# ConvPkt

| COLLABORATORS | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *TITLE* : <br><br> ConvPkt | | |
| *ACTION* | *NAME* | *DATE* | *SIGNATURE* |
| WRITTEN BY | | December 30, 2022 | |

| REVISION HISTORY | | | |
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| NUMBER | DATE | DESCRIPTION | NAME |
| | | | |

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# Chapter 1

# ConvPkt

## 1.1  ConvPkt.guide

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                                        ConvPkt v1.4
                        Copyright © 1995 Johan Billing


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```

## 1.2  Purpose of this program

```
Purpose of this program
=======================
This program converts FidoNet *.pkt files between different charsets.
A program like this is necessary for many Amiga sysops in the Swedish
part of FidoNet as our RC has decided that the character set in all
echomail areas is to be IBMPC.
```

## 1.3  Disclaimer and License Agreement

```
Disclaimer and License Agreement
================================
This program is released as FreeWare! That means that it may be used and
spread freely, but that all other rights are reserved.
```

There is no guarantee for this program. All use is at your own risk!
If you feel that you cannot accept this, then just don't use the
program.


## 1.4  Usage

```
              Usage
=====
This program will process FidoNet *.pkt files and convert all the
messages to the desired character set. If the messages have a CHRS
kludge, ConvPkt will use that kludge to determine the character set
to convert from. If the messages don't have a CHRS kludge or if IGNORECHRS
is specified on command line, the default charset will be used.

Template: FILE/A,TOCHRS=TO/A,CHRSLIST/K,DEFAULTCHRS=DEFCHRS/K,
          IGNORECHRS/S,NOCHRS/S,CHRSONLY/S:

FILE          File to convert. Wildcards are allowed.

TOCHRS        Destination character set. This is used if you don't use a
              CHRSLIST file or if no item in the CHRSLIST file matches the
              tagname of the area.

CHRSLIST      Here you can specify the filename of a file that contains a
              list of the charsets that should be used for areas that
              match specified patterns. Using this option you can convert
              different areas to different charsets.

              Click
               here
                 to see the format of that file.

DEFAULTCHRS   Character set to use if there is no CHRS kludge or if
              IGNORECHRS is specified.

IGNORECHRS    If you specify this option, ConvPkt will ignore all
              CHRS kludges and always use the default charset.

NOCHRS        If you use this option, ConvPkt will not write a
              CHRS kludge in the converted message.

CHRSONLY      This option tells ConvPkt to only convert messages
              with a CHRS or CHARSET line. Other messages will not be
              touched.

Available character sets:
-------------------------
  LATIN-1     The Amiga's native character set. Also called ISO-8859-1.

  IBMPC       IBMPC character set (Codepage 437)

  MAC         Macintosh character set

  DEFAULT     A mixture of IBMPC and LATIN-1. Quite good to have as
              default character set. This can not be used as the
```

```
              character set to convert to.

   SWEDISH     Swedish 7-bit character set. It is not recommended to
               have this as the default character set since it will
               destroy 'C' sources and uuencoded files.

   SKIP        This tells ConvPkt not to convert the messages. This
               can be specified both in the CHRSLIST file and and as
               TOCHRS.

   Example:
   --------
      ConvPkt *.PKT IBMPC
```

## 1.5  Format of CHRSLIST file

```
The format of this file is very simple. The syntax of each line in the
text file is like this:

<Pattern> <Charset> <Default charset>(optional)

Lines beginning with a ";" are ignored.

An example charset list:

-----
; CHRS translation list for the areas
;
; Syntax: <Pattern> <Charset> [<Default charset>]
;
; (Default charset is optional)

R20_AMIGA#?        LATIN-1     LATIN-1
NETMAIL            LATIN-1
#?                 IBMPC       IBMPC
-----
```

When ConvPkt does the pattern matching, netmail messages get the tagname
NETMAIL. If the tagname doesn't match any of the patterns in this file,
the destination charset specified on the command line will be used instead.
The same goes for the default charset.

## 1.6  Installation

Most node/point operators will probably want to run ConvPkt automatically.
The best way do to this is to create a script file that you run as your
packer in your tosser. Such a script for outgoing mail could look like
this:

```
--- ConvLHA  ---
 .key bundle,file
```

```
.bra {
.ket }

ConvPkt {file} IBMPC CHRSLIST ConvPkt.cfg
LhA a {bundle} {file}
---------------

Your tosser should then execute something like this:

    Execute ConvLHA 12345678.mo0 87654321.pkt

A script for incoming mail could look like this:

--- ConvIncomingLHA ---
.key bundle
.bra {
.ket }
LhA x {bundle}
ConvPkt *.pkt LATIN-1
----------------------
```

## 1.7  How to contact the author

```
How to contact the author
==========================
FidoNet:   Johan Billing@2:200/207.6
InterNet:  johan.billing@kcc.ct.se

SnailMail: Johan Billing
           Östra Storgatan 22
           260 60 Kvidinge

Please don't hesitate to contact me!
```

## 1.8  Program History

```
History
=======

1.0 - First release

1.1 - New feature: Now you can convert different areas to different
      charsets! This is done based on AmigaDOS patterns so you don't
      have to configure all areas.

    - Minor bug fix: ConvPkt had problems converting netmails that
      didn't begin with a kludge line. The new CHRS kludge appeared
      on the second line instead of the first.

1.2 - New commandline keyword: CHRSONLY. If you use this, ConvPkt will
      only convert messages with a CHRS or CHARSET kludge. Other
      messages will not be touched.
```

      – New destination charset: SKIP. Areas set to this charset will
        not be converted.

1.3 – Nothing much has happened, actually. The only change is that
      ConvPkt doesn't convert Soft-CR's ($8d) anymore. Soft-CR is
      a special character that is removed or ignored by most
      FidoNet programs, but earlier versions of ConvPkt converted
      it to another character so that is wasn't recognized as a
      Soft-CR anymore.

1.4 – ConvPkt now preserves the comment, protection bits and date of
      the files it processes. DLG had problems when the comment was
      removed from the files...