Air Mail

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COLLABORATORS			
	TITLE : Air Mail		
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WRITTEN BY	Danny Y. Wong	February 12, 2023	

REVISION HISTORY			
NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Documentation written by Danny Y. Wong and David Seikel

1.2   Introduction

Air Mail is a internet mailer for sending and receiving SMTP/POP3
emails. Air Mail is fully Intuitionized with a easy user interface, in and
out mail boxes, user groups, automatic uuencoding and uudecoding, Arexx
interface, support external text editor, message spooling, signature and
tag line, time interval mail checking, mail maintenances, public screen,
icon and menu interface, font sensitive and many more features. Air Mail
can be used as an offline reader and with the Arexx interface you can
automate your mailing.

Air Mail requires AmiTCP/IP version 4.0 or higher, works with PPP,
SLIP or MindLink connections, Workbench 2.1 or higher.

1.3   Installation

Installation is straight forward.

Double click on install.rexx script to install Air Mail.

The script basically copies the all the libs to the LIBS: directory
and creates a AirMail directory in the ENVARC: The script does NOT
check if your current libraries are newer. If you are upgrading to
version 2.0 then DO NOT run the install script.

Note: The first time you run AirMail you will get a message saying that
you do not have a default preference setup. To configure a default
preference, select the 'Setting' menu and choose 'Config Setup' menu item.
Once you have enter a preference select 'Save' and enter the directory
name as ENVARC:AirMail and the file name as AirMail.prefs

If you did it correctly you should have a file named AirMail.prefs in the
ENVARC:AirMail directory.

If you chose not to have a default preference then you will have to load
a preference manually each time you use Air Mail.

1.4   User Registeration

Air Mail is Shareware meaning that you have the rights to use
Air Mail for a limited time of two weeks. After this date, you must
register Air Mail if you want to continue to use it.

Registration fees are followings:

$25.00 US per copy.

$10.00 US for unlimited upgrades

Canadian exchange rate or the current exchange rate

$35.00 Canadian per copy.

$14.00 Canadian for unlimited upgrades

Contact me for group rates.

When you become a registered user, you will receive the full version of

Air Mail with bug fixes, enhancements and crippled codes removed.

ALL REGISTERED USER GET ONE MAJOR FREE UPGRADE.

The following features are disabled in the DEMO version.

1. Automatic uuencode/uudecode

2. User groups

3. Mail spooling (queued mails)

4. Time interval mail checking

Please print the registration form in the 'About' menu item in Air Mail.

This is to ensure that it will not be confused with my other shareware

registrations and that you wouldn't end up getting the wrong product.

If ordering by cheque or money order please make payable to: Danny Y. Wong

and mail registration form to:

RE: Air Mail

Danny Y. Wong

131 64 Ave N.W.

Calgary, Alberta

T2K 0L9 CANADA

Thank you for supporting shareware authors.

Bug Fixes, Comments and Contact:

Home 403-274-9348 (6:00pm to 11:59pm MST)

Internet: danwong@cadvision.com

danwong@oanet.com --> I'm current here!!

1.5   Disclaimer

Disclaimer: The author makes no warranties, either expressed or implied.

This program is provided on an "as is" basis and the author will not be

liable for any damages caused or alleged to be caused directly by using

this program. Use at your own risk.

1.6   Copyright Notice

Air Mail is copyrighted 1995-96 by Danny Y. Wong. You as the user

DO NOT have any rights to modify and/or change Air Mail in any form

without written permission from the author. Air Mail can not be sold or

included in any disk or electric base distribution without written

permission from the author. Permission is granted to distribute the DEMO

version of Air Mail as long as the archive reamained unchanged.

Illegal duplication of copyrighted software is prohibited.

AmiPOP copyright by Scott Ellis

sellis@rohan.sdsu.edu

sellis@gi.com

Air Mail icons by Mehmet (Malice) Ali Sahin

If you do not like Air Mail then write a better one yourself!

1.7   Preference Setup

Under the Settings menu there are three options, 'SMTP Setup','Mailbox

Setup' and 'Misc Setup'. Under the Misc menu there are two other options

'Address Book' and 'Signature'. The address book is documented in

it's own section, the Signature puts your signature into your favourite text

editor for you to edit.

Show Host Setup

SMTP Host: The full name of the system through which you will send mail.

POP Host: The full name of the system through which you will receive mail.

Domain: If you are using a real SLIP/PPP connection, this is the name of

your system. If you are using a fake SLIP/PPP you should make this the

same as 'SMTP Host'.

UserID: Your user name, login id, alias, whatever you are identified as on

the systems named in SMTP Host and 'Domain'. UserID@Domain is the return

address used for all the mail that you write. UserID is also used to

identify you to your SMTP host when collecting mail.

Real Name: Your real name, it get's added to your return address.

Show Mailbox Setup

In Mail Setup the paths must be full paths and not aliases. eg: for editor

use dh0:c/ed instead of just c:ed

In Box Path: A directory where your incoming mail will be stored.

Out Box Path: A directory where outgoing mail will be created / stored.

Users Path: A directoly where your address book will be stored.

UUDecode Path: A directory where automatically uudecoded files will be put.

UUxT Prg Path: The path, including program name, of the program to use for uuencoding/decoding.

Editor Path: The full path, including program name, of your favourite text editor. This is used to write and reply to mail.

Reader Path: The full path, including program name, of your favourite reader program. This is used to read your mail.

Reply Prefix: When you reply to e-mail and have checked 'Quote original mail', this will be put at the beginning of every line of the e-mail, which will then be loaded into the editor ready for you to edit. Usually a single > optionally followed by a space is adequate.

Delete mail on server: If this is checked, any e-mail that is transfered from your POP host will be deleted from the host.

Display dialog with new mail: If this is checked, you will get a requester after the transfer of any mail from your POP host. This requester will inform you of how much mail you have received.

Include Signature: If this is checked, whatever is in your signature will be added to any e-mail sent by AirMail.

Automatic UUDecode: When AirMail is transfering your mail from your POP host, it will check to see if any of it is UUEncoded, if it is and this box is checked, it will automatically be UUDecoded to the directory specified in UUDecode Path gadget.

Quote original mail: If this is checked, any e-mail you reply to will be quoted in your reply, with the 'Reply Prefix' at the beginning of each line.

Speech: If this is checked, AirMail will use Narrator.device to tell you what it is doing.

Font Sensitive: If this is checked, Air Mail will use the default font the next time Air Mail it run. Default is topaz8.

Append Mail: If this is checked, Air Mail will append all the retrieved mails in one single file. A different file will be created each time you check for mails on the server.

Show Misc Setup

PubScr Name: This is the name of a Public Screen that you want Air Mail to open it's window on. Eg: VArts for Visual Arts

Mail Checking: Check on the check box and enter the time in minutes you want Air Mail to check for mails on the server. Air Mail must be running in order for this to work.

Tag: If checked this will add a random tag line to the end of your mail. This is like a signature but only one line of text.

Surpress Requesters: If checked this will not display the requester when AirMail is asking for user confirmation such as deleting a mail.

1.8   Air Mail -- ARexx Interface

Air Mail has a simpel Arexx interface. The port name is "AirMail".

The following are description of each commands. The syntax is as follows:

command string

eg: AM_sendmail mynewmail.AM

AM_mailname - a mail that is pre-written in Air Mail format

AM_sendmail - send the mail now

AM_checkmail - check for any new mail

AM_sendallmail - send all the queued mails in the outbox

AM_about - about Air Mail

AM_quit - quit Air Mail

Air Mail ARexx Example

/* this is a simple script that sends a stored mail and then quit

Air Mail.

*/

address 'AirMail'

'AM_mailname dh0:outbox/testing.AM'

'AM_sendmail'

'AM_quit'

1.9   User an Groups

Show User Setup

To add a new user or create a new user group, click on the 'New Group' button.

Once you have entered a new user or group you can rename it by using the

'Rename' button.

User group name may not include the @ character. This is how Air Mail

tells if the name is a user or a group.

Edit User Group

You must select 'Save' before you can edit a new user group.

To edit a user group, click on the user group name and select the 'Edit'

button.

When editing the user group use the arrow buttons ('>>' and '<<') to move

the user from the address book to/from the group. eg: if you want to

remove the user from the group just click on the user in the group listview

and then click on the '<<' arrow.

1.10   UUEncode and UUDecode

To send binary files such as pictures or sound files, you will need a program

that will encode the binary file into a form that can be transmitted

through the modem. A generally used program is uuxt which can be found

on Aminet or your local BBS. It is recommended that you use V3.0. Older

versions may also work.

AirMail will automatically call uuxt or any uuencode/uudecode program to

en/decode your attachment. If the file is already uuencoded then AirMail

will skip it. You must define the UU program in the Mail Setup before you

can use the automatic uudecode and uuencode. The path to the UU program

must be a complete path:

c:uuxt ---> invalid

dh0:c/uuxt ---> valid

Note: AirMail actually assumes that UUxT is the program used, UUxT is a

single program that both uuencodes and uudecodes. Most other UU systems

have two seperate programmes, one for each job. UUxt uses an option to

decide wether to encode or decode, this option will most likely upset any

other program, this option is hardcoded into AirMail.

1.11   External Editor

With Air Mail you can use any external editor to read, write or reply to your

mails. You must check the 'External Editor' checkbox in the Mail Setup and

have entered a valid path and name for you editor.

c:ed ---> invalid

dh0:c/ed ---> valid

1.12   Air Mail Format

Writing a New Mail

Since AirMail has no control over the external editor, any time you click

on the New mail icon or the menu item, AirMail automatically creates a new

file for the new mail. The new mail heading looks like this:

AIRMAIL2 --> Mail keyword.

[TO] --> Must come before the TO: address/s.

danwong@cadvision.com, --> Automatically displayed or

danwong@cronus.oanet.com, --> you can enter them manually.

[DATE] --> Must come before the DATE.

Nov 24 1995 11:11:09 PM --> Automatically displayed.

[SUBJECT] --> Must come before the SUBJECT.

Air Mail is great! --> Automatically displayed or entered.

[FILES] --> Must come before an attached FILE.

Office:Comms/Files/sushi.out, --> Optional filename to attach.

X-Mailer: Air Mail V2.1 -- Amiga Mailer By Danny Y. Wong

The above is the default New mail heading. The TO, SUBJECT, and FILES

fields will be filled in automatically if you had entered anything in the

respective areas in the Write New Mail window. You are required to enter

the TO field, all other fields are optional and should be replaced with blank

lines if you do not use them.

You can create your mail using any method but the header must be the same

as described above.

You can edit the mail header but you must follow these restrictions.

1. The maximum number of characters per line in the header in 60 characters.

2. You can have as many lines in the [TO] and [FILES] block.

3. A ', ' comma and space separates each email address or file.

4. A ', ' comma and space terminates each line in the [TO] and [FILES] block

5. There must be a blank line between the last line in the header block

and your message.

1.13   Air Mail Environment

1. Host Setup

2. Mail Setup

3. Misc Setup

4. Mail Maintences

5. Tags

6. Air Mail Icons

7. In/Out Box

8. Write/Read Mail

InBox and OutBox

InBox contains all your new mails and the OutBox contains all the out going

and queued mails. All mails are stored on directory until its deleted. If

you want to save the mails to other format, you can directly load the mail.

The file of each mail is created using the current date.

eg: today's date is June 1, 1995 and you have two news mails. Air Mail will

name two new files 199506011.AM and 199506012.AM (yearmonthday#) respectively
and append the extension .AM to identify that these files are Air Mail.
When you display either box, you get a large window with a listview
containing the e-mail with a number of buttons along the bottom. Any e-mail
that you have replied has an 'R' on the left of it. Any e-mail that is queued for
sending has a 'Q' on the left of it. You can double click on an e-mail to read
it, or single click to select it for other operations, you can also multi-select
them by clicking on more. All selected e-mail has a dash '-' on the left of it.
Symbols

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* - New Mail

- Email has been read

R - Replied to this email

Q - Email is queued for later sending

F - Email has been forwarded

- - Email is selected

OK: Closes the box.

Delete: Deletes the selections.

Read: Reads the selections.

Save Addr: Saves the From address/es in your Address Book.

Reply: Loads the selection into your editor, quoted if you wanted, and
sends the result to the original sender.

Send All: Sends the selections to the apropriate addresses.

Forward: Pops up a requester asking you to select the address you want to
forward the e-mail to.

Save: Pops up a file requester, so you can choose a file name to save the
selection as.

Key Board Short Cuts

You can also use the keyboard to negivate by hit the first letter for each
underscored character in the button. To scroll the listview, use the up
and down arrow keys. Hitting the RETURN key will select the current mail.

1.14   Queued Mail Feature

You can use Air Mail as a offline reader. When you want to reply to a mail,
simply type your response and save it in the OutBox. When you reconnect to
your mail server and run Air Mail, Air Mail will ask you if you want to send
all the queued mails now or later. If the "Surpress Requesters" is checked
in the Misc Setup, AirMail will automatically send the queued mails without
asking for confirmation.

1.15   How to saving online charges using Air Mail

With the Queued Mail feature you are no longer have to be connected to your
mail server. For people who pay online charges you can use Air Mail to
fetch all your new mails and then disconnect and use Air Mail as an offline
reader to read and reply to your mails. This will save you alot of money in
the long run.

1.16   Bugs and Problems

There are a couple of knowning bugs.

Bugs

----

1. In OutBox mails, when deleting a queued mail Air Mail sometimes doesn't
delete it. To get around this problem you will have to delete the mail
manually yourself. The simplest is to do in shell.

a. do a list in Shell to see what files have the QUEUED in the
comment line.

b. use the Delete DOS command to delete the QUEUED mail.

2. Context Layout. When resizing the windows sometimes it gets over lapped,
this is due to the Visual Arts library.

3. Cannot quite AmiTCP. This is because AirMail for some reasons did not
release the socket when exiting.

Make sure you read the mail first before deleting, you might delete the
wrong mail.

Solutions to Problems

----

1. Why does Air Mail display the message about default preference not found
during startup.

Installation - how to install Air Mail

2. If Air Mail is in a wait state this usually means the it is waiting for
a respone from the host. If you have a wrong host name or the host is
down, Air Mail will wait until the time out expires. Time out is depended
on the host. The wait state is not a system crash.

3. If Air Mail reports a problem saving your mails then you haven't config
the preferences correctly. When specifying directories make sure that they
are valid.

4. If Air Mail reports that the socket.library is not found then load the
library using the loadlib command. This maybe also be the case if AmiTCP

has not be loaded.

1>loadlib libs:socket.library

5. Air Mail may take some time to sort out things if you are sending to

a large user group. So don't panic and sit back.

6. If you can't edit or write a new mail when you select 'Edit' is

because:

a. You have specified a invalid OutBox path.

b. There is not enough memory to start the external editor.

7. Can't view Air Mail screen shots? I you are having problem viewing the

screen shots then you don't have the Display program.

1.17   Tips

1. If your Outbox/InBox is getting large try archiving the mails. By

removing the mails it will speed up the search when you access the

mail boxes or simply specify a new mail box.

2. If Air Mail crashes during sending and depending on how far Air Mail

got before the crash. Air Mail might already have saved your mail to the

OutBox. When you start up Air Mail again, you will be prompted with

a message. If you don't get the message then you can resend the mail

in the OutBox by selecting the mail and click on Send.

1.18   Future Enhancements

1. Print mails

2. Assign mail boxes to individual email addresses

3. Better mail maintenance

1.19   Usage

Writing new mail.

Click on the 'Write new mail' gadget (the first gadget) in the main window,

The 'New mail header' (see below) will open up. You will need to select a

To: address, and enter a subject. See 'New mail header' below for more

details.

Remember to follow the rules when editing the mail header. Mail Format

Sending mail.

When you start AirMail while you are online, it checks to see if there is
any mail queued and waiting to be sent, if there is then you will get a
requester asking you if they should be sent now. When you write or reply
to mail, you can choose to send it immediately. From the Outbox window,
you can click on a queued e-mail, then click on the 'Send' gadget to send
it now. In any of these cases, you will see the 'Sending mail' requester,
which has two gadgets, a progress bar, and a cancel gadget. You will see
the various stages of the mail sending protocol happen above the progress
bar, and you can cancel it at any time. The requester will go away when
the mail is sent. If the mail cannot be sent for some reason, then it will
be queued for later sending.

Receiving mail.

Click on the "Check for new mail" gadget (the last gadget), and you will
see a requester similar to the 'Sending mail' requester described above.
The 'Receiving mail' requester has two gadgets, a progress bar, and a
cancel gadget. You will see the various stages of the mail receiving
protocol happen above the progress bar, and you can cancel it at any time.
The requester will go away when the mail is received. If you have 'Display
dialog with new mail' checked, you will now see a requester telling you how
much mail you have received.

Replying to mail.

Click on the 'Reply' gadget in the Inbox window, The 'New mail header' (see
below) will open up. The To:, From:, and Subject: gadgets will be filled
in for you. If you have 'Quote original mail' checked, the original will
be loaded into the editor (internal or external) with your reply prefix if
any. See 'New mail header' below for more details.

Writing a New Mail

Whenever you are editing mail, you will get the 'New mail header' window.
The various gadgets in this header are described here.

TO: If you want to send a mail to a user that is not in the addrres book,
you can type the user's email address here.

LIST VIEWS

Names: A listview of the people in your Address Book. These names are
taken from the 'Real Name' field for individuals, or the 'Comment 1' field
for groups. Click on one of these names with the left mouse button and a

copy of the name will attach itself to your mouse pointer, drag it over to
the 'To' or 'CC' listview and click with the right mouse button to drop it
into the listview. The name will then move from one listview to the other.
You can also drag and drop a name from any of the 'Names', 'To', or 'CC'
listviews to any other.
Due to the limiations of the GadTool library, true drag and drop is not
possible.
In the middle.
To: This is the address of the person you are sending this e-mail too.
If you select a group from the address book, the mail will be sent to
everyone in the group. If you are replying to mail, this will be filled
in already.
CC: same as To:
Files: Used to select the names of files to be UUEncoded and attached to this
mail. You can use the 'Add' button to the bottom right of this to use a file
requester to select the file. Use the 'Del' button on the bottom left to
delete a file from the list.
Subject: This is the subject of the e-mail, write anything here. Filled
in automatically if you are replying.
BUTTON GADGETS

Edit: The 'Edit' gadget will run your external editor and let you edit the
e-mail.
Cancel: Cancel this e-mail, do not send it, do not queue it, do not save
it.
Send: Send this e-mail now. This is a quick send without and body text.
Only the Subject and any files attached will be send and nothing else.
Queue: Queue this e-mail for later sending. This will queue the email
will the Subject and any files attached to it. No body text is saved.
Help: Pops up a requester reminding you how to use certain features of the
Write New Mail window.

1.20   Mail Maintenances

Mail Maint.
The Mail Maintenaces window lets you manage all your emails. You can create
new mail boxes, delete mails, copy and move emails between mail boxes.
The window is divided into two parts: Left directory and Right directory.
To select a directory click on the 'D' Directory. This pops up the ASL file

requester. Select a mail box directory and click OK. This lists all the

emails on a selected directory.

You must now select a destination mail box. Do the save procedure as above

to select a directory.

The '===>' indicator tells which directory the emails will be directed to.