NAME

filter - filter incoming messages before adding to mailbox

SYNOPSIS

filter [-q] [-v] [-l] [-o output] [-f rules-file]
filter [-n] [-f rules-file]
filter [-r] [-o output] [-f rules-file]
filter [-c] [-s] [-o output] [-f rules-file]
filter [-c] [-S] [-o output] [-f rules-file]

DESCRIPTION

Filter uses a set of selection rules to process incoming mail messages. The format for the rules, located in $HOME/.elm/filter-rules, is;

rule ::= **if** **(***expression***)** **then** *action*

where *expression* is:

expression ::= { **not** } *condition* *expr2*

expr2 ::= *NULL* | **and** *condition* *expr2*

condition ::= *field* *relationship* *value*
::= **lines** *relop* *numvalue*
or ::= **always**

These further break down as:

field ::= **from** | **subject** | **to** | **lines** | **sender**

relationship ::= **=** | **!=**

relop ::= **=** | **!=** | < | > | <= | >=

value ::= *any quoted string*

numvalue ::= *any integer value*

Action can be any of:

delete
save *foldername*
savecopy *foldername*
execute *command*
executec *command*
forward *address*
leave

For further information about the rules language, please see *The Elm Filter Guide*.

The flags the *filter* program understands are;

-c Clear logs. If this flag is used, the log files will be removed after being summarized by either "-s" or "-S" (see below).

-f *rules-file* Get rules from specified file instead of default $HOME/.elm/filter-rules

-l Log actions only. Do not log information about mailed messages.

-n Not really. Output what would happen if given message from standard input, but don't actually do anything with it.

-o *file* Redirect stdout messages to the specified file or device. Logging of filter actions is not affected. (This is added to more gracefully deal with changes in the file system (since sendmail is quite picky about modes of files being redirected into.))

-q Quiet. Do not log filtering actions.

-r Rules. List the rules currently being used.

-s Summarize. List a summary of the message filtering log.

-S This is the same as '-s' but includes message-by-message information additionally.

-v Verbose. Give output on standard out for each message filtered. Useful to have redirected to ''/dev/console'' and such. (see **-o** too).

AUTHOR

Elm Development Group

FILES

$HOME/.elm/filter-rules Default rules file
$HOME/.elm/filterlog A log of what has been done
$HOME/.elm/filtersum A summary of what has been done
/etc/passwd Used to get users home directory

SEE ALSO

The Elm Filter Guide
readmsg(1L), elm(1L), mail(1), mailx(1), sendmail(1,8)

COMMENTS

Not really smart about pattern matching.

BUG REPORTS TO

Syd Weinstein elm@DSI.COM (dsinc!elm)

COPYRIGHTS