Email.wri, documentation for freeware **Network Email**, version 2.10
("Network Email" is a trademark of Ivory Tower Software)
Updated April 14, 1992

Network Email Installation

Copy EMAIL.EXE to a network drive to which all potential users have read and write access. I suggest that you create a directory called EMAIL and copy EMAIL.EXE there. For example, if your workstation sees a public drive as drive H:, the workstation's path for Email would be:

```
H:\EMAIL\EMAIL.EXE
```

Any user who wants to run Network Email should install the Email icon in his Windows program manager. He simply needs to do 'File,' 'New,' 'Program Item,' 'Browse' from the program manager menu, and browse the network drive for EMAIL.EXE, and the Email icon will be placed in the current program group. Email can then be run by simply double-clicking the Email icon.

You need one copy of VBRUN100.DLL installed in the Email directory, right beside EMAIL.EXE This is the best place for it, because it prevents your local hard drive from being accessed every time Email polls for mail messages. Even if a user has another copy of VBRUN100.DLL on his hard drive, if VBRUN100.DLL file is also in the Email directory, Email will use the copy it finds there. For loading from a RAM drive, see Advanced Features, below.

When a new user account is created, any current users *who happen to be running Email at the time when the new user account is created* will not be able to see the new user in their 'Recipient' windows until they exit Email and restart it.

There is no limit to the number of accounts Email can service, and an individual user can keep up to 1000 received messages. After that, to receive more new mail, a user will have to begin deleting (or archiving) his messages.

How Email Works

The first time a user runs Email, his name will not appear in the users' logon list. He should just click Cancel and he will be prompted for a user ID (8 characters maximum) and a user name (20 characters maximum). For example, my user ID is RICK and my Email user name is Richard Wagner.

When Email runs, it first looks to see if there is a DOS environment variable called 'USR.' If it finds it, it logs the user on as that user ID (the environment variable value). Users should set the environment variable in their AUTOEXEC.BATs. For instance, my AUTOEXEC.BAT contains the line:

```
      SET USR=RICK
```

I also included the line:

```
      run=h:\email\email.exe
```

in the [windows] section of my WIN.INI file in my Windows directory. This causes Email to be run every time I run Windows, which is everytime I boot. Using the "load=" line works just as well, and prevents the Windows Program Manager from being iconized on startup. Some people like the auto-iconization, others don't.

Email sends messages by creating a .SND file (send file) in the recipient's subdirectory on the network drive. The recipient's Email session looks at its subdirectory every five seconds. If it sees any .SND file there, it renames it to a .MSG file so it won't see it again as a new file, and then alerts the user. Archiving a message causes it to be renamed to a .FIL extension. That's all there is to it. Deleting a message erases the message file, of course.

Attaching a file causes Email to copy the file to the recipient's subdirectory. If the 'Attached file notification' option is checked in the sender's Email session, the line 'File Attached: *filename*' is automatically appended to the sender's message. The same goes for distribution lists.

Security

Email can provide iron-clad security, depending on the features provided by your network operating system. Microsoft Lan Manager and Novell Netware both can provide total security for Email users. See the online help topic "Security" for more information.

Important Features

Email supports monochrome monitors, 8514 monitors, and diskless workstations. If you need monochrome support, go to the Mailbox 'View Options' window. The check boxes will not be readable in monochrome. The bottom checkbox (which will be nearly invisible in monochrome) is the "Monochrome" option. Click once on the checkbox and it will become visible. Press the Done button, and then exit Email, and restart for full monochrome visibility.

Check the 8514 monitor option (if that's your video type) for better fonts the next time you run Email.

Diskless workstations will default to the root of the public drive from which Email starts for moving attached files received by the user (go View Attached Files). Workstations with local hard drives continue to default to the root of the C: drive as the attached-file-move target. If you have problems with the default drive on a floppy-drive-only

workstation, see Advanced Features, below.

Advanced Features

Email can be loaded from a local drive for improved loading time on slow networks. This works best from a RAM drive. You can have your AUTOEXEC.BAT copy EMAIL.EXE and VBRUN100.DLL to the RAM drive on bootup. To tell Email where the network drive and directory with the Email user directories is, you have to set an environment variable. That variable is EMAH (Email home). For example,

```
SET EMAH=H:\EMAIL
```

If your workstation has no hard drive, but a floppy only, and if Email causes your floppy to be accessed spruriously, you can set another environment variable (EMAF, "Email force"). For instance, to force Email away from A: and back to the network drive, include the line:

```
SET EMAF=YES
```

in your AUTOEXEC.BAT. If you set EMAF, you must also set EMAH. Do not set EMAF if you are not experiencing drive A: access problems.

Some people want really slow polling intervals. Those users can set yet another environment variable:

```
SET EMAT=YES
```

This variable ("Email is a Tortoise") slows down Mailbox polling to once every minute, for those who want every microgram of CPU power available to the task at hand.

Email counts the messages sent. In the Email directory you will see a file named COUNT.TXT. Double clicking on this file usually opens it in Notepad, and allows you to see the total number of messages Email has sent from all users. To reset this number, just highlight it and replace it with zero. This feature allows you to see how many messages are sent in any period you wish to observe. A system administrator might use this information as supporting data to justify upgrading to the commercial verison of Email (hint).

Email is Free

This freeware version of Email is provided to the public domain by **Ivory Tower Software** (ITS). Standard features include:

Text messages
Popup mail notification
Distribution lists

Attach a document, program, or picture file to a message
Archive messages for future reference

Keep this freeware version and run it for as long as you like. I wish to thank everyone who helped me find the bugs.

If there are features you would like to see in future versions of this software, or if you find a bug or have any other comment, please contact me, the proprietor of ITS, at the following address:

> ITS
> Richard Wagner
> 4319 W. 180th St.
> Torrance, CA 90504

You may also send me a message via Compuserve (76427,2611). Please mention the version number.

Commercial Email

A commercial version of Network Email is now available which has all the features of freeware Email plus the following enhancements:

Save the messages you send
Attach multiple files to a message
Create, save, and recall named distribution lists
Forward messages to another user
Optionally time-stamp messages
Open attached files from within Email
Complete compatibility with freeware Email
And much more

Like freeware Email, the commercial version has no limitation on the number of users on one network. A license for the commercial version of Email costs $120 (U.S.) and includes one year of free upgrades. Bug fixes will always be free. After the first year, upgrades will be available for a small fee.

For a copy of the commercial version and a license to use the software on a single LAN, send $120 to Ivory Tower Software at the above address. Be sure to state your disk size preference, and I will promptly send you a copy of the current commercial Email version.