ADMail

Simon Brown

	COLLABORATORS		

	TITLE : ADMail		
ACTION	*NAME*	*DATE*	*SIGNATURE*
WRITTEN BY	Simon Brown	February 12, 2023	

	REVISION HISTORY		

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

Contents

Chapter 1

ADMail

1.1   ADMail - Amazing Developments Mail
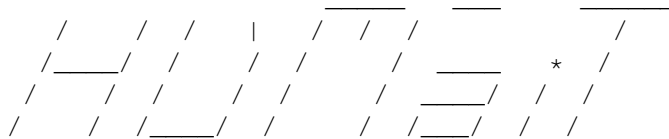
```
                                    ____   ___     _____
            /    /  /    |   /  /  /  __  /
           /___/  /    /  /    /  ___   *  /
          /    /  /   /  /     /  ___/  /  /
         /    /  /___/  /     /  /___/  /  /

           Amazing Developments Mail v1.04

                   By Simon Brown

            (c) 1995 Amazing Developments


      Introduction~     ~~~
        - what it's all about.

      How~it~works~     ~~~
        - how to use it.

      Configuration~    ~~
        - how to make it work the way you want.

      The alias list
        - how to store your chums' addresses.

      Command-line options
        - even more versatility.

      Things~to~do~     ~~~
        - what it doesn't yet have.

      Bugs~~~~~~~~~~     ~~
        - which bits don't work.

      About~the~Author
        - who to send the cash to.

      Acknowledgements
```

                                    - who I'd like to thank.
          History   - what changes have been made.

1.2 Introduction

Welcome to ADMail, the latest in fun and friendly programs from your friends
here at Amazing Developments.

ADMail is a GadTools-based UUCP/SMTP electronic mail reader and poster,
combining the ease of use of Intuition with the configurable cunningness of,
er, something that's really configurable. And cunning.

My guess is, that if you've been able to download this archive, you'll know
enough to be able to use the package...

ADMail is fully functional "out of the box" - I don't believe in crippled
software, apart from the bits I haven't written the code for yet :)

Oh, and by the way - ADMail is SHAREWARE, as defined in section 4s of this
standard FD-Copyright document, and worth a tenner of anybody's money if you
ask me.

Therefore: if you use this program loads, you are required (and indeed,
morally obliged) to send me a sum totalling no less than ten English pounds,
taking into consideration all monetary conversion costs. You are welcome to
send more if you wish...

For your tenner you will receive the splendiferous ADMaN, a combined mail/news
package incorporating all of the features of ADMail, and which will probably
not go on general release. This is what is known as "an incentive".

If you have an e-mail address (and it's pretty unlikely that you won't, let's
face it) then send it along with the registration, and I'll e-mail ADMaN to
you as soon as possible. Otherwise, you'll have to allow for postage and media
costs.

1.3 How It Works

                ADMail is very simple to use. It is suggested that you run ADMail ←
                  from a
shell, or with IconX, so that any error information may be output to this
shell. Most sendmail programs also output information, and that will go to
this window too.

If you run it from Workbench, an output window will pop up whenever output
needs to be displayed. So run it from IconX - it's less annoying! And besides,
I've supplied you with a script and an icon (ta Raz).

When run, ADMail opens a window and attempts to read the current user's
                alias
                list and mailbox. The current user is defined by the environment ←
                  variable

USER, and the mailbox is stored in UUMAIL: (but see
                Configuration
).

When a mailbox is read, some information about each message is displayed in
the list. The list will look a bit like this:

    From   Subject   Status Lines

    Matthew Collins   ADMAIL   A   20
    Simon Brown   Talking to myself again...   N   9
    Dan Cannon   Re: ADMail   L A   20
    John Brown   Re: Hello.   AF   22

Of these, the only bit that really needs explanation is the "Status" field.
This displays the settings of a number of flags associated with the message.

The full list of flags, and their meanings, is as follows:

    N: New message
    O: Old (unread) message
    A: Message which has been replied to
    F: Message which has been forwarded
    L: Message which has been logged (saved or printed)
    D: Message which is marked for deletion (removed when the mailbox is
        next updated)
    C: Message which has been marked for copying to the received file
        (this occurs when the mailbox is next updated)
    T: Message which has been marked for transferral to the received file.
        This happens when the message is marked for both copying and
        deletion.

To read a message, double-click on it, or use the Next and Previous commands
to move through the messages and view each one, or use the left/right arrow
keys to move to the message, followed by the View command. A new window will
be opened, and the message contents, if recognised as displayable, will be
displayed within.

For MIME, ADMail will display text/plain messages, with the us-ascii and
the 9 ISO-8859 charsets (these charsets are NOT converted, however).
It will display these IF they are encoded with one of: 7bit, 8bit, binary,
or quoted-printable. The first three are not encoded forms, and are therefore
displayed "as is". Quoted-printable messages are decoded before display.

If you want to display other types of MIME message in their proper form, you'll
need to obtain and install Metamail. If Metamail is not installed, setting
the environment variable "NoMetamail" (to anything) will cause ADMail to
display the message, in its encoded form. Otherwise it will attempt to pass
the message to Metamail, and probably fail horribly.

Note also that multipart messages are always passed to Metamail, regardless
of their contents.

The menu options (and keyboard shortcuts) are:

Menu item   Function   Shortcut key

```
Project
    Change...            Change mailbox               C
    Rescan Current       Reload contents of
                         current mailbox
    Preferences...       Program preferences
                         Due for improvement
                         (currently loads your config
                         file into a text editor)
    About...             Standard About box, with a
                         button for mailing bug
                         reports.
    Quit                 Exits ADMail.

Message
    View                 View current message         V or Return
    Next                 Select next message          >
                         from list and view it
    Previous             Select previous message      <
                         from list and view it
    Save                 Save current message         S
                         to new file
    Print                Send current message
                         to printer
    Decode               Save current message and
                         UUDecode it
    To Received          Mark message for copying to  T
                         the received file
    Delete               Mark current message         D
                         for deletion
    Undelete             Unmark message marked        U
                         for deletion

Mail
    Send new             Compose and send new mail    M
    Reply                Compose and send reply       R
                         to current message
    Forward              Forward current message      F
                         to new recipient
```

A number of these commands are available on the button bank, if available (see

            Configuration
).

Other keys:

```
    Up arrow:      Scroll message window up
    Down arrow:    Scroll message window down
    Shift+Up:      Scroll message window up 1 page
    Shift+Down:    Scroll message window down 1 page
    Left Arrow:    Select previous message (don't view)
    Right Arrow:   Select next message (don't view)
    TAB:           Activate mailbox select window (if open)
```

The above are all connected with the message list and message view windows.

The mailbox select window, when opened, displays a list of all mailboxes

and their sizes. The sizes are displayed in Mb (M), Kb (K), or bytes (no
suffix) dependant on how large the mailbox actually is.

If the mailbox name is too long to fit into the available space, it is
truncated and a ">" character inserted at the end of the displayed portion.

The mailbox select window does not have a menu strip, but the following keys
are available:

    Up arrow: Highlight previous mailbox
    Down arrow: Highlight next mailbox
    Return: Open highlighted mailbox and activate message list
                     window
    TAB: Activate message list window

You should now hardly ever need to touch the mouse, if such is your desire.

Some things can also be done from the
                  command line.

1.4 Configuration

Installation of ADMail is a slice of gateau. Simply copy the main program file
to a location of your choice, and run it whenever you want to read your mail.
As long as your variables are set up sensibly, it should work fine. The
variables may be located in the global or local environment, or in the file
"UULIB:Config", or in the file "S:UUConfig". They will be searched in that
approximate order.

The variables it requires are:

    USER   Should contain your user ID (e.g. "simes").
    REALNAME   Should contain your real name (e.g. "Simon Brown").
    NODENAME   Should contain your machine name (e.g. "amdev")
    DOMAINNAME Should contain the domain your machine is in (e.g.
                ".demon.co.uk")

Most of these are probably set up by your chosen Net software anyway.

If you wish, you can add custom headers to your mail messages. Create a
file named ".mailheaders" and put the headers you want into it. Put this file
into the same directory as your signature file (see below) and ADMail will
include it with every outgoing message.

The configuration file is, by default, stored in USR:<user>/ADMail.config,
where <user> is either the value of the USER variable, or the value for USER
specified on the command line.

If the CONFIG command-line option is used, the file is read from USR:<user>
as above. Subdirectories may be specified in the CONFIG value.

Just about everything is configurable about ADMail. Many of the defaults use
the internal variables explained below.

Here are the configurable options:

Strings:

Sendmail	Command string to call your sendmail program.
	Default "sendmail <$MSG -f $USER"
UUDecode	Command string to call your UUDecoding program.
	Default "UUxT x $MSG dest=RAM:"
Salute	String placed at the start of replies.
	Default "Greetings, $FIRSTNAME."
ForwardIntro	String placed at the start of forwarded messages.
	Default "On $DATE, $NAME wrote:"
IndentPrefix	String placed at the beginning of each included line in a reply.
	Default "> "
SaveDir	Default directory for saving messages. The directory in which the requester will open.
	Default "RAM:"
SigDir	Directory where your signature and .mailheaders files lurk. I suggest you use $USER somewhere in this.
	Default "USR:$USER"
SigFile	Name of your signature file.
	Default ".signature"
RandSigHook	Name of command to generate your random signature. If RandomSigs is set, this command will be called just before the editor is loaded. This command should create a new signature file, corresponding to the dir/name you have chosen.
	Default "MakeSig"
Editor	Command string to call your editor.
	Default "$Editor" (this is an environment variable)
MBoxDir	Directory in which your mailboxes lurk.
	Default "UUMAIL:"

Switches:

ToReceived	Transferring new messages to the received file. The options are:
	"Ask" - Ask if the messages should be transferred.
	"Always" - Always transfer, without asking.
	"Never" - Do not ask or transfer.
	Default "Ask"
LogOutgoing	Whether to save outgoing mail into UUMAIL:<user>.sent.
	Default "Yes"
LogEncoded	Whether to store UUEncoded files in their entirety in the log file. Only valid if LogOutgoing is "Yes".
	Default "No"
IncludeFrom	Whether to include a From: header in the outgoing message. Necessary if your sendmail prog can't insert one itself.
	Default "No"
RandomSigs	Whether to generate a new signature automatically.
	Default "No"
SigDashes	Whether to insert "--" before your signature in a message.
	Default "Yes"
ShowDeleted	Whether to display items which are marked as deleted.
	Default "No"

    SkipDeleted   Whether to skip over deleted items when using next/prev.
                         Default "Yes"
    ReloadOnResize   Whether to reload a displayed message when the message
                     window is resized.
                         Default "No"
    PubScreen   Whether to open on the default public screen. If "No",
                     ADMail will open its own screen, which will clone the WB
                     screen's dimensions, and have 2 bitplanes (4 colours).
                         Default "Yes"
    ShowButtons   Whether to show the button bar at the bottom of the list
                     window.
                         Default "No"

Values:

    MsgListLeft   Sizing and placement settings for the message list window.
    MsgListTop
    MsgListWidth   Defaults: Depends on the default system font you use.
    MsgListHeight   Under Topaz 8, it's around 640x110.

    MsgLeft   Sizing and placement settings for the message window.
    MsgTop
    MsgWidth   Defaults: Again, dependant on the system font.
    MsgHeight   Under Topaz 8, about 640x140.

    TextWidth   The no. of columns of text to display. Replaces MsgWidth
                     and MsgListWidth. If this option is present, the MsgWidth
                     and MsgListWidth options will not be used. My preferred
                     setting for this is 82.
                         Default: None. The default window sizes are used
                         instead.

    SelectLeft   Sizing and placement settings for the mbox select list.
    SelectTop
    SelectWidth   Defaults: Depends on the default system font.
    SelectHeight   Under Topaz 8, about 320x110.

The first 8 of the string settings can use the internal variables, which are
maintained by ADMail.

These are:

    $MSG   Filename of temp. message file (only useable by Sendmail)
    $USER   Your user id (e.g. "simes")
    $FIRSTNAME First name of sender of current message (e.g. "Simon")
    $NAME   Full name of sender of current message (e.g. "Simon Brown")
    $ADDRESS   E-Mail address of sender of current message, which may
                or may not contain a realname string (e.g. "Simon Brown
                <simes@amdev.demon.co.uk>")
    $DATE   Datestamp of current message (e.g. "Sun, 30 Apr 95")
    $TIME   Time of current message (e.g. "13:42:52")
    $MSGID   Message-ID of current message
    $SUBJECT   Subject of current message
    $INITIALS   Initials of sender of current message (occasionally looks a
                bit odd) (e.g. "SB")

Note that most of these are dependent on there being a message currently

selected – if there is not a message selected, they will not be parsed.

A # at the start of a line indicates a comment, and this line will be ignored. Putting the settings in quotes is not mandatory, but is probably a good idea. If you want a space at the end of the string, such as in IndentPrefix, then enclose the string in quotes or the space will be ignored.

The settings keywords are not case-sensitive, but the internal variable names MUST be in upper case, or they will not work.

The ones which cause things to be executed (Editor, SendMail, RandSigHook) can have environment variables as the command.

The default settings have been set so that ADMail should fit fairly comfortably on a standard 640x256 screen, as long as your system font is thinner than that nasty Topaz 8. If not, either overscan the screen, put up with wordwrapped mail messages, or switch to a thinner font. The mailbox select window will open over the message list window under the default settings.

1.5 The alias list

The alias list is stored in the home directory of the current user (USR:<user>) under the filename "Aliases". If there are valid aliases in this file, then the alias list window will pop up whenever you try and send new or forwarded mail.

To send mail to someone in the list, double-click on their name, or use the up/down arrow keys to highlight a name and Return to select it. If you don't want to send mail to anyone on the list, click the close box or hit Escape.

The text editor will now open up with the message as usual, but if a name was selected the To: field will be filled in with address for that person.

The aliases are stored one per line in the file. Files beginning with # are taken as comments. For example:

Mail aliases file
#
Simon Brown: simes@amdev.demon.co.uk
AmDev Mailserver: mailserver@amdev.demon.co.uk

The section before the colon will be displayed in the window; the section after will be used as the address.

Note: Lines without colons in them will be ignored.
There is, at present, no way of stretching aliases over more than one line. In addition, aliases cannot reference other aliases, and they are only expanded when selected from the list. They will not be expanded after the message is edited.

1.6 Command-line usage

The command template is:

ADMail USER/K,MAILBOX/K,CONFIG/K,TO/K,FILE

USER specifies the user ID to assume on startup. Determines where the config
file is located. If not given, defaults to the USER setting in the environment
or in UULib:Config.

e.g. "ADMail USER sporran" sets the user ID to be sporran, and opens
sporran's mailbox.

MAILBOX specifies the name of the mailbox to use (without a pathname
specifier). If it is not given, it defaults to the same setting as USER.

e.g. "ADMail USER sporran MAILBOX spanner" sets the user ID to be sporran,
but opens spanner's mailbox.

CONFIG specifies the name of the config file, if you wish to use a name
other than the default "ADMail.config".

TO is used when you wish to send some mail without opening the GUI. If TO
is specified, ADMail will open a blank mail message in the editor, and
you fill it out and send it off as normal.

e.g. "ADMail TO simes@amdev.demon.co.uk" opens an editor window for sending
mail to me.

FILE is used when you wish to send a ready-prepared file – ADMail will not
open any windows, it will just add appropriate headers to the file and
pass it to Sendmail. If both TO and FILE are specified, the file is sent to
the specified recipient. Otherwise it is assumed that the file already
contains a valid To: header.

e.g. "ADMail t:message" takes the file t:message, adds appropriate headers,
and sends it;
     "ADMail TO simes@amdev.demon.co.uk USR:$USER/ADMail.config" sends your
ADMail config file to me.

1.7 Things yet to do

Things which are not yet in ADMail, but will be as soon as I get the chance to
do them:

Sending of MIME messages: I'd certainly like to do quoted-printable, if
nothing else.

Turbo-splendid sendoff requester: To handle a number of things after the
message has been edited – this would probably include using the alias list
for To:, Cc:, & Bcc:, and the selection of encoding method for MIME messages.

PGP support: Some people want it, some aren't bothered. PGP-MIP should work
with ADMail, though, so this isn't too high on the list.

Hook for post-editing script: I don't see the need, myself, but one person

asked me to put one in. If you can think of a really pressing need for one of
these, then e-mail me with a convincing explanation.

1.8 Bugs in ADMail

I've nailed down almost all the bugs I've been told about, so this is a
wonderful opportunity for you to find some more.

I've killed one or two since the last release – check the History list for more
information.

To mail me a bug report, click on the "I've found a bug, me" button in the
About requester.

Be sure and tell me everything relevant about your system – OS version,
amount/type of RAM, processor type etc.

If you get any Enforcer hits, note down the hunk/offset of the ones shown as being
caused by ADMail, and send that along, too.

The mystery bug:
For some people, ADMail apparently locks up after loading a mailbox file.
None of my other beta testers have reported this problem, and I have been
unable to reproduce it. If anyone else encounters it, tell me at once.

This may have been related to the AmiPOP problem, which was to do with
ADMail not recognising the header which AmiPOP insists on inserting at
the top of every message. ADMail now knows about this header, so it's
possible that this problem has now gone. If you still get lock-ups,
drop me a note.

1.9 Acknowledgements

Profuse thanks must go to the following people:

The beta-testers:

Gareth Edwards, Gwynne Reddick, Phil Stewart-Jones, Tez Boyes, Jason Doig, Dan
Cannon, Raz, James Lynn, Andy Tindall, Matthew Cowen, Simon Dainty, and
everyone who downloaded beta 3 from ftp.demon. Also thanks to Raz for drawing
the NewIcons icon for me.

The folks who've registered:

I love you all.

Everyone who was ever nice to me:

For being nice to me.

The people who sent in bug reports:

Hey, ADMail wouldn't be what it is without you.

And then there's {fg shine}ESCOM{fg text}. Let's hope they keep our machine great.

1.10   About Simon Brown

Born at an early age in the northeast of England, Simon Brown has successfully reached the age of 22 without succumbing to fatal diseases or limb loss. He is currently struggling through the final year of an honours degree in Computer Science at the University of Teesside, and has big plans for the future. Moving out of Middlesbrough, for a start off.

Simon has produced a number of packages under the banner of Amazing Developments, his home-grown software label. The most notorious of these is probably Gibbereeze, which is available on a number of platforms and is almost totally useless. Other small utilities he has written include Neat, a text file reformatter, and FilePick, a program to pick random filenames.

Simon is approximately six feet tall, and rather too heavy for his own good. This is mainly due to his predeliction for pasta and Battenburg Treats. He has brown hair and eyes, and a permanent air of puzzlement at the world. He likes to drink tea, and vodka with fresh orange when someone else is buying.

The Amazing Developments contact address is:

        Simon Brown
        28 Broadacres
        Bardon Mill
        HEXHAM
        Northumberland
        NE47 7EF
        England.

        E-Mail: simes@amdev.demon.co.uk