

Remote Echo Control (REC)
Version 2.00

Beta-H Release Notes

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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The SortName and SortBoard statements have been replaced by the Sort statement, which has the option of sorting by echo-tag (name) or board.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!!

