

Que™

QuickMail–UNIX Exchange

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Text added or changed since the last release is italicized.

What is Que?

Que is a simple system for transferring mail between QuickMail and a UNIX host. It works with either the Telecommunications or QM-Serial bridge. We plan to support a direct network connection in the future.

Que was developed and tested with a Sun4 under SunOS 4.0. We expect it to be fairly portable. Please tell us about your installation experiences so that other may benefit.

Que is free! It's our way of saying thanks to all the people who have developed the free software we use.

Limitations

Que currently does not transfer message enclosures, however we do plan on supporting them. QuickMail, and so Que, currently limits special addresses to 114 characters. All other restrictions imposed by QuickMail apply.

If you discover bugs in Que, have suggestions, or would just like to say “Hello,” please send mail to bug-que@goldilocks.lcs.mit.edu.

Distribution

You can obtain the latest Que release from the info-mac archives on sumex-aim.stanford.edu. If you would prefer it and can provide us with an internet mail address, we will add you to a mailing list to receive new versions directly. Please send inquiries to the bug-que address listed above.

Installing Que

You must be a superuser to install Que. This document assumes that you have the system administration knowledge commensurate with superuser access. Please read all of the directions before you begin installation.

Basic UNIX Installation

First you will install the files common to all of the maildrops on your host:

- Create a new group, “quesers”, and add the daemon user to it.
- Create the directory “/usr/maildrops”. Its owner, group, and protection will be set automatically later.
- Transfer the files in Que’s “Basic” folder to /usr/maildrops.
- Connect to /usr/maildrops and type “source quemake” to compile Que’s files and set proper protections.

Maildrop Installation

Que transfers mail between your UNIX host and QuickMail through a maildrop. A maildrop is a UNIX directory and an account to access that directory. Each QuickMail bridge mailcenter connecting to a UNIX host must have its own maildrop on that host. You may have multiple maildrops on a host. We name each maildrop after an associated online mailcenter, however a single maildrop can serve multiple online mail centers.

For each maildrop you wish to create:

- Create a user for the maildrop with membership in the group quesers and shell “csh”.
- Make a home directory for the user under /usr/maildrops with group quesers. The name of the directory will be the name of the maildrop. Set the directory's protection to 730.
- Transfer the files in Que’s “maildrops” folder to the maildrop directory.

- Make the maildrop's user a trusted sendmail user by editing /etc/sendmail.cf.

User Alias Installation

Your UNIX machine is instructed to place incoming messages into the appropriate maildrop through sendmail's aliases file (typically in /usr/lib). Each user's mail which is to be sent to a maildrop is piped through quemail. It takes two arguments, one flagged by -d to indicate the maildrop's name and the other flagged by -u to indicate the user's QuickMail name. For example, if you had a user named Joe in the MIT maildrop you might include a line like this:

```
joe: "|/usr/maildrops/quemail -d MIT -u 'Joe'"
```

in the aliases file.

QuickMail allows addresses to contain spaces. Most other mailers do not. Que maps spaces to underscores when sending a message. Thus the address of the QuickMail user "Joe Smith" will be "Joe_Smith" on your UNIX host.

In order to handle returned mail, every user which can send mail through a Que mailcenter must be able to receive mail through a Que mailcenter on the same host. Mail will not be sent if the reply address cannot be validated first.

Que includes a program, quealias, to speed the installation of new maildrops. To use it

- Use QuickMail Administrator's "Export" command to make a file containing the names of a mailcenter's users. Be sure to check the "Include Passwords" checkbox.
- Transfer the resulting file to your UNIX host.
- Run /usr/maildrops/quealias on the file. This will produce a file with ".al" appended to the name containing appropriate text for the aliases file. It assumes the user's maildrop has the same name as the user's mailcenter.

Don't forget to run newaliases after editing the aliases file.

Mailcenter Installation

The final step in installing Que is to create the bridge mailcenters:

- Copy the contents of Que's "Bridge" folder into your QuickMail Administrator's "QA" folder.

- Create the bridge mailcenter as directed in the QuickMail documentation. Use the maildrop's account as the "Commercial service account #" and its password as the "Commercial service password". Select the Que script for the bridge.

The script provided is meant for connecting to a host directly. If you must pass through an intermediary such as a modem pool, you will need to modify the script first. Some comments in the script show you where to do this.

You have completed the installation process.

Using Que

Through Que you can send mail to any address your UNIX host can send to. Que uses the "address" portion of a special address as the destination. Type the address there just as you would on your UNIX host. Do not insert any carriage returns. Naturally you can place these special addresses into a QuickMail directory to avoid retyping them.

QuickMail's reply feature is based on a message's "From" address. On incoming mail, Que places an appropriate address in this slot for you. Enough of the message's original header is retained to determine other addresses you may be interested in. Que also attempts to parse out a personal name for the sender of the message.

Que 1.1 Release Notes

Version 1.1 fixed problems with parsing a message's header. Que was modified to use the `Reply-to:` addresses if there is one as the QuickMail "From" address. This made replying to the message work properly. Que was also modified to recognize personal names included in a comment as is used by many UNIX systems. Additionally, the header parsing was made more robust.

Que 1.2 Release Notes

Version 1.2 fixes a problem with quotation marks in addresses. It also adds a feature to split-up long messages.

QuickMail Administrator reads an entire incoming message into memory before parsing the header and sending it to the mailcenter. As a result, very long messages would crash the administrator by filling memory. Que now includes a variable in `mail.h`, `MAXMSGLENGTH`, to limit the size of incoming messages; Longer messages are broken into two or more parts. The variable is initially set to 20,000 so as to avoid QuickMail placing text in the message's enclosure as well.

Updating to version 1.2 from 1.1 requires that you:

- *Login to your UNIX host as superuser.*
- *Transfer the files in Que's "Basic" folder to /usr/mailedrops.*
- *Connect to /usr/mailedrops and type "source quemake" to compile Que's files and set proper protections.*