Remote Echo Control (REC)
Version 2.00

Beta-H Release Notes

      There have been some noticeable changes with the release of
Remote Echo Control (REC) 1.99-H <beta>. I felt that this file would
be a good place to point them out. Please note that I will only be
briefly listing the changes, and it will be up to you to read the
HISTORY.PRN file and the RECSYSOP.PRN files for full details.

      Contents

      This archives contains only the files that have been updated. It
is required that you obtain the archive for version 1.99-G if you do
not already have it.   The magic name of RECBETA will get you this
archive.   If you need a copy of the 1.99-G archive, you will need to
obtain the archive named REC_199G.ZIP from either my own system,
another beta-tester, or through the nearest SDS file distribution node
carrying the SOFTDIST file echo.

      The updated files are listed below:

      REC.EXE   Executable program
      REC.OVR   Executable overlay
      SAMPLE.CFG   sample configuration
      RECSYSOP.PRN   New registration instructions
      REGISTER.PRN   New sysop doc's
      BETA-H.PRN   This file

      Configuration

      Two new configuration statements have been added, Location
(required) and RegistrationKey (optional).

      The AutoStart statement has been expanded.

      The SortName and SortBoard statements have been replaced by the
Sort statement, which has the option of sorting by echo-tag (name) or
board.   The Sort statement can also be used to force REC to put the
source address for an echo as the first downlink, as in previous
versions of REC.

      Registration

      The REGISTER.PRN file has been changes to reflect the new
automated registration process I am working on.   The REGISTER.EXE

program is not yet ready for distribution so it has not been included
in this archive. Please read the REGISTER.PRN file and give your
thoughts on the new registration process.

     REC will now indicated whether it has been registered or not.
This is simply done by the tear line of any message that REC
generates.   An unregistered version will have an "Eval" phrase after
the program version, while the registered version will show "Reg".
This is controlled by the presence of the RegistrationKey statement
and a _valid_ registration key on the statement. This beta will show
only as unregistered until I can complete the automated registration
process.

     I expect   the next   beta release   to have this automated
registration process, at which point I will be asking all beta-testers
to run the registration program and sent me a test registration
message.   Then you should be able to put in the sample key that comes
back and get the different tear line.

     The beta-test registration key is NOT the same as the real
registration key. At the time I release the live version of REC 2.00,
you will be sent the same type of canned announcement, but it will
include your real registration key number.

     Registration of REC is still no-cost (but required) except for
whatever cost you incurr in sending the net-mail message - which is
usually less then the cost of an evelope, sheet of paper, and a stamp
<grin>.

       Documentation

     Numerous typos, gramatical, and spelling errors have been removed
from the Sysop doc's.

     The SquishFlag statement is now correctly spelled without the "s"
on the end of "Flag".

     The Force-Forward statement is now documented.

     The Change batch command now correctly shows it syntax, and the
reason for the tag-name in the command's parameters is explained.

     Operation

     A EuroDate option has been added to give REC the capability of
using the European date-format style in the log file.

     All Available and Forwardable reports are limited to approx. 8K
per message.   If necessary, a single report will be broken down in to
multiple messages.

     The AutoStart statement has the option of allow you to pass on
auto-started echos to specific downlinks. Please read the Sysop Doc's
for full details and the few exceptions.

     Support for the Qmail Mail Processor has been added.

     Duplicate echo tag-names coming from different echo hub's is now
handled correctly. Before REC was stopping after the first match, but
now it will search all of the hubs. It's a little slower but far more
accurate.

     Conclusion

     REC 1.99-G was a huge success.   There were only about 3 bugs
reported that required actual code changes, and a handful of little
features that were worth adding at this point just to more fully round
out the   existing features.   Most of   the errors were in the
documenation, and while that is annoying at least the program was
working right <grin>.

     Thanks to everyone that participated in the testing of Beta-G,
and I hope that you will continue to particpate in the testing of
Beta-H as well.   A special thanks goes to Michael Matson (1:125/40,
Verbatim at Literium, Trinity CA USA) for all the extra testing on the
interface for the Squish mail processor. It wouldn't be half as good
without his help and guidance. Thanks Mike!!