

uuApp

uuApp is a utility application to aid the user of uucp-based mail. It provides a simple NeXTSTEP interface to on-demand polling of uucp hosts and features realtime viewing of uucp logfiles.

Requirements

uuApp runs on a NeXT computer with uucp installed and configured for at least one active connection. This computer must be the mail host machine if run on a local area network. Developed under NeXTSTEP 2.1 uuApp is compatible with NeXTSTEP 3.0.

Distribution

This software is distributed as Freeware. Please send any bug reports or suggestions for improvement to "uuapp@jbc.com".

For more information

Joe Barello Consulting
4043A 23rd St
San Francisco, CA 94114
(415) 647-6398
info@jbc.com

EMAIL AND UUCP

Electronic mail travels to and from the outside world via a uucp session. Uucp software dials a

modem and establishes a communication link between your local machine and a remote uucp service site. The remote uucp service is usually a commercial provider feed, a university uucp feed, a corporate uucp feed or an associates computer uucp feed.

Electronic mail uses a "store and forward" mechanism. Mail you send from a mail application is spooled locally in your machine until it is transferred to the outside world during a uucp communication session. Any mail you receive from the outside world arrives at your machine during a uucp communication session where it is spooled locally to your electronic mail file.

POLLING A UUCP SITE

To poll a remote site enter the uucp sitename in the "uucp site" text field of the uuApp window. Click on the "poll" button to start a connect session. The LOGFILE file viewer gives realtime feedback of uucp status.

Note: The uucp sitename must correspond with a uucp sitename listed in the file "/etc/uucp/L.sys". The "uucp site" text field will remember your entry the next time you start uuApp.

Your system may already have a uucp poll automatically issued during several periods of the day with an entry in "/etc/crontab" or "/etc/crontab.local". If uuApp is running with the LOGFILE file viewer visible you can see activity of that connection too.

LOGFILES

Uucp and sendmail maintain a number of log files and uuApp lets you view 3 logfiles on interest.

- LOGFILE logs connection status, incoming and outgoing calls, file transfer and rmail

execution.

- SYSLOG(uucp) logs file transfer data rates.
- SYSLOG(mqueue) logs sendmail status.

All three logfiles can be read while running uuApp by a privileged user like "root". Running uuApp as a general user can have some limitations that can be overcome. The file "/usr/spool/uucp/LOGFILE" usually has open file permissions so any user running uuApp can read it. The file "/usr/spool/uucp/SYSLOG" may not have open enough file permissions for uuApp to read it. The file "/usr/spool/mqueue/SYSLOG" often does not have open enough file permissions for uuApp to read it. Use the "chmod +r filename" command to add read permissions.

REALTIME VIEWING

uuApp will show logfile activity in real time. So you can see when files are coming in and when they are going out.

LOGFILE ENTRIES TO KNOW

Remote site picks up phone call:

uucp netcom (8/4-07:51-4341) SUCCEEDED (call to netcom)

UUCICO link established:

uucp netcom (8/4-07:51-4341) OK (startup cufa 38400 baud)

Control and Data files received:

daemon netcom (8/3-19:52-3597) REQUESTED (S D.slovea469354 X.netcomsCc9ac daemon)

daemon netcom (8/3-19:52-3597) REQUESTED (S D.netcodb6db7f D.netcodb6db7f daemon)

Mail to local user from Control and Data files

uucp netcomsv (8/3-19:52-3598) m@crito.Stanford.EDU XQT (rmail joeba@jbc.com)

Local user mails a message - Control and Data files are queued

agent netcom (8/4-09:11-4457) XQT QUE'D (rmail its.com!gwkiv)

Control and Data files sent out:

agent netcom (8/3-19:51-3597) REQUEST (S D.sloveniB05j2 D.sloveniS05j2 agent)

agent netcom (8/3-19:52-3597) REQUEST (S D.sloveniX05j0 X.sloveniA05j3 agent)

UUCICO link finished - modem hangs up:

netnews netcom (8/4-07:51-4341) OK (conversation complete)

UUCICO link failed - modem didn't answer, refused login:

uucp netcom (8/4-08:51-4441) FAILED (LOGIN ABORTED)

SLOW START UP AND LOGFILE SIZE MANAGEMENT

If the uucpApp window comes up and you get a busy cursor for a few seconds your logfiles may be getting big. If your machine is not turned on Saturday mornings your logfiles will not be trimmed weekly as cron does weekly shrinking of logfiles on Saturday 3:30am (/etc/crontab). All these log files consume space and they should be managed and examined regularly.