). If the SEND VIA GATEWAY option is set to YES, Xpress will address the netmail to the ZONE GATE which connects to the destination Zone Gate. The destination Zone Gate will then re-route the message to the node. This method of netmailing keeps the call within the same zones, and whoever is managing the ZONE GATE will bear the burden of the international telephone call. However, since the gates are constantly calling and sending mail to each other, your netmail message is simply enjoying a slow piggy-back ride.

139 Searching for Mail

Silver Xpress has a very powerful and fast mail search system. The Xpress Mail SearchXE "Searching Mail"§ XE "Keyword Searching"§ facility allows you to tell Xpress not only what mail to find, but what to do with it when it finds it!

When you select the MAIL, the SEARCH FOR MAIL menu option in Silver Xpress will present the following screen to you:

There are two search methods in Silver Xpress; EASY SEARCH and DETAIL SEARCH.

Once you use one of the options to find mail, you can tell Xpress to READ, PRINT, DELETE, FILE or RUN the PROCESS on the messages found during the search.

EASY SEARCH

With Easy SearchXE "Easy Search"§, you can define a simple string to search the entire message. A message in Silver Xpress consists of the message header and the message text. To search for multiple keywords, you can do two things:

- Use a caret (^) as a delimiter between each string, or
- Use the @FILENAME to search for the keywords stored in a file. Use the F2 key to display a list of keywords, keyword files or rules.

Examples:

Search for the single string "Xpress";

EASY SEARCH STRING: Xpress

Search for "Xpress" and "[NR]";

EASY SEARCH STRING: Xpress^[NR]

Search for a list of keywords stored in the file called KEYWORDS.LST;

EASY SEARCH STRING: @KEYWORDS.LST

DETAIL SEARCH OR RULE BASED SEARCHING

With Detail SearchXE "Rule Base Searching"§, you can apply some boolean logic to find mail. Boolean logic allows you to implement some rules into the search system. For example, suppose you wanted to find all mail, sent directly to **Hector Santos**, with the subject **Xpress**. Type the following:

TOWHOM: **Hector Santos** AND

SUBJECT: **Xpress**

Keep the other DETAIL SEARCH fields blank and start a boolean search.

If you wish to save the rule, hit the F4 key. Xpress will ask you for a rule file name and description. This rule file name and description will be appended to the file called SEARCH.LIS.

SEARCH ATTRIBUTES

The SEARCH ATTRIBUTES allow you to qualify your searches. This can help reduce the quantity of mail found.

CASE INSENSITIVE: YES/NO

If YES, the case of the text searched is insignificant. If NO, the case of the search keywords must match precisely with the case of the text searched.

SKIP ALREADY READ: YES/NO

If YES, the search will not include mail you have already read using Xpress. If you want to ignore this option, set it to NO.

SKIP KILLED MAIL: YES/NO

If YES, the search will not include mail you have MARKED for DELETION using the **K** key while reading mail. If you want to ignore this option, set it to NO.

SELECTED AREAS ONLY: YES/NO

If YES, the search will only include mail conferences selected by the AREA SELECTION CHOICE LIST. To select areas, go into the READ CONFERENCE MAIL menu option and use the space bar to select or deselect your areas.

Note: Selected Areas for this option have nothing to do with the Selected Mail Areas used for scanning at the Xpress Mail Door.

TAGGED MAIL ONLY: YES/NO/AND TEXT

If YES, the search will only include mail which was TAGGED using the **T** key while reading mail. The search keywords are ignored in this case. With this option set to YES, you can quickly retrieve tagged mail to operate on.

If this option is set at AND TEXT, the search will apply the search keywords with TAGGED mail found.

SEARCH OPERATION

Of course, once mail is found, you will want to do something with it. Typically, like all other systems, you would simply READ the mail. However, with Silver Xpress, you can do more than just READ.

- **READ** Read the mail found.
- **PRINT** PrintXE "Printing Mail"§ the mail found.

- **FILE** File the mail found into your file cabinet.
- **KILL** KillXE "Deleting Mail"§ the mail found.
- **DOS** Process the DOS command on the mail found.

When you specify a FILE or DOS operation, the optional FILE/DOS data field must be defined. If you don't define a file for the FILE option, Xpress will store the results in a file called SEARCH.TXT.

You may save your search rules by hitting the F4 key. This will allow you to save a search rule in a file called SEARCH.LIS for future recalling.

140 Filing Mail

While you are reading mail, you may hit the **S** key to SAVE or FILE the message you are currently reading in your file cabinet. The prompt will appear as:

Enter FILE CABINET NAME or F2 to LIST:

Type the name of the file under which you wish to save the message, or hit the F2 key to display a list of pre-defined file names. See the FILE CABINET section.

141 Killing MailXE "Killing Mail"§

While reading mail, use the **K** key to tag the current message for later deletion from the mail packet. When you return to the Mail menu, you can select the Purge Killed Mail option.

Another method is to use the SearchXE "Searching and Killing Mail"§ to find and tag the mail and, under the options on the search screen, specify the action to perform on the mail as KILL. Then, as before, go to the Mail menu and specify the Purge Killed Mail Option.

142 Editing Mail You Created

If you have not yet uploaded your replies and decide you want to change a message you created, select the MAINTAIN MAIL YOU CREATED option from the MAIL menu. The following screen will be shown:

§

Use the UP and DOWN cursor keys to select the messages you want to change, and Press **E** to edit. When editing, use the same procedure as when you originally created the message. A word of caution: If you used a signature in the original message, remember to delete it when you save the edited message, or it will be appended a second time.

The other options available are:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| VIEW | View the message as it would be seen by users. |
| PRINT | PrintXE "Printing Mail"§ the message you created. |
| FILE | Save the message as an ASCII text file in the file cabinet system. |
| KILL | KillXE "Deleting Mail"§/Delete the message you created. |

143 Silver Xpress Pick ListXE "Pick List"§ System

The flexible Silver Xpress pick list system was designed to provide a method of selecting an item from a list of items you create. This is useful when you have a pre-defined list of items that you wish to select from for various options in Xpress such as the TAGLINE list, Search List, ToWhom List, etc. You must create the list files using a standard text editor. Default list files were provided with the package. You may select them during any point by using the ALT-P key. This will display a special list file called **PICKLIST.LIS** which is a list of all the other available list files in the system. Select the list file and Xpress will start the editor. The very first item in the PICKLIST.LIS is the PICKLIST.LIS entry itself. This allows you to edit the main picklist.lis file for situations where you want to maintain a new file you create. This is often the case for cabinet files.

Silver Xpress has the following default pick list file names:

Mail Header Pick List Files (Displayed when the F2 key is hit)

USER.LIS	Displayed at the TO WHOM: field
ALIAS.LIS	Displayed at the FROM WHOM: field
SUBJECT.LIS	Displayed at the SUBJECT: field
IMPORT.LIS	Displayed at the IMPORT FILE: Field
NETFLAGS.LIS	Displayed at the NET ATTRIBUTE: field
MATRIX.LIS	Displayed at the TO NET ADDRESS: field

Signature, XE "Signatures"§Tag XE "Taglines"§and Reply Header Pick List Files

SIGN.LIS	Displayed when saving a message.
TAGS.LIS	Displayed when saving a message.
STOLEN.LIS	Displayed from within TAGS.LIS
REPLYHDR.LIS	Displayed when replying to message.

FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ Address Pick List

FAXPHONE.LIS	Displayed FAX PHONE NUMBER: field.
FAXFILES.LIG	Displayed when prompt for a fax file.
FAXCOVER.LIS	Displayed when prompt for a fax cover page.

File CabinetXE "File Cabinet"§ System

CABINET.LIS	Displayed when filing a message.
-------------	----------------------------------

PrintXE "Printing Mail" § System

PRINT.LIS Displayed when printing a message.

Mail ProcessXE "Mail Process" § System

MAILPROC.LIS Displayed when D command is issued at reader session.

SearchXE "Mail Process" § System

SEARCH.LIS Displayed when F2 is hit in Search For Mail Section.

Silver Xpress Pick ListXE "Pick List" § files have a special format:

Any line beginning with a semi-colon is a comment line and not used in the pick list.

Available Options are:

%TITLE <*title to use in the pick list window*>

This command tells the list system to use this title for the menu. This default is the built-in title for the specific list.

%HELP1 <*header line#1*>

%HELP2 <*header line#2*>

Header lines are shown at the top of the menu. They are not adjusted or trimmed. They are optional and are used to give you a choice in defining help or header lines with the menu.

%MENUPOS <*row,column,length*>

This command tells the list system to position the upper right corner of the menu at the position row and column. The length is the maximum length of the list in terms of # of items. The default is 15 items. Care should be taken if you change the initial column position with regard to the maximum length of the line items. The list system will calculate the menu and not prevent screen overruns.

%EXTRACT [*separator*]

This command tells the list system to return only the first part of the selected list item. The default separator is the dash character (-). Without the %EXTRACT command, the list system will return the whole line when the item is selected.

%ITEM [*default number*]

This command allows the list system to initially display a certain item by giving it a number; i.e., the 10th item on the list. Use this when you want to automatically go to a certain item first before selecting. If the default number is the word **RANDOM**, the list system will randomly put the cursor on a item before it selects it.

%*ALTLIST*

This command enables the "LIST ON LIST" system. This allows a list item to be another file name which points to another list to be displayed. For example, a TAGS.LIS file can have the following:

```
;  
; Tags/sayings  
;  
%ALTLIST  
%ITEM RANDOM  
;  
Silver Xpress!..... Don't leave home without it!  
Xpress Yourself!  
Mail Media. Do not expose to Flames!  
Happy as a Pig in Mud!  
@TAGS.LIS          - More Tags;  
@STOLEN.LIS        - Tag lines you stole;  
@WINDOWS.YUK      - Stupid Window Taglines
```

144 Silver Xpress Windows System

Silver Xpress offers a set of commands for generating text-oriented graphics and windows when replying to or entering mail. These commands are called XPRESS WINDOWS DOT COMMANDS. Xpress Windows add 'color' to your messages. Please do not use Xpress Windows in general conferences. Limit use of these commands to those conferences where they are allowed by the moderator.

The following are the current dot commands for Xpress Windows:

NOTE: All DOT Commands MUST start at the beginning of each line.

<item> - Required parameter.

[item] - Optional parameter.

.XPWIN <OFF|ON>

Turns the Xpress windows system on or off. Normally, this is not necessary. However, it can be used to force Xpress into an Xpress WindowXE "Xpress Window"§ Mode or normal viewing mode within the same message.

.ANSI <OFF|ON>

Turns the ANSI mode on or off. Normally, this is not necessary. However, it can be used to force Xpress into an ANSI mode or normal viewing mode within the same message. Note: Special ANSIxE "ANSI"§ MAIL forums have used the [ANSIART] keyword to start ANSI mail. Silver Xpress supports this keyword.

.CLEAR

Clears the reader message window.

.CLEAR

Clears the reader message window.

.WIN <text>

Displays a centered message window.

.COLOR [foreground color] , [background color]

Changes the current color of the remaining text in the message. Default color is White on Black.

I.E. .COLOR 14 or .COLOR YELLOW

ColorXE "Color"& Codes

Numeric Text

0 BLACK

1 BLUE

2 GREEN

3 CYAN

4 RED

5 MAGENTA

6 BROWN

7 LIGHTGRAY

8	DARKGRAY
9	LIGHTBLUE
10	LIGHTGREEN
11	LIGHTCYAN
12	LIGHTRED
13	LIGHTMAGENTA
14	YELLOW
15	WHITE

To make characters BLINK, use the numeric colors, and add 16 to them.
I.e., for blinking YELLOW, use 30 (14+16)

.PAUSE [delaytime]

Pause the reader until a key press, or for the optional time specified.

Designing Windows

.TITLE <text>

Define the title of the Window. This is the header for the top line of the window frame.

.MAK <x1> , <y1> , <x2> , <y2> , [ifc] , [ibc] , [ffc] , [fbc] , [tfc] , [tbc]

Draw a window frame. All text to follow will be displayed in the window. Up to 10 lines can be stacked.

x1, y1 - Top left corner of window.

x2, y2 - Bottom right of window.

ifc, ibc - Inside of window frame, fore and background colors.

ffc, fbc - Window frame, fore and background colors.

tfc, tbc - Window title, fore and background colors.

.REM

Remove the last window from the screen. You should have one REM for every MAK command. The reader will automatically remove the stack of windows when the person reading the message moves on to another message, if you forget to remove them.

.MOVE <xdir>, <ydir>

This statement will move a created window in the X or Y direction by the amount indicated by xdir and ydir, i.e.,

.MOVE -2, -4

Move the current window two columns to the left and four rows up.

Xpress Windows SOUND Commands.

With the Xpress Windows SOUND commands, your messages can take on a life of their own.

.BEEP -a short BEEP sound.

.SIREN - here come the COPS.

.ALARM - time to wake up.

.SOUND <freq> , <delay> , [repeat]

freq - frequency in hertz.
delay - in milliseconds.
repeat - optional repeat factor.

.NOSOUND -Turns off SOUND function.

Xpress Windows Example:

.WIN Hello There!

.TITLE Xpress Windows Example

.MAK 10, 10, 40, 20, YELLOW, BLUE, WHITE, GREEN, WHITE, RED

This is a Sample Window. The Dimensions are 10 rows, by 40 columns.

.SIREN

.PAUSE 1000

.REM

145 Silver Xpress FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ System

The Silver Xpress FAX System is a powerful way to integrate your fax card into Silver Xpress. With Silver Xpress, you will be able to FAX new messages, and FAX replies to anyone with a fax machine or fax card.

There are several ways to fax information using Silver Xpress:

OFF-LINE FAX SERVICE

The first way is using the OFF-LINE FAX Xpress system. This is provided by the BBS or remote hostXE "Remote Host"§ system as a service to you. It allows you to fax information without a FAX CARD on your personal computer. The BBS will act as a fax service. If the BBS is providing such a service, the BBS must make it available to you. You will see it as a MAIL CONFERENCE or a REMOTE HOST SERVICE which you can select to create mail. The SUBJECT line now becomes the PHONE NUMBER where you would type the fax number to send a fax. You may also define a FAX PICK LIST (FAXPHONE.LIS) to create a fax phone book.

Using this method, you will have to upload the reply file containing a fax message to the BBS. When the BBS receives the reply file, it will take your fax and process it. Depending on how the fax system is implemented on the BBS system, you may or may not receive a confirmation or validation for the fax transmission. If the BBS is using the Santronics Software FAX Xpress software product, you will receive a confirmation or receipt for the fax.

This off-line, store and forward FaX Xpress service is a great facility in your travels. Imagine having the ability to fax mail without a FAX CARD on your PC!

INDIRECT FAX SYSTEM

The only way to fax with Silver Xpress with a non CAS-compatible fax card is to use a printer redirection method.

You may FAX a reply or a newly created message by using a printer redirected device name. This is an indirect approach and it assumes you have a PRINT DEVICE NAME such as LPT2 hooked up to a FAX TSR (Terminate and Stay Resident program such as FAXIT [™]).

When you use the print option in Silver Xpress and select the redirected printer device name, the TSR will wake up and prompt you for a phone number. Full control of faxing is done with your TSR. See the section on PRINTING MAIL with Xpress Section to define a PRINT.LIS file.

DIRECT CAS FAX SYSTEM

To directly fax information with Silver Xpress you can use its built-in CAS support. You must have a CAS-compatible fax card on your PC.

CAS is a growing fax standard which allows for applications to communicate with fax cards. Your fax card must support CAS in order to take advantage of Silver Xpress's direct faxing features. For non-CAS fax cards, use the indirect approach.

Silver Xpress will detect CAS-based fax cards such as the Intel Connection Co-Processor or Classic SatisFAXion, SatisFAXion Model 100, 20 or 400, the Dallas FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ Card or the Complete Communicator.

With CAS-based faxing, Silver Xpress allows you to:

- FAX a file by using the Xpress Service Menu FAX/FILE OPTION.
- FAX a reply or your new message by using the CASFAX PRINT OPTION. When you are reading or creating new mail, use your print function to display a list of printer devices. Select the CASFAX option and Silver Xpress will perform direct CAS faxing.
- Display a status window for the current fax transmission.
- Cancel or abort the current fax transmission.
- Insert PCX logo files and/or cover pages.
- Perform FAX broadcasting to multiple phone numbers.

When using the print option, Xpress will store new mail faxes in the FAX STORAGE directory defined in the FAX options configuration section.

When using the built-in FAX system, Silver Xpress will display the following screen:

§

When using the OFF-LINE FAX or the DIRECT FAX system in Silver Xpress, you can define and use the FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ Phone Book pick list file (FAXPHONE.LIS). This is the default pick list for popping up a list of FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ Numbers. Define this option in the configuration, MAIL PICK LIST OPTIONS. An example phone book is:

; FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ Numbers List File

%TITLE FAX Phone List

;

%TITLE FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ Phone Book

; In the below EXTRACT command, the ':' is defined

; instead of default of '-'.

%EXTRACT :

;

412-765-4321 : Santronics Software fax number. NOT REAL!

412-765-4321 : Lawyer FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ Number.

NOT REAL!

412-765-4321 : Accountant FaxXE "Faxing Mail"§ Number.

NOT REAL!

146 Silver Xpress Forms System (advance topic)

Silver Xpress implements a powerful forms processing facility. Silver Xpress is the only off-line mail system available which offers this capability.

Forms Processing can be referred to as Data Entry Processing. All the forms in the configuration section are data entry dialogs with the user. Silver Xpress now offers the ability to create off-line forms for a specific application. Xpress Off-line Forms Processing is the ability to ask users a series of questions or prompts in a pop-up window and store the results for later processing by the remote hostXE "Remote Host"§.

Normally, forms processing is defined by the BBS, where the BBS or remote hostXE "Remote Host"§ operator will pass forms for you to fill out and send back to the BBS. You will find more and more of these types of forms coming from the BBS as new remote hostXE "Remote Host"§ systems become familiar with the power and potential of the Silver Xpress Forms System. You may find a BBS offering products you may want to order off-line, or you may find a BBS wishing to ask you a series of questions for a survey. The applications are endless. Here are some type of applications you may define using the Silver Xpress Forms System:

- Off-line Order Entry Forms
- Off-line Database Inquiry
- Off-line MHS Electronic Mail
- Off-line Customer Surveys
- Off-line UUCP Mailing

As a user of Silver Xpress, you may define your own forms for your applications.

If you wish to create a form for your own usage locally to your PC, you are limited with the types of forms the BBS may accept. For instance, as a user, you can only create or define a form for creating a message for the BBS. A perfect example is to create a message form to send a canned message on a regular basis.

If you are using Silver Xpress with the Xpress MHS system, or you are using Xpress within a GROUP environment, the applications for user defined Xpress Forms grow. For instance, you may want to create a "ConferenceXE "Mail Conferences"§ Room Scheduling" form when using the Xpress MHS in a LAN environment.

If you are a professional user, and wish to investigate the possibilities Silver Xpress Forms may offer your organization, call the Santronics Sales Office for further information. We can assist you technically to design forms.

147 CREATING A USER DEFINED XPRESS FORM

To create a form for Silver Xpress, you have to do two things:

- 1 Create a Form File XXXX.FRM. The format is documented below.
- 2 Create a dynamic menu option with the keyword *FORM XXXX.FRM. See the section on Silver Xpress Dynamic Menu System.

148 XPRESS FORMS FORMAT

The FORMS File for Xpress Forms is a simple flat ASCII file. A line beginning with ;!\$ is considered a comment line.

STORAGETYPE FIDO or TEXT

STORAGETYPE defines how Xpress Forms will store the file, either in flat file text format or as a FSTC-1 Fido Net file. If you define the storage type as FIDO, you must define the area number where the file will be stored. If you wish to create a form for creating a canned message for Silver Xpress, define a FIDO storage type. If you define a storagetype of TEXT, you must define the name of the text file. This is better suited for applications where you have a specific processor defined at the host site.

STORAGE <output file name>

This is the name of the output file required for a TEXT storage file. Even if you have a FIDO storage type, you must define a temporary storage file.

AREANUM <areanum>

This is the forum number for the message area in which you are creating mail. This must be known if you intend to use the XPRESS FORMS system to create a canned message. It must also match the forum number provided by the BBS.

There is a special case for fido net mail messages. If the AREANUM is defined as NET, then Xpress will search for the net mail message area for the BBS.

SUBJECT <subject of message or &field#>

This is the subject of the message or field #, if you intend to provide a field in the form, to fill in SUBJECT of the message.

NOTE: If you define the message with a MAILTYPE NET, and have a net mail attribute of ATTACHFILE or REQUESTFILE, the subject line follows a strict rule. Please see ATTACHFILE and REQUESTFILE.

TO_WHOM <recipient of mail or &field#>

This is the name of the recipient for the message or field # on the form.

FROM_WHOM <username> or <USERNAME> or <&field#>

This is the name of the person who is creating the message. It should be your name or USERNAME if your want Silver Xpress to fill it in for you.

PRIVATE

If this statement is provided, the message becomes a private message.

MAILTYPE NET or ECHO or LOCAL

This is the message attribute. It is only important when the message is a NET mail, as specified by the FIDO network. This does not apply to RIMES or any other network. If the message is a netmail message, you must provide the next set of keywords:

DEST_NETMAIL <fido net address> or <HOSTADDRESS> or <&field#>

If the MAILTYPE is NET, you must provide the netmail destination address. If you intend to fill in the destination from one of your fields, you can use a field # statement; i.e., &2, otherwise it must be a fully qualified Fido Net netmail address. If you use the keyword HOSTADDRESS, the host address of the packet's remote host will be used.

ORIG_NETMAIL <fido net address> or <HOSTADDRESS> or <&field#>

If the MAILTYPE is NET, you must provide the netmail's original address. If you intend to fill in the destination from one of your fields, you can use a field # statement; i.e., &2, otherwise it must be a fully qualified Fido Net netmail address. Typically, this field should be HOSTADDRESS, which means the host address of the BBS you are using will be used.

CRASHMAIL

This netmail attribute is used to tell the BBS to immediately send the netmail. This is true under frontend systems like BINKLEY TERM.

DIRECTMAIL

This is a FRONTDOOR ATTRIBUTE only. This netmail attribute is used to tell the BBS with FRONTDOOR to directly send the net mail bypassing any routing rules.

IMMEDMAIL

This is a FRONTDOOR ATTRIBUTE only. This netmail attribute is used to tell the BBS with FRONTDOOR to immediately send the net mail.

ATTACHFILE

If this field is provided, the SUBJECT keyword must be the file name of a file you wish to attach to the system. Note: FILE is relative to the BBS you are using. It is not a file located on your local PC (unless you are the user and sysop). Once the message is sent to a BBS, the BBS frontend system will look for this file.

REQUESTFILE

If this field is provided, the SUBJECT keyword must be the name of the file you wish to retrieve from the DEST_NETMAIL address. You cannot have a REQUESTFILE and an ATTACHFILE at the same time.

KILLSEND

If the KILLSEND keyword is provided when the message is uploaded, and finally sent to the destination, the frontend will kill the message.

FORCEINTL

If this FORCEINTL keyword is provided, it will tell Silver Xpress to insert the Fido Net INTL^ kludge line in the body of the message. Some frontends simply work better with this statement.

PROLOG <filename>

TEXT <filename> or [EDITOR [INTERNAL] or [editor command]]

EPILOG <filename>

These keywords provide the forms system the means to create the body of the message or output of the data entry form. The body of the message consists of three parts: A prolog to the text, the text itself and an epilog of the text.

If any of the keywords are provided, the file name must be available. Xpress will look at these files as templates for field substitutions. Xpress Forms will look for tokens such as &Fxx&, where xx is the field number, and make the proper substitution.

The TEXT keyword can be defined with an EDITOR command. If TEXT EDITOR INTERNAL is defined, the internal Xpress editor will be used to create the TEXT of the message. If the TEXT EDITOR <program name> is defined, the editor "program name" will be called. If the TEXT EDITOR is defined without an editor command, the editor, as defined by the user in the EDITOR INFORMATION section, will be called.

Note: Only when the TEXT EDITOR keyword is defined will an editor be displayed, otherwise the TEXT filename will be inserted into the output of the form.

WINDOW <x1,y1,x2,y2,ta,fa,is>

This is the window dimension for the form. If no window statement is provided, the full screen dimensions will be used, (1,80,1,screenheight). Please note; if a WINDOW statement is provided, the FIELD BLOCKS row and column positions are relative to this WINDOW.

TITLE <title>

This is the title used for the WINDOW statement.

HELPPFILE <helpfile name>

This is an optional help file for the data entry system. To create the help file, you will need to define a file using the following format:

*FIELD#

Field help text

OUTLINE <bsave file>

This is an optional form outline file, or a binary dump file, stored in a BSV format. If defined, it will be displayed prior to data entry. The purpose is to display an outline of the data entry fields. If an outline is not defined, the above WINDOW statement is required to display a popup window using the dimensions defined.

FIELDS FOR A FORM

To create fields or prompts for a form, you need to define a FIELD BLOCK for each prompt you wish to have in the form. A field block begins with a statement FIELD <field#>, and ends with an ENDFIELD statement. Here is an example field block:

FIELD 1

FIELDTYPE A 25

ATTRIBUTE 30 57 30

PROMPT ENTER YOUR NAME:

PXPOS 30

PYPOS 5

PATTERN X

FORCE TRUE

XPOS

YPOS

ENDFIELD

Some of the keywords in a field block are optional. Not all are required, and it depends on whether an outline for a form is being used.

FIELD [field#]

The FIELD statement begins a field block. Not having one will cause a form error. The field# is optional but highly recommended, and it should be uniquely defined for each field.

FIELDTYPE <field type> <field length>

This statement defines the type of field. The field length defines the width of the field. The following table outlines the currently defined field types:

Field Type	Description
------------	-------------

A	Any Character
N	Numeric/Real
I	Integer
W	Word
Y	Yes or No
D	Date
T	Time

ATTRIBUTE <pa> <fa> <sa>

The attribute statement defines the color of the fields.

PA is the color of the prompt

FA is the color when the field is active

SA is the color of the field when the field is not active

Note: It is not necessary to define an attribute for every field. The field attribute will take on the value of the previous settings. It is only necessary to define the first one.

PROMPT <prompt>

PXPOS 30

PYPOS 5

If you do not use an outline, the prompt statement is available to define a prompt for the field. The prompt will be placed on the screen at the PXPOS and PYPOS positions. These are the column and row positions respectively. They are relative to the WINDOW dimensions.

PATTERN <x>

This is the pattern of the field. The following is a table of the possible field patterns.

Pattern	Description
X	any character, default
!	same as X, upper case only
L	save as X, lower case only
a	alphas only, no special chars
A	same as a, upper case only
I	same as a , lower case only
B	T or F, true or false
Y	YES or NO
9	0-9 only

#

 0-9, -,

FORCE TRUE OR FALSE

If this FORCE statement is TRUE, the field is required. This means the user will not be allowed to leave the field without entering a value.

XPOS <x>

YPOS <y>

These are the screen positions of the field. They are relative to the WINDOW dimensions. If no XPOS and YPOS are defined, they will take on the values of the PXPOS AND PYPOS position, plus the length of the prompt. In other words:

$$XPOS = PXPOS + LENGTH(PROMPT)$$

$$YPOS = PYPOS$$

This makes it easy to use the PROMPT statement in situations where the field is immediately to the right of the prompt.

HASH TRUE OR FALSE

If this value is true, the field will be hashed. You should avoid this attribute and only use it when you know what you are doing.

ENDFIELD

This field is required to end a field block.

149 Creating Menus (Dynamic Menu Editor)

Silver Xpress now uses a pulldown menu system. You can use a mouse with the menus if you have one. XE "Menu Editor"§

The default menu is defined and provided with Silver Xpress as a file called SXMENU.LIB. When XPREAD.EXE is executed, the program looks for the SXMENU.LIB to load the menu system. This file must be present for Silver Xpress to run.

However, you can tell Xpress to use a different menu by using the -X command line switch, or you may change the SXMENU.LIB menus by using the SXDYMENU.EXE program. This program is available as SXDM100.ZIP and is available on the bonus diskette.

You can explore an alternate menu system with the sample 228MENU.LIB by typing:

```
XPREAD -X228MENU.LIB
```

By customizing your menus, you can create canned mail options such as:

Send Mail to Charlie

Send Echo Mail Rules in Xpress Conference or create menus that read specific areas, such as:

Read Netmail Area

Read Private Conference Read LAN MHS Mail or create a hard disk menu system, such as:

Run Word Perfect

Call Telix The SXDYMENU program is an interactive program used to change the menu options. When you change an option, there are 2 things to remember:

- The KEYCODE must be unique
- The HELP LINE is used for CUSTOMIZED options

The following is a guide to the key codes used in Silver Xpress. It will help guide you in assigning proper key codes when you customize your Silver Xpress Reader menu. You can ignore the color settings used in SXDYMENU.EXE.

Note: Some of these menu options are TOP level menus. They have no ACTION associated with them.

When you use the program SXDYMENU.EXE to modify your menu, simply create menu options and assign the proper KEY CODE below.

KEY CODES 150 and above are reserved for dynamic menu options.

150 Silver Xpress Menu Layout and KeyCodes

The following chart XE "Menu Layout and Codes"§ illustrates the menu codes used in Silver Xpress. You may modify the menu for your reader to suit your functional needs. For instance, you may want to remove all or many of the configuration menu options once you are settled, or you may want to create a new menu to create a special automatic posting function.

File	1	TOP LEVEL
Load/Open Menu Packet	134	
Session Information	135	
About Screen	136	
Mail	2	TOP LEVEL
Read Direct/Urgent Mail	3	
Read Mail Per Conference	4	
Create New Mail	5	
Maintain Mail You Created	6	
Search For Mail	7	
View Mail in File Cabinets	8	
Pack Killed Mail	9	
Clear All Tag Information	10	TOP LEVEL
Clear all tags	41	
Reset Mail as Unread	42	
Bulletins	11	TOP LEVEL
Welcome Screens	12	
Optional Bulletin(s)	13	
New Files on Remote Host	14	
Services	15	TOP LEVEL
Shell to DOS	16	
Fax Mail/File	140	TOP LEVEL
Fax File(s)	141	
Show/Cancel Fax	142	
Remote Services	17	
Download File	18	
Upload File	19	
Remote Xpress Setup	20	TOP LEVEL
Mail Conferences to Scan	21	
Archiver (Compression/Expansion)	22	
File Transfer Protocols	23	
Keywords to Scan	24	
Miscellaneous Options	25	
Configuration	26	TOP LEVEL
Mail Location	27	
Editor Information	28	
Archiver Information	29	
Quoting Mail Options	30	
Printer Options	31	
Reader/Viewer Options	32	
Mail Search Options	33	
File Cabinet Options	34	
Pick List Files	35	
Signature/Tagline Options	138	
Fax Options	139	

Define Hot Keys	36	
File and Program Paths	37	
Video Color and Sound	38	
Pick Color File	39	
Video Mode	124	
Mouse Options	40	
Noise Control	127	
Screen Saver Options	137	
Speech Friendly Interface	143	
Miscellaneous Options	128	
Write Config to Disk	129	
Quit	130	
Help	131	TOP LEVEL
Search	132	
Index	133	

151 User definable Dynamic Menu Options

When you define dynamic options, the KEY CODES must be between 150-255. Each option must have a unique code.

The HELP/CMD line is used to define the command for the option.

The following are the current dynamic menu options for Silver Xpress:

***READ <area#>**

This option will automatically join a conference for reading. If area # does not exist, or a packet is not opened, the option will be ignored.

Example: *READ 2

***NEW <area#> [-Ttowhom] [-Ssubject] [-Iimportfilename] [-Aaddress]**

This option will automatically join a conference for creating a message. If area # does not exist or a packet is not opened, the option will be ignored. Parameters are available to define fields of the message header.

Examples;

Send a distress message to the sysop in area 1:

*NEW 1 -TSysop -SHelp

Import an echo rule message to area 6:

*NEW 6 -TALL -SEcho Rules -Ic:\rules\echo.6

Send a netmail message to Charlie Smith:

*NEW 6 -TCharlie Smith -SUpdates -A1:141/880

Send a netmail message to Charlie Smith:

*NEW NET -TCharlie Smith -SUpdates -A:1:141/880

The word NET is used to define the NETMAIL area. Use this if you don't know the netmail area number. Note: This will only work with OPX mail packets.

***DOS [dos command]**

This option will call the DOS command for processing. If no DOS command is defined, a shell to DOS is performed.

***VIEW <file name>**

This option will display the file name provided.

***FORM <form file name>**

This option will process the Xpress form provided by the REMOTE HOST or defined by you. *See Silver Xpress Forms System.*

***EDIT <filename>**

This option will edit the file using the internal editor. If an EXTERNAL editor is defined in the configuration section of Xpress, it will be used instead.

152 REMOTE HOST SPECIFIC MENUS

A BBS can also define or change the menus XE "Remote Host Menus"§you will see on the Silver Xpress Reader.

If a BBS operator chooses to provide a customized menu with your mail packet, you cannot override this customization. You will probably never see this unless you are using a professional BBS system with specific services offered to you. Usually the BBS may add a new menu option using some of the Xpress dynamic menu options which will perform some special function such as "Read Sales Report," "Create Beta Report," etc. The options are limitless.

153 *Optimizing Silver Xpress*

There are several things you can do to improve the speed and performance of the Silver Xpress mail reader:

1. If you generally use a single archiver like PKZIP/PKUNZIP or ARJ and anything else, it's recommended you edit the ArchiverXE "Archiver"§ Information and hard code full paths for the archiver. For example:

```
USE ARCHIVER DETECTION:    NO
USE PACKET DETECTION:     NO
EXPANSION:                 $C:\UTIL\PKUNZIP.EXE -O %1
COMPRESSION:               $C:\UTILITY\PKZIP.EXE -M %1
```

The same holds true for your external editor and any other 3rd party program you define within Silver Xpress.

In other words, ***Being Specific is Terrific*** for faster operations.

When you do this, you can also disable "CHECK PROGRAM EXISTENCE" in your miscellaneous variable section. Do not disable this option, if you did not fully declare the program paths.

2. After you start Xpress, if you have at least 280K of RAM memory, it's probably not necessary to use the EXEC SWAP symbols \$ or #.

EXEC Swapping is slower when not using extended or expanded memory. If you have sufficient EXT or EMS memory, Silver Xpress will use this memory for swapping. If this is the case, you should not worry about the speed of exec swapping. However, with disk-based swapping, it is a tad slower (we're talking 1 second at most). In this case, you might want to consider not using EXEC SWAPPING if you have sufficient conventional memory, and use an ARCHIVER system which is not a memory hog.

3. If you want to use a RAM DRIVE, and have plenty of space for it (1 meg ram drive recommended), you can put your work directory there.

Keep in mind you are vulnerable to loss of reply mail if an accidental reboot or power failure occurs.

4. To reduce memory requirements, you can redesign the pulldown menu. An external program called SXDYMENU.EXE is available as a separate package to allow you to customize your menus. A sample menu 228MENU.LIB is provided with reduced menu options.

5. Silver Xpress uses an OVERLAY system, XPREAD.OVR. If you don't have extended memory but do have a RAM drive, you can do the following to speed up the loading of the overlay system:

- a) Copy your XPREAD.OVR over to the RAM Drive, say F:\

- b) Define the following environment string, SET XOL=F:\

Another option is to copy the XPREAD.EXE over to the ram drive as well. Silver Xpress will first look for XOL and, if not found, look for the XPREAD.OVR file in the same directory as XPREAD.EXE.

6. If you find Silver Xpress EXEC SWAPPING is taking a bit too long, it is probable that it's SWAPPING to DISK rather than EXPANDED memory. The solution is to set up a RAM DRIVE, or install a good hard disk cache system.

If you have a RAM drive, you can tell XPRESS where to SWAP its files by setting the environment string, SET XESP=F:\XPREAD.SW\$. You must give it a full file path and name.

7. Single mail system users such as QWKXE "QWK"\$ or OPXXE "OPX"\$ only can speed up the packet search system by changing the packet specification.

If you have no interest in QWKXE "QWK"\$ mail, you can change the packet loader specification defined in the MAIL LOCATION section to something more specific for your needs. If your interest pertains only to Silver Xpress Mail packets, you may change the packet specification to: *.O??

Furthermore, if you are only concerned with mail coming from 1 particular BBS, you can drastically improve the packet loader by being more specific. For example, if you only get mail from PITT Xpress BBS, changing the packet loader to PITTX.OP? will tell Silver Xpress to present you only with mail packets from PITT Xpress BBS.

154 The Future?

Think GUI! Think Sound! Think Communications! Think MultiMedia! Silver Xpress is the most advanced package of its kind, and we will continue to be the pioneer of ideas and concepts for new off-line mail applications. The goal for future projects is to integrate graphics into the Xpress mail system. This will most likely be done with our Windows and OS/2 versions, currently under development. However, the special DOS version will implement some graphical integration techniques such as RIP (Remote Imaging Protocol) and Tel FX, the RoboBoard Graphical Protocol.

Another feature will be better sound for the Xpress Windows Music. You will be able to, in the DOS version, specify use of a SoundBlaster Compatible SoundXE "Sound"§ card to play the Xpress Windows Music. In the Windows version, under Windows 3.1+, it will use the defined MultiMedia SoundXE "Sound"§ Device Driver.

Silver Xpress will also better integrate with communication programs such as Gold Xpress™. The goal here is to smooth the interface.

Appendix A: Technical Information

Internal EditorXE "Internal Editor"§XE "Editor"§ and 3rd Party Software Interface Logic

The following table summarizes what happens in Silver Xpress when one of the following functions are called. The purpose of this table is to assist System Integrators in writing 3rd party utilities for Silver Xpress.

FUNCTION	CURRENT DIRECTORY WHEN FUNCTION IS CALLED	DIRECTORY THE EMAIL.TXT IS CREATED IN
internal editor	WORK	WORK (fully qualified)
external editor	startup directory	WORK (fully qualified)
external mail processor	startup directory	WORK (fully qualified)
external quoter	startup directory	WORK (fully qualified)
external filer	startup directory	WORK (fully qualified)
external filer viewer	startup directory	Not Applicable
external expansion	WORK	Not Applicable

external compression	WORK	Not Applicable
SearchXE "Searching Mail"\$ DOS Process	WORK	Not Applicable
Remote Service Call	WORK	Not Applicable
external spell checker	startup directory	WORK (fully qualified)
TagLine Manager	startup directory	Not Applicable

Appendix B: Glossary

ANSIXE "ANSI"§, acronym for American National Standards Institute, ANSIXE "ANSI"§ is often referred to as the capability of a video monitor to handle the ANSIXE "ANSI"§ escape sequences.

ARCHIVER, is a utility to compress and decompress data.

ARJ, is a shareware archiver.

ASCIIXE "ASCII"§, ASCIIXE "ASCII"§ is often referred to as the character set on an IBM PC or clone. Usually it is the first 128 characters. There are 256 ASCIIXE "ASCII"§ characters. The top 128 are often referred to as the IBM extended ASCIIXE "ASCII"§ set.

AUTO DOWNLOAD, a unique feature of ZMODEM, a file transfer protocol to automatically control your telecommunication program to begin receiving a file. When using ZMODEM you do not need to tell your telecommunication program to receive a file.

BBS, Acronym for Bulletin Board "BBS"§ Service.

BULLETIN, a news item posted by a BBS or software program.

BULLETIN BOARD SERVICE, a software program designed to answer a modem call and interact with a user. Usually, a BBS is a service with options to read mail, download files, and view bulletins.

CAS, acronym for Communication Application Specification, is often referred to as the capability of a fax card. If a fax card supports CAS, the fax card will be supported by software programs using the CAS standard.

CGA, type of video monitor. It is a color monitor with 640x400 resolution.

COLOR FILE, a Silver Xpress Reader file with particular settings for color in the program. You can create color files and share them with your friends or co-workers.

CONFERENCE, a section of mail pertaining to a particular subject, i.e., Xpress Support.

CROSSTALK, a commercial telecommunication.

DECOMPRESSION, the process by which an archiver expands compressed data.

DIRECTORY, a special section on storage disk with a special name.

DOS, acronym for DISK OPERATING SYSTEM, often referred to as an operating system for an IBM PC or clone. DOS controls the machine's dialog with the user and loads the software program.

DOWNLOAD, the process of collecting data from a BBS using your telecommunication program.

EDITOR, a software program to create or modify data.

EGA, a video monitor with higher resolution than a CGA.

EXEC SWAPPING, a software technique of removing a program from memory to run another computer program, thus freeing up almost all dynamic memory for the child program to use.

EXPANSION, see decompression.

FAX MODEM, a computer adapter with a modem and a fax capability.

FILE AREA, a BBS file section. A BBS can consolidate files into areas.

FORM, a dialog held between a user and a software program for the purpose of gathering information.

FORUM, see conference.

FULLY QUALIFIED FILE NAME, storage of information in a DOS computer is done with files. Each file has a name. A fully qualified filename is one which has the drive component, the directory component, the filename portion and the extension. Ie., C:\XPRESS\XPREAD.EXE

GOLD XPRESS, a Santronics Software telecommunication product which helps integrate Silver Xpress with Bulletin BoardXE "BBS"§ Services.

HARD DISK, a read/write storage device.

HOLD FILE, a special reply file for Silver Xpress which will not be sent out to the BBS.

HOT KEYS, a method to activate an option by hitting a single keystroke.

LCD, acronym for Liquid Crystal Display used for laptop computers.

LHARC, a 3rd party archiver program. See archiver.

LIST FILE, a special text for Silver Xpress for popping up a list of items from which to choose.

MAIL AREA, see conference.

MAIL DOOR, a BBS add-on software program such as the Silver Xpress Mail Door for the purpose of compressing new mail and reading off-line.

MAIL PACKET, the compressed mail file created by a mail door.

MAPI, acronym for Messaging Application Program Interface. A new mail format by Microsoft.

MENU EDITOR, in Silver Xpress, this is the SXDYMENUE program used for modifying the Silver Xpress default menus.

MHS, acronym for Message Handling System by Novell. A mail format usually found on LAN-based systems.

MONOCHROME, type of computer monitor with only two colors; black and white, black and green or black and amber. These monitors will not display color.

MOUSE, a computer input device. A mouse is used to point and click at objects on the computer screen to activate a computer action or operation.

MULTI-MEDIA, a new computer term to reflect the ability to mix and join different types of computer information such as text (words), sound and pictures (graphics).

NEW FILES LIST, a listing of new files on bulletin board systems is sometimes available and will be posted for your perusal. The listing is generated since the last date you were logged in the system.

OFF LINE MAILER, a mail system to create and accept mail files for off-line readers.

OFF LINE READER, a mail system to read and create mail on your computer without the need to be logged in a bulletin board system.

OPERATING SYSTEM, software which controls the essential operations of a computer such as controlling the Input/Output system, and the video system.

OPXXE "OPX"§, acronym for a file extension used in the Silver Xpress Off-line Mail System. A mail packet downloaded from a bulletin board system offering the Silver Xpress Mail System will have an extension of OPX

OS/2, an operating system specifically designed for the INTEL 286/386 computer systems. It has inherent multi-tasking capabilities, and virtually unlimited memory addressing.

PACKET LOADER, the mail packetXE "Mail Packet"§ manager for Silver Xpress which presents OPXXE "OPX"§, QWKXE "QWK"§, or MHS files available on your PC.

PKZIP, a PC compression utility by PKWARE used by Silver Xpress as an optional utility to compress mail.

PROCOMM, a PC telecommunication product.

QWKXE "QWK"§, a file extension used for the QMAIL Off-line Mail System. A mail packet downloaded from a bulletin board system, offering the QMAIL Mail System, will have an extension of QWK.

RAM, Random Access Memory, usually refers to the available computer memory on a PC.

REMOTE HOST, a distant computer system that you talk to using a modem or some other communications device. This can be a BBS, a mainframe or a miniframe computer.

REP, acronym for the file extension used by the Silver Xpress Mail System to create reply files and messages you create for uploading to the Silver Xpress Mail System.

REPLY FILE, see REP.

SHORT EDITOR, Silver Xpress has the ability to use 1 or 2 different editors. The short editor is the internal editor in Silver Xpress. It is generally used to create or reply to short messages.

TELIX, a shareware communication product for dialing remote hostXE "Remote Host"§ systems.

UPLOAD, the process of sending files to a remote hostXE "Remote Host"§ system from your PC.

WORD PROCESSOR, a PC editor to create documents. Usually a word processor does not save files in ASCII format by default. It has the ability to mix different character types and pictures.

WORD STAR EDITOR, a text editor with a standard keystroke command set to control the text. It is used on BBS's as the default editor for creating mail. The internal editor in Xpress uses a WordStar-like editor keystroke command set.

XMODEM, a method to UPLOAD or DOWNLOAD files from a remote host. It is an old, standard method of sending data at 128 bytes per block of data.

XPRESS WINDOWS, the special Silver Xpress language in mail to control the video.

YMODEM, a method to UPLOAD or DOWNLOAD files from a remote host. It is a new, standard method of sending data at 1024 bytes per block of data.

ZMODEM, a method to UPLOAD or DOWNLOAD files from a remote host. It is fast becoming the defacto standard of sending data at variable bytes per block, depending on the clarity and speed of the telephone connection between your PC and the Remote Host. Zmodem also has a feature called AUTO DOWNLOAD.

Appendix C: Common Questions and Answers

- ❏ What exactly is meant by the BBS Login Name or BBS login ID when Xpress asks for my registration information?
- BBS Login Name is the name you enter when you call your remote host XE "Remote Host"\$. On my BBS, I would log in as Hector Santos. While on a system that allows alias names, I would log in as Xpress Author. When Xpress asks for your BBS Login Name, it wants the name you use to Log onto the Host System.
- ❏ How do I integrate my spell checker with Silver Xpress?
- In the configuration section for File and Program Paths, define your program.

Enter it as:

`$PROGRAM %1`

Your spelling checker should save the checked file back to the name supplied via the %1 parameter. If your program saves to a different name, use a batch file, and call the batch, passing the %1, and have the batch rename the checked file, back to %1. You will have to have the batch delete the original %1 and then rename it. Most Spell Checkers will save back to the original file, so you probably will not need to worry. Just enter as above, and you will not have any problems.

Note: The \$ Exec Swapping Command, in front of the Program name for the Spelling Checker, will most likely be a must, as most Spelling Checker Programs are very big.

- ❑ Why don't my Taglines work?
 - ▮ Taglines are a privilege on some BBS systems. Your Remote Host Operator may have disabled them. Another possibility is that you did not prefix the entry in your configuration with an @. The entry for TAGLINES typically looks like "@TAGS.LIS". Check your configuration.
- ❑ Silver Xpress keeps telling me my expansion command is wrong or I don't have enough memory? What can I do?
 - ▮ Well, it all depends on how you have your ArchiverXE "Archiver"% defined. If you are using the Automatic ArchiverXE "Archiver"% DetectionXE "Archiver Detection"% , you need to ensure that your CompressionXE "Compression"%/ExpansionXE "Expansion"% Program is in your PATH. If you are defining it directly, and not using the automatic detection, check that the command is correct, and if it is, check if it is a program that requires a lot of memory. If it does, precede the command with a \$ to enable the Xpress Swapping, and this should free enough memory for it to run.
- ❑ How can I retrieve FAX messages I created to resend?
 - ▮ This is only possible when using the CAS-based fax cards, and not all of them. Silver Xpress was designed around the Intel Connection Co-processor and SatisFAXion FaxXE "Faxing Mail"% Cards. These cards allow for better control and management, including resending of fax messages. With other fax cards, all Silver Xpress can do is send the message. The management of the fax is dependent on your fax software, which accompanied your fax card.

Appendix D: Exec Swapping

Silver Xpress will utilize as much memory as required to handle a mail session. Whenever a DOS operation is performed from Silver Xpress such as calling an archiver, editor or spell checker, it is quite possible to run out of memory, thus causing the DOS operation to be unsuccessful.

When this situation occurs, you can use the built-in *EXEC SWAPPING* feature of Silver Xpress to free up memory prior to calling the DOS operation.

By placing certain prefixes to the command, Silver Xpress will enable exec swapping or other operations. The following is a list of command prefixes you can add to enable exec swapping or other DOS process operations:

Prefix	Command
none	Call program by calling COMMAND.COM. Program must reside in PATH statement.
!	Call directly by specifying program name with a fully qualified filename.
\$	Exec Swapping. Program must be fully qualified.
#	Exec Swapping by calling COMMAND.COM Program must reside in PATH statement.
W	<p>Pop up a window and run program using COMMAND.COM. No swapping will be performed so make sure the program has enough memory. Here is the format:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">W <x1> <y1> <x2> <y2> [command] [parameters]</p> <p>where x1,y1,x2,y2 are window dimensions.</p>

Examples:

Call QEDIT EditorXE "Editor"\$ by using command.com with no Swapping:

EditorXE "Editor"\$ Command: Q.EXE

In this case, Q.EXE must exist in a directory defined in the PATH statement.

Call QEDIT EditorXE "Editor"\$ by using command.com with Swapping:

EditorXE "Editor"\$ Command: #Q.EXE

In this case, Q.EXE must exist in a directory defined in the PATH statement.

Call QEDIT EditorXE "Editor"\$ directly with Swapping:

EditorXE "Editor"\$ Command: \$C:\UTILS\Q.EXE

In this case, Q.EXE must exist in the C:\UTILS\ directory.

Call PKUNZIP to decompress a mail packetXE "Mail Packet"\$ using command.com showing the operation in a small window:

Expansion Command: W 10 10 70 20 PKUNZIP.EXE -O %1

In this case, PKUNZIP.EXE must exist in a directory defined in the PATH statement.

Up to this point, only certain programs require the EXEC SWAPPING feature of Silver Xpress. Here are a few specific ones but, basically, any program that is a memory hog will require it:

Word for DOS

Word Perfect

ARJ compression utility

LHA compression utility with large mail packetXE "Mail Packet"\$

ShareSpell

John Hancock

Appendix E: Xpress Tokens

Xpress Tokens are special characters used for Reply Headers and Taglines. They are used to create customized reply headers or taglines from common information. For example, you may have a reply header line which says:

On @D@, @AN@ wrote to @RN@:\n

The keywords surrounded with the @ characters are Xpress tokens and will be substituted with the current value of the variable, i.e., @D@ will be substituted with the date of the original message. Taglines work in the same manner.

The following are the current Xpress Tokens supported by Silver Xpress:

@UN@	Your name as it is known by the BBS
@UF@	Your first name as it is known by the BBS
@UL@	Your last name as it is known by the BBS
@AN@	Your Alias name as it is known by the BBS
@AF@	Your Alias first name as it is known by the BBS
@AL@	Your Alias last name as it is known by the BBS
@SN@	The sysop's name of the BBS
@SF@	The sysop's first name of the BBS
@SL@	The sysop's last name of the BBS

@TN@	Name of TO: Field of new message
@TF@	First Name of TO: field of new message
@TL@	Last Name of TO: field of new message
@FN@	Name of FROM: field of the new message
@FF@	First Name of FROM: field of the new message
@FL@	Last Name of FROM: field of the message
@AN@	Name of author in message to which you are replying
@AF@	First Name of author in message to which you are replying
@AL@	Last Name of author in message to which you are replying
@RN@	Name of recipient in message to which you are replying
@RF@	First Name of recipient in message to which you are replying

@RL@	Last Name of recipient in message to which you are replying
@TA@	Current Time, as in 1:23pm
@D@	Current Date,, as in 7 Apr 59
@DD@	Current Day, as in 20
@DM@	Current Month, as in Feb
@DY@	Current Year, as in 92
@T@	Current Time, as in 23:59:00

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