

TradeNet
User's Guide
to InterMail



U.S. Agency for International Development

This publication is part of the
Regional Trade Agenda Series

USAID/Africa Bureau

Office of Sustainable Development

Food Security and Productivity Unit

Activity: Regional Trade and Comparative Advantage in Eastern and Southern Africa—Implications for Food Security

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1. Regional Trade Agenda: Overview
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9. Proceedings on the Regional Trade Agenda Workshop Mbabane, Swaziland / January 1995
10. Comparative Analysis of Economic Reform and Structural Adjustment Policies in Southern Africa: With Emphasis on Agricultural Trade

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Produced by the
U.S. Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C.

July 1994

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Foreword

TRADENET is an electronic communications network that is being implemented by the Agricultural and Resource Analysis office of USAID's Africa Bureau. The purpose of the network is to link policy makers and researchers in different countries in East and Southern Africa who will be working on issues related to "Changing comparative advantage, regional cross-border trade and food security." This network will become operational in August '94 and will connect policy makers and researchers in Kenya, South Africa, Mozambique, Swaziland, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Kenya as well as USAID/Washington. Later additional countries will be added to TRADENET.

Users of TRADENET will be able to send and receive messages among individuals and institutions who are simulatenously working on similar topics. In this way, exchange of working papers, analyses, data bases etc can take place electronically. A central repository of documents and data will be maintained that will be accessible to all of the participants of TRADENET. All of this will be taking place at no financial cost to African institutions and individuals taking part in TRADENET. In addition selected hardware equipment, software and training is being provided to individuals taking part in TRADENET.

The technical underpinings for TRADENET are from the SAFIRE (Southern Africa Food Information Resource Exchange) network that was established by USAID's Africa Bureau in Southern Africa to enhance donor coordination in response to the 1992 drought. TRADENET incorporates both Internet and fidonet linkages enabling a wide-variety of communications languages to speak and understand each other. This is not unlike the task that the researchers and policy makers using TRADENET will be

facing, in trying to build information flow relationships that span across borders.

Barbara Keating and John Glaser who were involved in setting up SAFIRE have also been instrumental in getting TRADENET implemented and are coauthors of this manual. This manual will be updated regularly. Comments or questions on the manual or TRADENET should be sent to Brian D'Silva at the address below:

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Overview of TRADENET

TRADENET is a communication network sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development Africa Bureau, under the office of Analysis Research and Technical Support. Through TRADENET, researchers in southern and eastern Africa can collaborate their studies of cross-border agricultural trade issues facing the region as a whole.

The technical underpinnings for TRADENET are from the Southern Africa Food Information Resources and Exchange Network (SAFIRE), established in the southern Africa region to enhance donor countries' response to the 1992 drought. The World Food Program found electronic communications through SAFIRE so useful in their work, that they continue to use the SAFIRE network, in conjunction with USAID, and are expanding the network to other countries in Africa, and Eastern Europe.

TRADENET is a misnomer in many ways. A "NET" implies that everyone is connected in the same way, and has one central source that enables the connections of each net member. In the case of TRADENET, the network is more of a "virtual network." It will look as though everyone is connected in the same way, but in reality they will have a variety of connections. Using Internet, and providing software and modems to other sites who presently have no e-mail connections, we hope to create an interface that gives the appearance of everyone being connected as a group by the same thread. The challenge will be in taking the wide-array of communication software, each speaking a different language, and have them communicate with each other.

TRADENET is just a window for electronic communications to the world. After some time, InterMail, as it is presently configured for TRADENET, may seem limited. At that time, you may want

to understand the expanded capabilities of the software. Feel free to explore and ask questions. We appreciate any comments or ideas that you would like to share to make the net work better. Please contact John Glaser at FIDONET 1:109/183 or fax: 1-703-351-0154, or Barbara Keating at FIDONET 1:109/183.17, or Bkeating@usaid.gov.

FIDONET: Overview, features, and terminology

What is FIDONET?

FIDONET is a name for two things, a technology, and a voluntary network of computer users. The FIDONET technology is a personal computer-based software that is a set of communication instructions that allow personal computers to connect and store and forward messages. The FIDONET Network itself, is a loosely affiliated "group" of over 20,000 computers worldwide which connect in a voluntary net using FIDONET technology. The software that TRADENET will be using is InterMail, which is a FIDONET technology software available on the market today.

WHAT Exactly is InterMail?

InterMail is a software package that conforms to the non-proprietary standard commonly referred to as "FIDONET technology." What this means is that InterMail can connect and transfer messages and files to any FIDONET technology software, because it uses the same communication instructions. There are several competing software packages that conform to FIDONET standards. With InterMail in particular you can:

- Send private Electronic Messages messages
- Send public "conference" messages (e.g., group discussions)

- Send files
- Receive files sent by others
- Request files from others or from a general-access databank

Sending and receiving messages over FIDONET, or any e-mail network does not require "real time" interaction between senders and receivers. In other words, people you send messages to do not have to be on the other end to receive it. Messages can be sent in the middle of the night, and read the next morning. This happens in **store-and-forward networks**. In a store-and-forward network, messages are read "off-line," when not connected by a live phone line to another computer. This saves money, as you can take as much time to write the message, while not running up the phone bill. InterMail can be set-up to automatically make a call to deliver the mail at a later time, or to wait until it receives a call from another computer to transfer the messages.

TRADENET messages and files, in general, are held until the Washington system, the SAFIRE HUB, calls and picks up the mail. A HUB is just a term for the central point of contact. Messages are sent and received during the same phone connection.

The advantages of using a FIDONET technology software like InterMail are:

Minimum connect time, thereby minimizing phone bill costs.

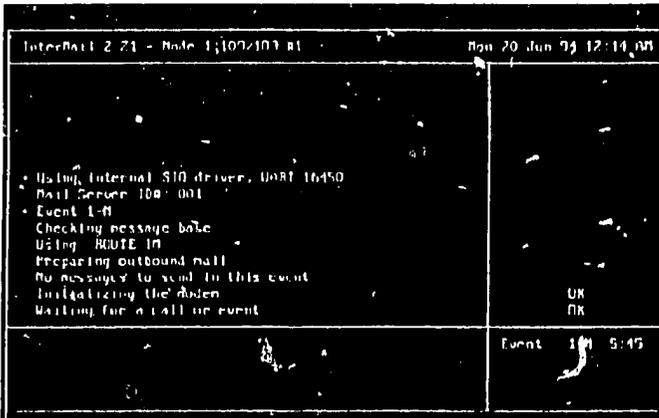
Routing messages and files through participating relays who combine all messages going to a certain area, thus cutting down on phone bill costs to all users.

There is no need to purchase a subscription to connect.

Major components of InterMail

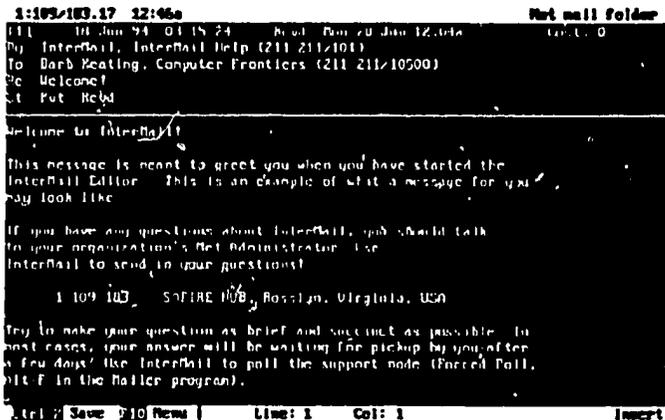
There are two areas to InterMail, the area where messages are created and read, and the area where messages are sent and received. These areas are described below.

Send /Receive Mail Screen



The screen pictured above is the Mailer screen. This is where you leave your machine waiting to receive and send messages. The Mailer is responsible for picking out the right messages to send, calling the desired addresses and the sending the actual transmissions. The Mailer is the core of the InterMail system, because it performs the actual work of moving the mail.

Message Read/Write Screen: "The Message Editor"



The "Message Editor," pictured above, is the screen used to read and write messages. This is the place where new mail will be available to read once it has come into your system. This is also

where you can decide how a message will be sent, and where the lists of people to send to are found. The Message Editor will be thoroughly explored in the section on Creating a Message.

Key concepts and terms

Below are a few concepts and terms that will assist you in using InterMail. Please read this section carefully.

Addressing

An address in e-mail is similar to a postal address. A letter traveling to its destination has included in its address the country, state, city and street address. Several post offices on the route to the final address touch the letter, and forward it on its way. It is the same with e-mail. Your message is passed along (routed) from system to system, until it reaches its final destination.

An address in FIDONET mail looks like the following, and has 3 to 4 sections:

1 : 109 / 183 . 1
Zone ——— | ——— | ——— | ———
 Net Node Point
 number

The four sections of the address are as follows:

Section 1 is the Zone number. The zone number is the first number in every address followed by a (:). There are 6 zones in the FIDONET addressing system that corresponds with 6 parts of the world. They are as follows:

- Zone 1: North America
- Zone 2: Europe and the CIS
- Zone 3: Australia and New Zealand
- Zone 4: Latin America
- Zone 5: Africa
- Zone 6: Asia

Section 2 is the Net number. In this example, 109/ is the Net number. This number indicates a local calling area in that zone.

A "/" backslash follows the net number.

Section 3 is the Node number. In this example, 183 is the node. This number represents a personal computer with a system operator, who, as a rule operates 24 hours a day. In the case of TRADENET, the node is the "SAFIRE Hub" in Washington where messages are stored and forwarded.

Section 4 is the Point number. In this example, 1 is the point number, or simply point. Not every address has a point. A point represents a personal computer of a user, such as each researcher site connected to TRADENET. Each researcher has a different Point address off the Node address in Washington, D.C. In general, points off a node use that system as a transfer point for their messages. (In this example, node 183 is the TRADENET node, and 1.1 is John Glaser's point off the system at his home computer.)

In InterMail, each Personal Computer (PC) has an electronic mail address. There can be up to 10 users at a particular address using the same PC. For example, the border site researcher can be a user, as well as the secretary in Zambia. However, if they are using the same machine, and one phone line, they will have only one address for that site.

Nodelist

Nodes in net 1:109		
158	Mariame Crockford	ISM Sup (Down)
159	Imad-ad-Dean Ahmad	AMNet
162	Jo's Pilsucki	Cosmic Wanderings
163	Charles Conlow	Concourse (Down)
165	Gary Gerritt	UTANET
166	Ted Foor	DASH #95
167	John Scroggins	MM FUD
168	Mark Prado	user@public.permanet.org
173	Samdeep Gupta	FEMS Project
177	Jeremy Idol	Virtual Madness
182	Todd Jacobs	The Digital Bookshelf
183	John Glaser	SAFIRE Project
184	Scott Gleida	Flayer's Castle
185	Charles Stuart	Ship To Shore
186	Patrick McDonald	REDEX
187	Mark Graves	OCOMET
188	Konkit Listisard	One Night in Bangkok
189	Howard Hill	Auto Board (Down)
190	Tobias Eigen	Kabissa Communications
194	Skipper Norton	Missing Link
195	Brian Sorenson	Powderhorn
196	Dennis Davis	Cockpitt

PgUp/PgDn

Alt-Home --> Change Level Enter>Select Tab-Upgrade Esc-Abort

mail addresses. Theoretically, everyone in the FIDONET directory is a NODE. Your system is a member of a Network and will have its own unique address, a Point off of a NODE. For TRADENET, you will have a point address off the SAFIRE system. TRADENET Addresses will range from 1:109/183.1000 to 1:109/183.1025. This concept may be confusing at first. If you would like to know more, please look at Section 7.3 of the INTERMAIL Manual.

Starting InterMail

This is assuming that InterMail is installed on the machine. If InterMail has not yet been installed, refer to the InterMail Manual.

From the DOS prompt type:

```
c:\cd im and press <enter>
```

Then type

```
c:\im\IMRUN and press <enter>
```

The following screen will appear:

```
InterMail 2.21 - Mode 1:109/103 17          Mon 20 Jun 94 12:54 AM
-----
Rescan requested                               OK
Checking message base                          UK
Using ROUTE 19                                UK
- Preparing outbound mail                      CONNECT: 9600, 0.12, 1000
  1:109/103: 2 (C)                             NO CARRIER
  Initializing the modem                       OK
  Waiting for a call or event                  OK
  Calling SATEL 1:109/103, 1 70) JS1 0100     UK
  Mail transfer completed                      UK
  $ To 1:109/103, Q 52 4L, 0.12, JS         UK
  Initializing the modem                       OK
  Waiting for a call or event                  OK
-----
To: SATEL project                               1:109/103
   6/20/94 12:52a                             Rosstep, Va
-----
Press F10 for menu
```

The screen you see is the Mailer. This is the screen where messages are sent and received. Find below a brief description of this screen.

At the top of the screen, see your e-mail address on the left, and the current date and time on the right.

Main Window. The largest window continuously displays information about ongoing activities such as what messages are waiting to be sent, if the mail transfer was completed or not, etc.

Top Right Window. The long narrow window on the top right displays the current modem activity. This screen refreshes every few minutes.

Bottom Left window. This contains the names and addresses of the last call out of the system, and the last call into the system.

The Bottom Right window. This window contains information on events that are in your system set-up. An event is a period when your machine is programmed to make a call or to receive mail. Events are explained more thoroughly in section 12.1 of the InterMail Manual.

We are going to leave this screen for the moment, and go to the Message Editor to create a message.

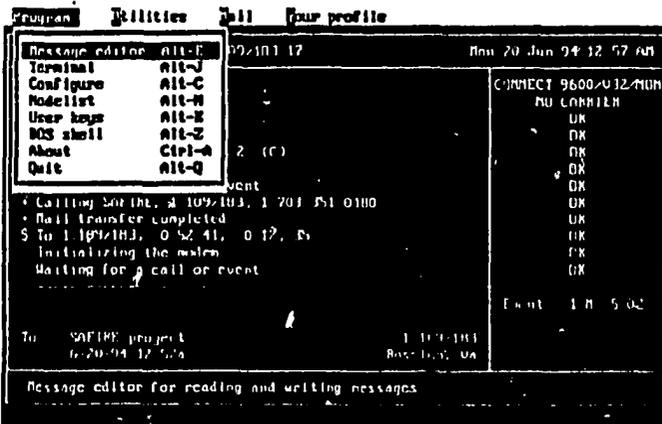
Creating a message

Getting to the Message Editor

To create messages you must go to the Message Editor screen. To do this,

In the Mailer screen:

Press <f10> for the Menu. You will see picture below.



Highlight the first item, Message Editor under the Program menu using the arrow keys.

Press <enter>.

Shortcut for next time: (Next to Message Editor see ALT-E. Press <ALT> E and this takes you from the Mailer screen, to the Editor screen without using the menus.)

Composing the message

Now you should be in the Message Editor, which looks like the following. (The Parts of a message are explained in the following section.)

```
1:109/103.17 12:46a net mail folder
(1) 18 Jun 94 04:15:24 Wed, Mon 20 Jun 12:04g (Apt: 0
To: InterMail, InterMail Help (211.211/101)
To: Barb Keating, Computer Frontiers (211.211/10200)
Cc: Welcome!
Cc: Put Head

Welcome to InterMail!

This message is meant to greet you when you have started the
InterMail Editor. This is an example of what a message for you
may look like.

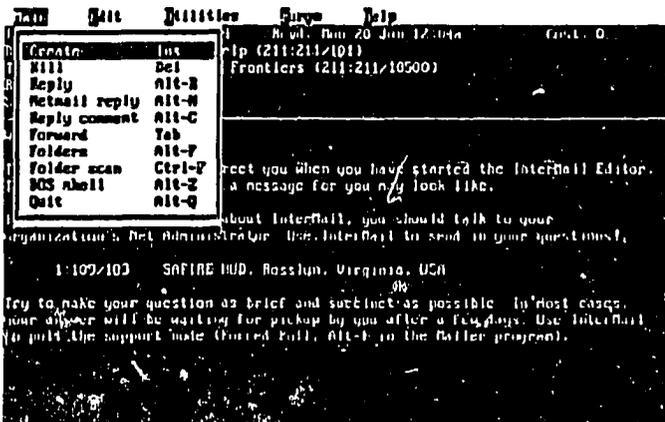
If you have any questions about InterMail, you should talk
to your organization's Net Administrator. Use
InterMail to send in your questions!

1.109/103 SAFIRE HUB, Rosslyn, Virginia, USA

Try to make your question as brief and succinct as possible. In
most cases, your answer will be waiting for pickup by you after
a few days. Use InterMail to poll the support node (forced Poll,
Alt-F in the Mailer program).

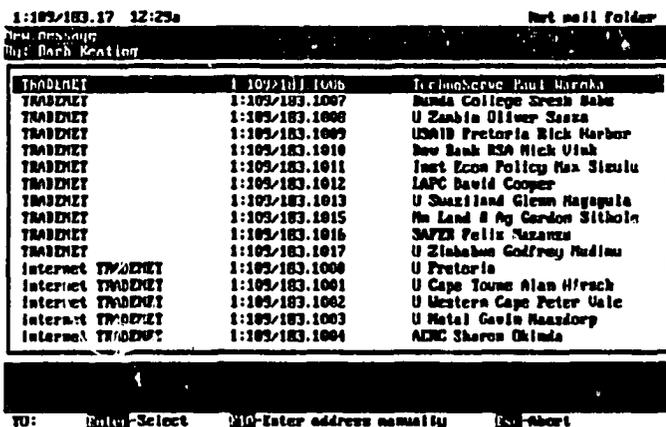
Ctrl: Save F10 News | Line: 1 Col: 1 Insert
```

1. Create a message by pressing the <f10>, see the following screen. Then press <enter> on CREATE. You should see the following.



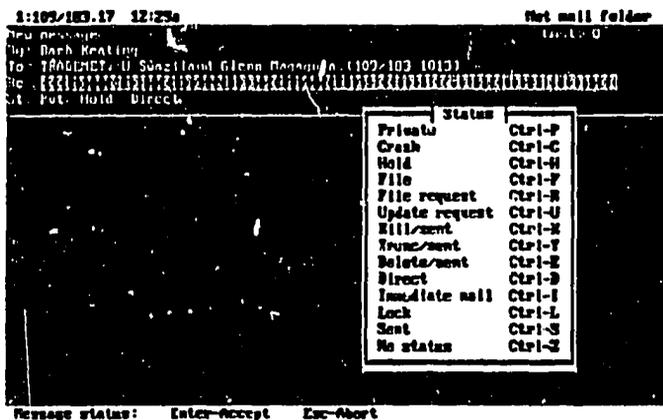
2. In the "To:" field, type TRADENET in upper or lower case letters, and press <enter>.

You should see the following:



3. Use the arrows to move down to the recipient's name and tap <Enter>.

(Alternatively, if you know the recipient's address, type it in highlighted space and press <Enter>.)



For those in TRADENET, the only way to access them is to type TRADENET or their point number, the last 4 digits of their address. See the number 9 at the end of this section on how you can send mail to people apart from TRADENET.

You **MUST** type in a subject, on the RE: line, such as "Zambia Trade Monthly Report," or about whatever your message pertains. If you do not enter something on this line, the message will **ABORT**. This means you have to start all over composing the message. Do not hit the enter key yet.

4. Under the "Re:" subject line is a "St:" status line. When you are editing the subject, you can toggle (turn on and off using the same keys) the status items by hitting the keys according to the pop-up STATUS Box on the right. Find below, descriptions of the various status options.

Delete/sent	Ctrl-E	Deletes file/ file name after being sent.
Direct	Ctrl-D	Direct Mail overrides the default Route command and sends directly to the addressee.
Immediate mail	Ctrl-I	Mail is sent immediately ignoring any default routing commands.
Lock	Ctrl-L	Locks the message. The message will not leave the editor until the lock status is removed.
Sent	Ctrl-S	Indicates that the message has been sent.

5. Tap <ENTER> when satisfied with both subject and status lines. Then type a message. InterMail has a built in word processor. (If the right side does not always wrap when you insert or delete words during re-editing, do not worry — it will wrap neatly as you save it, and certainly nothing will be lost.)
6. When you finish typing the message, you need to save it. To save the message, tap the <Ctrl> and Z keys.



Type Y for YES. The message will be saved.

The screen will return back to the point where you were creating the message, and will placed the message you just composed at the end of all the messages in the editor.

7. To create a message to people outside of the TRADENET group, you can do the following:

- a. Type in only the first part of the recipient's last name and hit <ENTER>. The Message Editor will show you all the close matches.
IFS after tapping the <enter> key, THE INDIVIDUAL'S NAME YOU ENTERED IS NOT IN THE NODELIST, then the Message Editor will place a comma after the name. If you are sure the name is correct, and you know the address of the individual, type the address in the highlighted space after the comma. Then, continue composing your message.
- b. Type in nothing, just hit <enter> and it will give you a list of people in your local net.
- c. Type in a recipient's address instead of their name, and InterMail will put in their default name automatically when you press <enter>, if the address is correct, and in the Nodelist.

8. To send the message, tap the <ALT> and Q keys for "Quit."

This will take you back to the Mailer screen. If you want to send a message at this point, go to SECTION 6.

Parts of a message

Now that you can create a message, let's step back and look at what the message format tells us.

A typical message looks like this:

1. 1:109/183.700 12:41a NetMail folder
2. [13] Tue 29 Aug 94 9:50p Rcvd: Aug 30 12:16p
Cost:
- 3.By: TRADENET Brian DiSilva(1:109/183)
- 4.To: TRADENET,U Swaziland Glenn Magagula
(1:109/183.1013)
- 5.Re: Methodology
- 6.St: Pvt Kill Rcvd

7. Hello Glenn:

The annual conference went well, and we are

looking forward to an interesting year.

When you can, could you forward the documents on the cross-border trade methodology. We are having an informal meeting of several ag. Economists here and Washington, and the documents would be useful.

By the way, have arrangements gotten underway for the meeting? Let me know where I can help.

Cheers,

Brian

8. [13] First: 4 Last: 21 Total: 10 Left: 5

The lines in the message are explained as follows:

1. Line 1:

- a. Active address (see later discussion of belonging to multiple networks and/or having multiple addresses)
- b. Current time of day.
- c. In the top right corner is the folder you are currently in, the "NetMail folder."

2. Line 2:

- a. Starts with the message number; in this case message #13. (The message number is repeated on the bottom line of the screen.)
- b. Shows the date and time the sender, Brian D'Silva in this case, created the message.
- c. Shows the date and time that the receiver, Glenn Magagula in this case, first saw the message.
- d. Cost: This is rarely used. It is NOT a bill.

3. Line 3: The "BY" line is who sent the message, and their address.

4. Line 4: The "TO:" line is to whom the message is addressed, their name and address.

5. Line 5: "Re:," is the brief subject of the message, or where the names of incoming or outgoing files are specified.

6. Line 6: "St:" line. The different statuses that a message can have are on this line. A discussion of the different statusís takes place in the section on Creating a message. Here, "Rcvd"

means that Glenn Magagula has read the message. If multiple people were using one node, then only Glenn Magagula would have access to this message since it is marked "Pvt" for private.

7. **Message Area:** This is the area where you will create your messages, and the area where received messages will arrive.
8. **Line 8:** The bottom of the messages:
 - a. States the total number of messages in your NetMail folder, and you can move your arrow keys left and right to view the messages in the folder.

Still working in the Message Editor, the following section will explain how to import a file and attach a file to a message.

Importing an ASCII file into a message

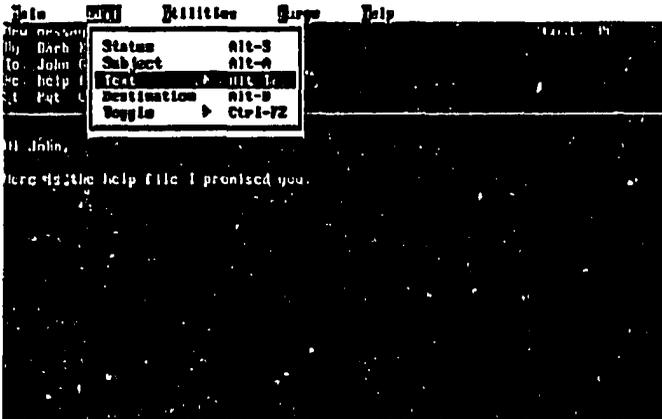
You may import a file that you created with your own word processor, e.g., WordPerfect (see explanation below), or any ASCII file into the text of a message. However, the file **MUST** be an ASCII file.

Create a message as explained above, following these quick steps:

- a. Press the <insert> key.
- b. type in name or address you want to send to
- c. type in subject in RE line
- d. change status to correct one
- e. type message

Once in the message area, follow these steps to import a file:

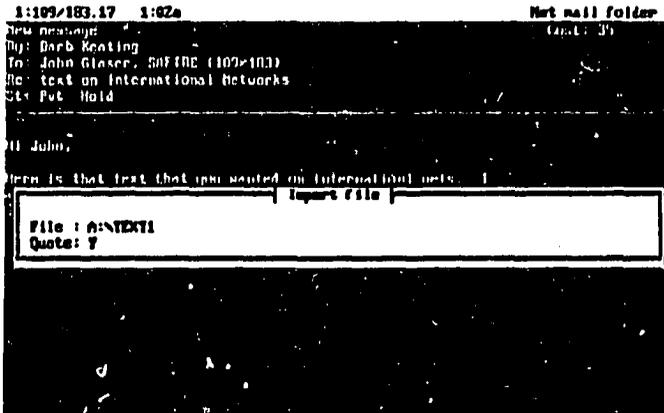
<Alt> and <F10> to access the help menu.



Under the edit menu, highlight the "TEXT" selection and press <enter>. This will take you to a sub-menu. Highlight the "import file" selection and press <enter>.

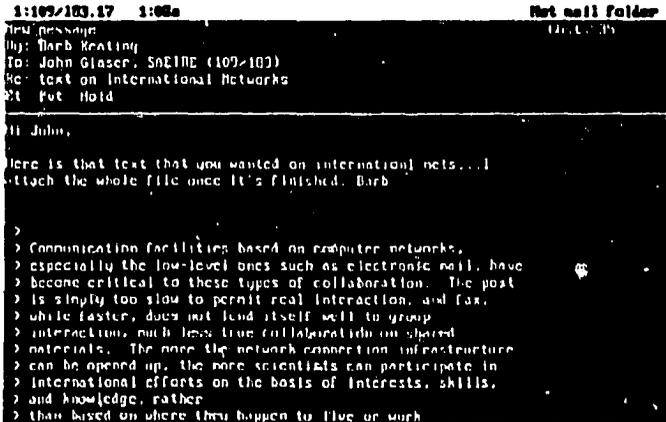


A screen will pop-up that asks you for the name of the file. You will need to specify the full path, i.e., the directory(s) as well, e.g., C:\WP51\PROPOSAL.TXT



Quote means it will put a > in front of all imported lines. Choosing "Y" for Yes, will put a ">" symbol at the beginning of each line of imported text.

If you choose "N" for "NO" for Quote the file will have no marks indicating that it was imported.



NOTE: You can edit what you import.

Importing a WordPerfect file

If you wish to import a file created by WordPerfect, then you

MUST do the following while in WordPerfect saving your file:

1. Save your file by using <Ctrl F5>, Do NOT save your file by the <F10> or as you normally would.
2. Then choose "<3> Save As" and then "<1> Generic."

You probably want to give the file a different name than its original, e.g., FILENAME.ASC.

****NOTE:** Send large files as attached files, and not as files imported into messages.

Attaching a file to a message

To attach a file to a message:

From the Message Editor, create a message in the same manner as discussed in Section 5, Create a Message.

3. When you reach the subject line, "RE:," this is where you type in the full path and filename of the file you wish to send. By full path we mean something like this:

```
c:\fd\out\wfp.txt
```

4. Then hit <Ctrl F>. This will put the word "File" on the "St:" status line while editing the subject line.

Then, tap your Enter key and the Message Editor will look for the file. It will pop up a box showing the filename and its size.

5. If, your file is found, then the file name will be blinking, and the screen will have selected file in the upper right box, with the number of bytes listed. Then tap <Enter>.
6. You will be returned to the Message Editor. Now you have the option of leaving the message blank by hitting <Ctrl Z> to save the message with the file attached, or write something in the message area.

PLEASE NOTE, messages without text, called "null messages," are deleted automatically by the recipient system, and thus the recipient may not notice the receipt of the file, which will go to their INBOUND directory. You may need to explain to the recipient the purpose of the file. Therefore, it is usually best to enter some text in the body of the message.

Attaching multiple files

To attach multiple files you can do two things:

1. Type all of their names on the subject line, with one space between the files, as follows:

```
1:109/349.2 11:07p
NetMail folder
New message
Cost: 0
By: John Glaser
To: Barb Keating, The Baobab (1:109/151.17)
Re: c:\instal\INSTALL.EXE
c:\instal\startkit.lzh
St: Pvt File Local Kill
```

However, you usually cannot fit more than two or three files on the "Re:" line, and must use wildcards or manually create multiple file attach messages.

Alternatively, you can do the following:

2. A second way is to type the path name and use wildcards in the RE: line, for example,

```
C:\*.*
```

Then hit <enter> as in the following example.

```
1:109/349.2 11:07p
NetMail folder
New message
Cost: 0
By: Barb Keating
To: John Glaser, SAFIRE (1:109/151.17)
Re: c:\*.*
St: Pvt File Local Kill
```

Which reports:

```

1:109/
  To: Barb Keating
  Re: 21%
  At: Full

Transmit files | 11 folder
Selected files 0
bytes 0
Total files 40
bytes 6,113,078

Time at 9600 bps 0 min

F1, PgUp/PgDn, Ctrl-PgUp/PgDn,
Home and End moves bar.

Select all F5
Toggle select Space
Accept selected files Enter
Alert Esc

C:\...
  
```

FILENAME	EXT	SIZE
AUTOCXDC	DAT	106
AUTOCXDC	BAK	336
AU	DAT	21
MSTEST	CI	75,533
BC	DAT	12
CATAN	DAT	61
CONFIG	SYS	187
CONFIG	QOL	187
CONFIG	BAK	1,868
EA DATA	SP	4,628,488
EA0000	CHK	8,132
EA0001	CHK	8,132
EA0002	CHK	8,132
EA0003	CHK	8,132
EA0004	CHK	8,132
EA0005	CHK	8,132
EADATA	SP	315
HELP	DAT	16
INGREYS	IDK	1,624
INGREYS	DAT	488

- To "tag" or mark the files that you wish to send move the cursor up and down the list of files. Tag them by pressing the spacebar.
- Hit <enter> to return you to the message.

NOTE: You will not see that the files have actually attached until you hit <control Z>. Then the Message Editor will attach the files.

After saving a message containing multiple file attaches, you may notice that the Message Editor creates multiple file attach messages.

Requesting files from other systems

Many nodes allow you to request files from their system.

You request a file by stating the filename(s) (without path) on the "Re:" line and turning on the "FilReq" File Request status.

For example:

```
1:109/349.2 11:07p NetMail folder
```

```
New message Cost: 0
```

```
By: Barb Keating
```

```
To: Mark Prado, Washington D.C. Hub (1:109/10)
```

Re: INSTALL.EXE_oo

St: Pvt FilReq Local Kill

The above sample message requests three files.

It is common not to enter text in a file request message. This is a "null" or empty message that is deleted on entering the receiving system. This is so these messages do not clutter their mail area..

You cannot obtain just any file that exists on the hard disk of the system you are calling. The system you are calling has to specifically set up their system to allow certain directories to be requestable.

To get a list of available files on another system, it is customary to request a file called FILES. What you will usually get is a file by another name, which lists all the filenames and their descriptions.

To try this out, send a test message to 1:109/183. When you get to the RE line press <CTL R>. Save the message, and then send it.

Replying to a message

To reply to a message sent to you:

Hit <Alt R> while viewing the message you wish to reply, or press <F10> for help and choose reply from the main menu column.

You will then be asked:

≥ Quote original message (y,n,Esc)? Y

If you answer "Y" YES, then the text from the previous message will be imported into your new message with a ">" character preceding each line, as follows:

1:109/349.2 12:44a NetMail folder

Replying to message 13 Cost: 0

To: Brian D'Silva

By: TRADENET Glenn Mugagula (1:109/183.601)

Re: c:\method.wp

St: Pvt Hold File

Hello Brian:

> The annual conference went well, and we
are looking forward to

> an interesting year.

I agree with you. Everyone is interested in
the cross-border trade work.

> When you can, could you forward to me the
documents on the cross-border trade method-
ology?

Please find the documentation to date as to
what the border watchers are doing for
gathering the information. We are already
noticing that we will have to change a few
of the procedures across all borders. This
is noted in the attached doc. Let me know
what you think.

> By the way, have arrangements gotten
underway for the meeting? >

Let me know what I can help.

Cheers,

Brian

EDIT <Ctrl-Z> to save Line: 1 Col: 1 Insert

The quotation mark, ">" is useful for reminding the other person
what their message was all about, usually by creating gaps between
their paragraphs as shown in the last example.

Notice in the above example that I deleted the lines that I did not
need to quote, and then I wrote remarks between the remaining
lines.

Tips on using the InterMail Message Editor

Commands

You can edit a message you have saved. Use the pop-up menu by tapping <Alt> M, and then go into the Edit menu.

To edit already created messages you can:

Press:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| <Alt T> | To modify the text of the message you are viewing |
| <Alt D> | Change the destination/recipient |
| <Alt A> | Change the subject |
| <Alt S> | Opens the status box |
| <Alt V> | To export a copy of the message to a regular disk file |
| <Alt I> | Prints the message (if a printer is hooked up) |
| <Alt L> | To forward a message to someone else |
| <Alt R> | Reply to the message on the screen |
| <Alt T> | Edit the message you are viewing. |
| <Alt F2> | Import an ASCII text file into the message text |
| <+> | Jump to a later reply on the same subject |
| <-> | Jump to an earlier posting on the same subject. |
| <+> and <-> | allow you to follow a discussion. |
| <Alt J> | Move or copy a message to another folder. |
| <TAB> | Forward a message to another address. |
| <ALT F9> | Takes you to the Management view, where you can see the messages in an abbreviated format. Here you can select and delete, move, print, and search for a group of messages, as well as other management capabilities. |

While editing inside a message you can:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| <Alt T> | Brings up a sub-menu of advanced editing |
|---------|--|

functions. This sub-menu contains:

- <Ctrl Y> Cut/delete current line and put it into "delete buffer"
- <Esc> Paste/un-delete lines from the "delete buffer"
- <Alt F8> From the cursor, the lines in the following paragraph will be reformatted.
- <Alt Q> Quits the Message Editor and returns to the main menu.
- <Alt M> Bring up the Main Menu.
- <Ctrl C> toggles on/off display of the hard carriage returns.

Cut and paste

InterMail does not block text. Cut and paste work differently than in WordPerfect and other word processors. In the Message Editor, you can only cut and paste entire lines.

There are three commands:

- <Ctrl Y> Cut and delete a line, put cut line into buffer
- <Ctrl Bs> Copy a line without deleting it, put into buffer
- <Escape> Retrieve the cut and/or copied lines from buffer

Pressing <Escape> retrieves text from the buffer to the point where the cursor is located. One line at a time is retrieved on a "last in, first out" basis. While pressing your <Escape> key, if you do not manually move your cursor then the text comes out in the correct order.

You can press <Ctrl Y> or <Ctrl B> to add text to the buffer, then do other editing, and retrieve it later using the <Escape> key.

Using these commands takes some practice. For more information, see Chapter 8, starting from page 30 in the InterMail manual.

Hard carriage returns

The InterMail Message Editor works like a word processor. When editing a paragraph, the right edge may look irregular. Don't worry. When saving the message, it will automatically smooth out

any paragraphs with ragged right margins.

You may manually re-wrap a paragraph by moving the cursor to the beginning of the paragraph and hitting <Alt F8>. This will neatly re-wrap everything from that point downwards until it encounters a blank line, at which point it will stop re-wrapping. For this reason, we strongly recommended that you put a blank line between paragraphs instead of just indenting for a new paragraph. If you do not have a blank line between paragraphs, when <Alt F8> are pressed all paragraphs will merge into one, until a blank line is encountered.

- The top left box gives a summary of recent activity. It shows that there are four messages prepared in the out-bound queue.
- The top right box shows the modem's status.
- The bottom left box shows information on the last in-bound and out-bound connections.
- The bottom right box shows the current event, how much time is left before the next event, and information on the next scheduled event.

Helpful notes on the Mailer

Un-dialable

Occasionally, nodes may become "un-dialable." What this means is that the modem attempted several tries to make a clean connection, but was unable. To prevent the system from dialing again, the software calls that address `un-dialable` until you remove that status. This keeps your system from dialing a phone that makes multiple connections, but does not complete the message/file transfers. You can see if any nodes have become un-dialable by pressing `<Alt V>`. If a node becomes un-dialable, then you can remove the un-dialable status by hitting the Tab key.

Stopping a message from transmitting

If you ever wish to abort a transmission in progress, you may do so by hitting your `<Esc>` key, or `<ctl> X`.

Receiving a file

When you receive a file attach message, the file itself will reside in the `\IM\INBOUND` directory.

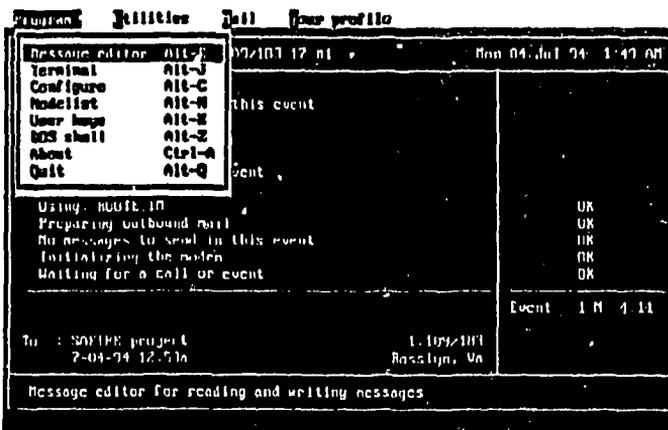
Unless the sender sent a null message (that is, a file attach message with no text), you should be notified of the receipt of a file by viewing a message with a filename as the subject and with File listed on the ST: status line.

You can view the file in the Message Editor by importing it into a

message, or by viewing it in another word processor like Word Perfect. If it is a Lotus file, you will not be able to view it in the Message Editor.

The Mailer pull-down menus

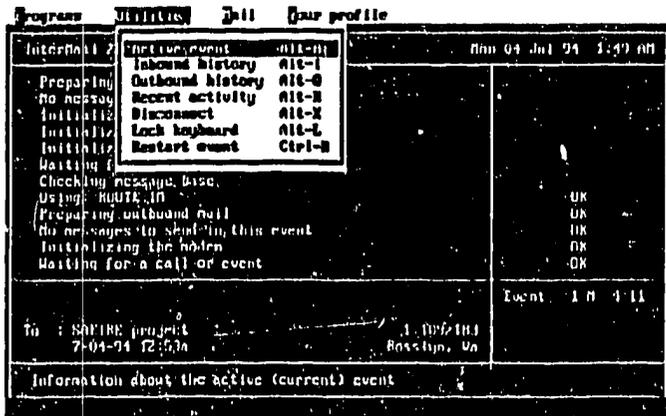
Pressing <F10> will display pull-down menus. In the Mailer, this is where you configure your system. Find below brief descriptions of what is in each menu item, and where necessary, example of how your TRADENET system should be configured.



Program Menu

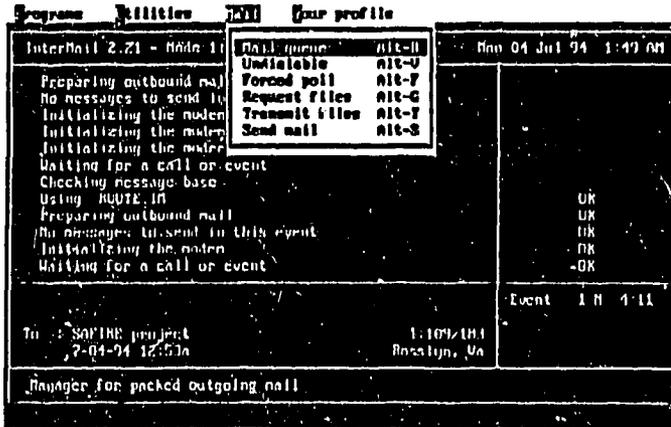
Message Editor	Alt-E	Message Editor for reading and writing messages
Terminal	Alt-J	Load the terminal emulator program
Configure	Alt-C	Configuration of options, events, folders, security, etc.
Nodelist	Alt-N	Load the Nodelist compiler/manager
User keys	Alt-K	Help menu for the user installable function keys
DOS shell	Alt-Z	Temporary shell — the message base is rescanned on return
Quit	Alt-Q	Quit the mailer and return to DOS

Utilities Menu



Active event	Alt-A	Information about the active (current) event
Inbnd history	Alt-I	Incoming calls for 'x' number of days
Outbnd history	Alt-O	Outgoing calls for 'x' number of days
Recent activity	Alt-R	The last 48 hours of activity
Disconnect	Alt-X	Disconnect incoming calls and/or re-initialize the modem
Lock keyboard	Alt-L	Lock keyboard with a password against unauthorized use
Restart event	Ctrl-R	Rescan message base and pack new mail

Mail Menu



Mail queue	Alt-B	Manager for packed outgoing mail
Undialable	Alt-V	Manager for undialable systems
Forced poll	Alt-F	Make a forced poll of a node for waiting mail
Request files	Alt-G	Request one or more files from another node
Transmit files	Alt-T	Transmit one or more files to another node
Send mail	Alt-S	Send waiting mail for a node immediately
Immed. answer	Ctrl-I	Immediate answer/data mode, regardless of Answer settings
Manual Dial	Ctrl-D	Manually edit number/direct connect on operator assisted calls

System set-up

For TRADENET sites, the following goes through a step-by-step process to configure your system set-up file, called IMSETUP, or is the CONFIGURE selection under the Mailer Program menu.



We will step through several menus and selections to ensure proper configuration for each system. Once the setup program is completely configured, you should not have to make changes often, but it is a good idea to become familiar with the configuration. The first menu column is EXIT. There are two selections under this column, Shell to DOS and Quit. The Shell to DOS command will allow you to temporarily go to a DOS prompt to execute DOS commands. You must type EXIT to return to the setup program. The other command Quit will allow you to completely leave the program. Pressing the ESC key will do the same.



Global

The six selections under this menu heading are:



Each selection has additional selections below it. We will go through each selection. Use the arrow keys to move around the menu and use the escape key to move backwards.

MAIL SERVER. Used in a multi-phone line environment. You will not have to use this function.

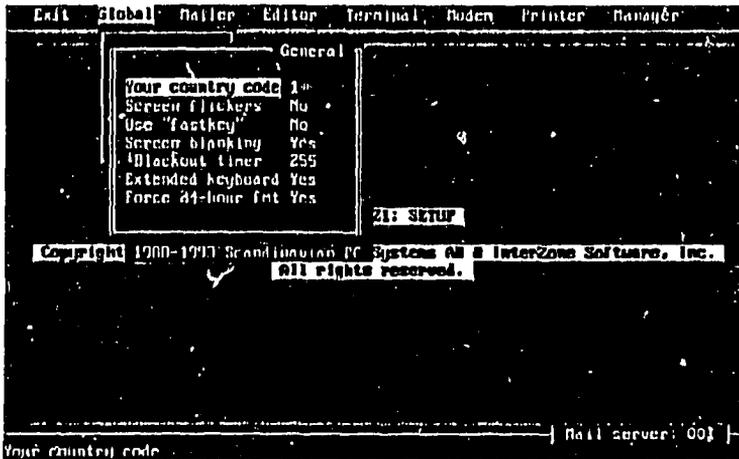
ADDRESS. Your FIDONET address is here, plus any additional address you may have. (Additional addresses are called A.K.A.= also known as)

FILENAMES. Contains a list of necessary files and the path where the files are located. These should not change. The setup should match the following:

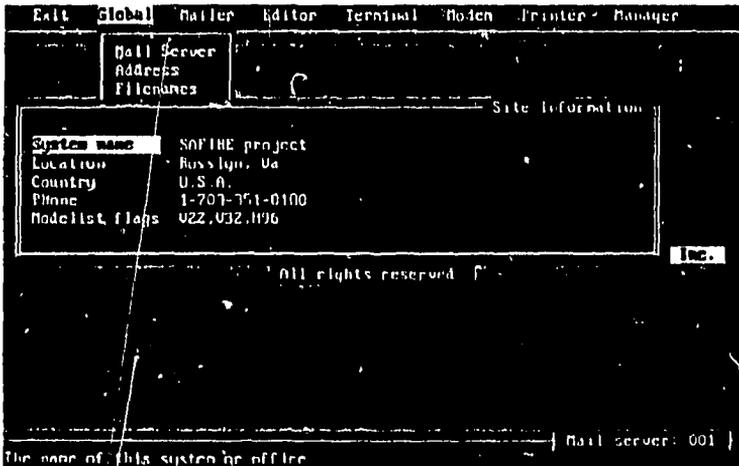


General

The next menu selection is **GENERAL** this area contains general site information.

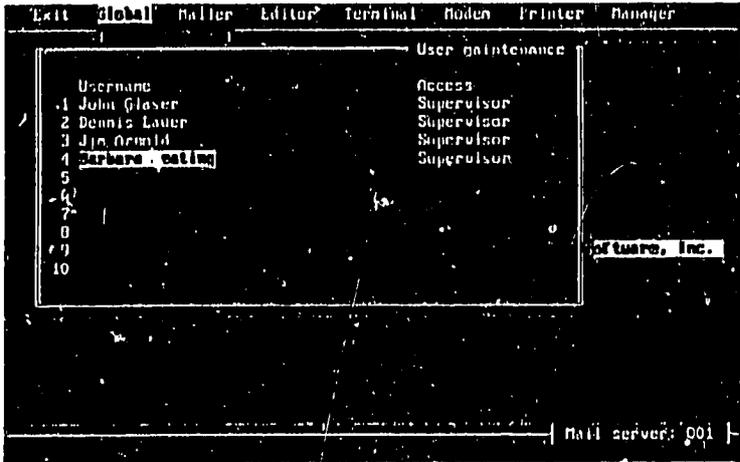


Arrow down to highlight the next selection **SITE INFO**. This is information about your site. Make sure the information entered pertains to your office environment. This information is the same information that will appear on the messages you create. The following is the Site Information for the **TRADENET/SAFIRE** Hub:



Press the <ESC> key to back out to the previous menu.

Users



The first name listed will appear on the messages being created.

You may add other users who will be operating the system in the following slots 2-10. When you create a message, you will be able to select any name you list here.

Mailer



Miscellaneous

Match the following configuration:

Exit	Global	Mail	Editor	Terminal	Modem	Printer	Manager
		Miscellaneous					
		Mail from unlisted systems				Yes	
		Mail from "unprotected" systems				Yes	
		Mail from unlisted points				Yes	
		Kill empty received messages				Yes	
		Terminal only (no mail)				No	
		Mail-only (no BBS)				No	
		Match remote's zone				Yes	
		Present all aoks to remote system				Yes	
		Trigger exit upon receipt of netmail				Yes	
		Upon receipt of ANY file				Yes	
		Print received messages				No	
		Busy retries				60	
		Reced retries				7	
		Retry delay				10	
		Delay before first call				No	
		Days to keep mail history				35	
		BBS software name				4th BBS	
		Seconds before passing to BBS				15	
		Minimum undeliable cost				50	

Copyright 1987

Ver: 001

Accept mail from systems not listed in your nodelist

Log

Match the following configuration:

Exit	Global	Mail	Editor	Terminal	Modem	Printer	Manager
		Log					
		! Fatal errors				Yes	
		? Other errors				Yes	
		\$ Accounting info				Yes	
		* Sent/Head files				Yes	
		: Forwarding of mail				Yes	
		• Brief messages				Yes	
		- Trivial messages				Yes	
		% Transfer throughput				Yes	
		• Session information				Yes	
		* Modem response				Yes	
		DEBUG: All of the above				No	

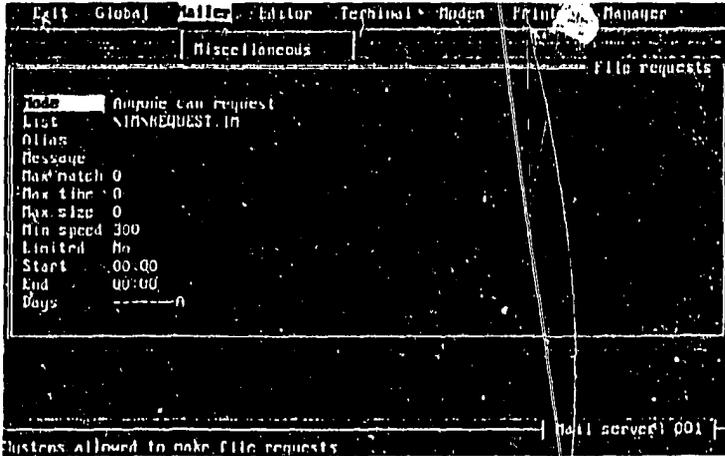
Copyright 1988

VerZona Software, Inc.

Mail server: 001

File requests

Match the following:



The Request.IM file must exist in the C:\IM Directory and must contain a list of directories that are requestable. For example:

```
C:\
C:\IM
C:\IM\NODELIST
C:\IM\INBOUND
C:\IM\FILES
```

This is where you make files available for others to request from your system. This function will allow the system administrator to request files from your system to assist with troubleshooting.

Other items

IM Server. The password should be ACIRFA, which is AFRICA spelled backwards. This also allows the system administrator to execute commands remotely.

External mail. There is not an entry for this selection.

Display. This should be set to the follow:

Mail waiting flashing	Yes
Display clock	Yes
Screen size	25

Colors. This is for adjusting the colors for the different display screens. Adjust to your specific desires or just use the defaults.

Hidden dial info. There are no entries for this selection.

Function keys. You may setup the function keys to execute commands from the Mailer screen. You will want to read up on this topic before creating function keys.

Errorlevels. These have been configured, do NOT change them. You will want to read more about Errorlevels.

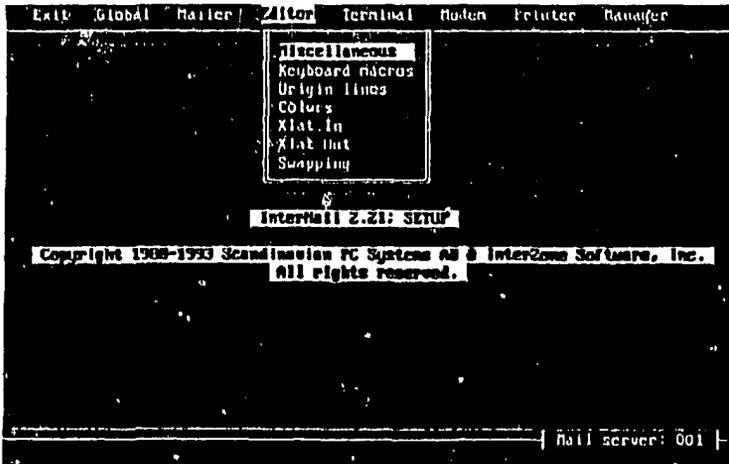
Audio control. This is for sound effects. Set to your preferences or use the defaults.

Swapping. This is for using extending memory when shelling to DOS, these should set to:

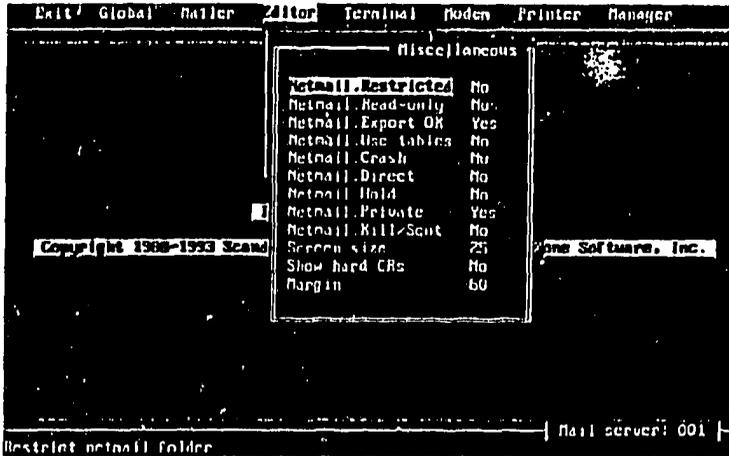
Swapping	Yes
Use XMS/EMS	Yes

Protection. This is for setting passwords to limit user access to certain utilities.

Editor



Miscellaneous. Match the following configuration:



Keyboard macros. This function allows you to setup a certain Function key to store a statement, such as "Regards, John Glaser."

You will want to read more about setting up Macros.

Terminal



command strings that seem to operate better from sites in Africa. This information is located in the Advanced Setup area.



Limited Answer Control

Some offices will have dedicated phone lines so their modem will be available at all times. But many offices do not have the available lines to dedicate to their modem and must share their modem with a phone line, or a fax line.

Some offices will disconnect the fax machine at lunch or at night and connect the modem. Then they are ready to SEND or RECEIVE a poll at the time arranged with the Hub coordinator.

Others will have the modem sharing the phone line. In this situation, you would not want the modem to answer during the day when you are using the phone the most. Therefore, we can specify in the SETUP program when to have our modem answer. We usually setup the modem to answer in the middle of the night when regular phone calls are not likely. Follow the instructions to setup the "Limited Answer" control.

*If you want your modem to answer at a specific time, or if you want it to answer ALL the time, then here is where the hours are set. If your phone line is shared with a phone or fax, then you may want to use the limited hours selection. (See section on Limited Hours.)

To answer all the time: Set limited hours to NO

To limit the time when the modem will answer: Set limited hours to YES.

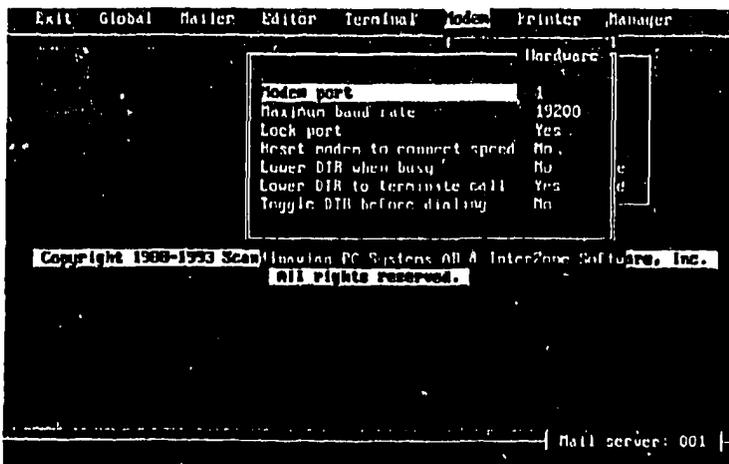
Then, enter the Starting time, which is when you want the modem to start answering the line and the ending time is when your modem will stop answering.

Advanced Setup



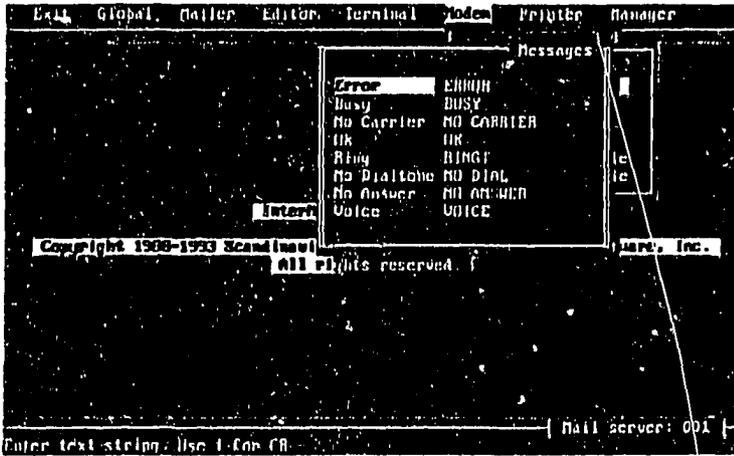
Hardware

Match the following configuration:

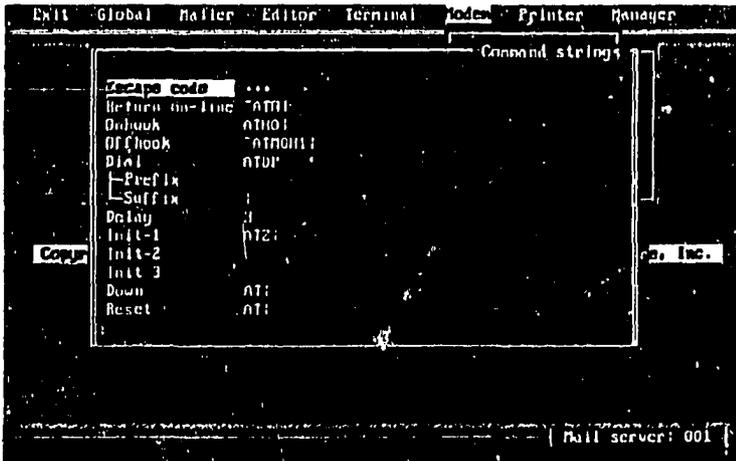


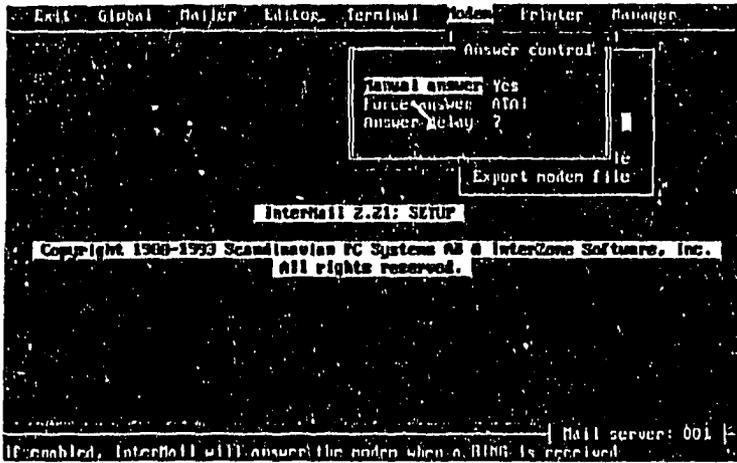
Messages

Match the following:



Command Strings





The remaining selections do not need adjusting.

Printer



Hardware

Match the following configuration:



The remaining selections under the Printer column do not need adjusting.

Manager



Events

#	T	Days	M	Start	Length	Min/Sec	Box	Address	Event manager
1	X	MTWTF--	*	09:36	00:01	232	-1	1:109/100	
2	U	MTWTF--	*	09:37	00:15	0	-1	1:109/100	
3	X	MTWTF--	*	10:00	00:01	233	-1	1:109/100	
4	X	MTWTF--	*	14:01	00:01	232	-1	1:109/100	
5	U	MTWTF--	*	14:04	00:40	0	-1	1:109/100	
6	X	MTWTF--	*	10:00	00:01	233	-1	1:109/100	

Mail server: 002
 Enter-Edit Space-Menu Ins-Add Del-Delete Esc-Exit Alt-C Comments

The "@" event must be present. This represents the programs pre-defined default event. We can also setup our own events. We can schedule an event to automatically poll a specific node at a certain time. You will want to read more about scheduling an event later.

Folders

#	Status	Users	Password	Title	Folder manager
1	EXI-Q--	*****	No	AFRICANA	
2	EXI-Q--	*****	No	AFRICA LINK	
3	EXI-Q--	*****	No	AUTO109/	
4	EXI-Q--	*****	No	BANDS	
5	EXI-Q--	*****	No	HIT LISTEN/DIPL L	
6	EXI-Q--	*****	No	BRIGADE	
7	EXI-Q--	*****	No	ECHO TRAINING	
8	EXI-Q--	*****	No	INTDEV	
9	EX-Q--	*****	No	RCVMAIL	
10	EXI-Q--	*****	No	SOFTWARE FLOWING	
11	EXI-Q--	*****	No	SOFTWARE SUPPORT	
12	EXI-Q--	*****	No	SOFERICA DRIFT HT	
13	EX-Q--	*****	No	SENTRAIL	
14	EXI-Q--	*****	No	SYSDAT103	
15	EXI-Q--	*****	No	SYSOP 109	

Mail server: 001
 Enter-Edit Space-Menu Ins-Add Del-Delete Esc-Exit F1-F12-Sort Alt-Delete

These are already setup for you. You should not have not to make any adjustments in this setup at all. But you should know, after your received mail has been viewed, the messages will be tossed into the RCVDMAIL FOLDER and mail that has been sent will be tossed into the SENTMAIL FOLDER. Remember, you can access these folders from the MESSAGE EDITOR by typing <ALT> F.

There are no more adjustments to make in the SETUP program.

In order to have your modem answer at whatever time you specify, you will need to make changes in the "IMSETUP" program.

Under the "Modem" column, select the "Limited Hours" selection:

Modem Selection

Limited hours

Advanced Setup

Limited hours NO

Starting time 00:00

Ending time 00:00

Now if you want the modem to answer at "ALL" times, set "Limited Hours" to "NO".

If you want the modem to answer at a specific time, set "Limited Hours" to "YES" and enter the time you wish the modem to begin answering at the "Starting time 00:00"; the time you wish the modem to stop answering incoming calls at the "Ending time 00:00". We do use the 24:00 time format.

Important files

The Nodelist Manager

The Nodelist is the file that contains the names and addresses of all the sites on the network. There is another program that is called the Nodelist Manager. The Nodelist manager is a program that allows you to manipulate the Nodelist file, and more. It also allows you to edit the other important files which control InterMail, such as the Routing file, and the control table.

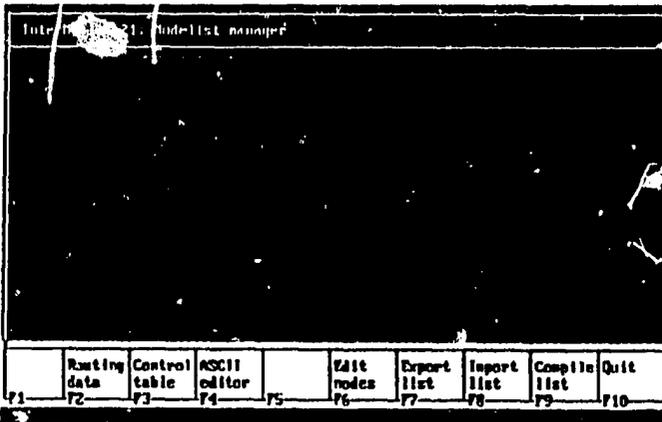
You can get to the Nodelist manager in two ways:

1. From DOS, change the directory to c:\im
Then type IMNC

or

2. Press <ALT-N> from the MAILER screen or <f10>.

You will see the menu below:



<F2> Routing data

Pressing <F2> will allow you to edit the "ROUTE.IM" file as described in "The Routing File" section ___. Briefly, the routing files tell InterMail how each message to a certain address will be sent, "by which route."

<F3> Control table

Pressing the <F3> key will allow you to edit the "FDNODE.CTL" file as described in the "The Automatic Dialer" section VI. The FDNODE.CTL file holds the commands that organize the Nodelist file, the directory of users.

<F4> ASCII editor

Pressing <F4> will allow you to edit any file specified, in InterMail, or any other file.

<F6> Edit nodes

Pressing the <F6> key will allow you to edit node information, information on each site in the Nodelist directly. The Nodelist will be updated automatically and will not need to be recompiled.

<F7> Export nodes ___

You will not need to make adjustments here.

<F8> Import lists ___

You will not need to make adjustments here.

<F9> Compile lists

Pressing <F9> will execute the Nodelist Compiler. InterMail uses the file FDNODE.CTL (described in the "The Automatic Dialer" section) to control how phone numbers will be called, and when they will be called. For instance, a number dialed from you office may need a 9 in front of it to get to an outside line. This would have to be noted in the FDNODE.CTL file so that InterMail can dial correctly. After making changes to FDNODE.CTL file, you must compile the Nodelist before the changes will take effect. What this means is that the changed information must be associated with all the numbers in the Nodelist. This is accomplished by compiling the list.

<F10> Quit

Pressing <F10> will allow you to exit the "Nodelist Manager."

The Automatic Dialer

How your system automatically dials

FDNODE.CTL, as was briefly mentioned in the last section, is the file that contains the information on two areas of your system, the Nodelist and point lists to be incorporated (like TRADENET.PTS) and how your system makes calls through the modem. For example, the whole number 1-703-235-5418 is written in the Nodelist. However, if this is a local call for your system, you do not need to dial 1-703. Through the FDNODE.CTL file, your system is told not to dial 1-703. The FDNODE.CTL file must be edited to include the correct dialing information for your country. The FDNODE.CTL file may be edited two ways:

1. From DOS c:\> a. type: `CD IM <enter>`
At c:\im\> b. type: `IMNC`
2. From the Mailer screen, Press <ALT-N> or <f10>.

The file FDNODE.CTL is located in the C:\IM\NODELIST directory. The FDNODE.CTL file actually controls two different areas:

- 1) The pointlists to incorporate.
- 2) The automatic dialer.

Here's an example of what the FDNODE.CTL file will look like:

```
Text View: C:\im\nodelist\fdnode.ctl Col 0 1,071 Bytes
POINTLIST C:\im\nodelist\NEWS.PTS
POINTLIST C:\im\nodelist\BROADB.PTS
POINTLIST C:\im\nodelist\GAFIRE.PTS
POINTLIST C:\im\nodelist\IMZO.PTS
POINTLIST C:\im\nodelist\WORKNET.PTS
POINTLIST C:\im\nodelist\PODIS.PTS
POINTLIST C:\im\nodelist\PRONG.PTS
POINTLIST C:\im\nodelist\SAFIRE.LST
pointlist \im\nodelist\sdswort.p
pointlist \im\nodelist\intl_dew.p
use zone

DIAL / 9,011~# International calls
1 202- 9,202 .DC strip prefix & AC
1 301- 9,301 .AD strip prefix & AC
1-703- 9, .VA strip prefix & AC
1- 9,1- .Long Distance

END
```

The first section contains the pointlists to incorporate.

A POINTLIST is a list of users who are not available 24 hrs a day, and use another system, a Node to relay messages. They must poll the Node to pickup their mail or have a scheduled time to have the Node dial their system.

Pointlists are obtained by requesting them from other FIDONET nodes that have a point list. You can request a POINTLIST file by sending a file request message to that system. This is explained in the InterMail Manual.

When you have POINTLIST files, they must be placed in the C:\IM\NODELIST\ directory and the filename and path must be specified in the FDNODE.CTL file as above. The POINTLIST filenames usually begin with the systems network such as SAFIRE and end with .PTS referring to points.

NOTE: (We have provided several pointlists for you, however, these files are updated frequently and you should become familiar with how to obtain other lists for future reference).

The second area controlled by the FDNODE.CTL file is the dialing information. In order for InterMail to correctly dial the many FIDONET sites located throughout the world, the main directory (NODELIST.XXX) must follow the same format of listing names addresses and phone numbers. Pointlists must also follow the same format. This format includes the country code and area code, but it does not include the extra digit that is used in many countries to dial long distance.

For example: a number in Maputo, Mozambique might be listed as 258-1-555555, but if I wanted to dial this number from the US, I would need to enter my international dialing code. The international dialing code from the US is 011. I also need to dial a 9 to obtain an outside line in my office. So, for InterMail to dial this number correctly from my office, I need to have the FDNODE.CTL file add 9,011 to all international numbers I need to dial. To do this you add the following in the FDNODE.CTL file:

After the statement Dial / add the following:
DIAL / 9,011/ ;International calls

Now the 9,011 will be placed in front of any number attempting to dial internationally. What this means is:

IF THIS

DIAL THIS + phone number

DIAL /

9,011/

An example for dialing a local number in the same area: a number in the 703 area code of the US might look like this in the Nodelist: 1-703-555-5555. If I wanted to call the number and I am in the same area code (703), I would need to dial 555-5555 stripping the 1-703, but, I also need to dial a "9" to obtain an outside line. Therefore, by placing the 1-703 at the left side of the statement and then moving over several spaces and placing a 9, (the comma indicates a pause) The program will strip the 1-703. As in the example shown below:

1-703 9, ; strip country & area code

Again, this means

IF THIS

DIAL THIS + phone number

1-703

9,

InterMail would now dial 9, 555-5555.

If I want to dial another number in the US in a different area code, such as 202, I still need to dial the 202. But, I need to strip the 1. I would use the following statement:

1-202 9, 202 ; strip country code

This would strip the 1-202 and replace with a 9, 202

END must be at the bottom of the statement so the program knows there is nothing more to process.

This file can be confusing at first, it may take some experimenting before getting the program correctly

setup and we encourage you to experiment. You cannot damage the program by experimenting with it. However, make a copy of the original FDNODE.CTL to FDNODE.BAK before editing.

NOTE: Just because you make changes to this file does not mean that they take effect right away. You must **COMPILE** the Nodelist, which actually writes the changes to the Nodelist database making them permanent. This function can be executed from the Nodelist Manager. Select <F9> to compile the list.

The Routing File

How your messages know where to go

The file that controls how your mail is sent is called the ROUTE.IM file. Routing means the path your messages take to reach their final destination. The ROUTE.IM file is located in the C:\IM\SYSTEM directory. The file may be edited in the NODELIST MANAGER (SEE NODELIST MANAGER section) or by using the DOS EDIT command.

The following example will allow all messages and files to be placed on HOLD and ROUTED to the Washington Hub, 1:109/183.

```
SENDTO ALL ; qualify all sites for mail
HOLD ALL ; default all mail to hold
ROUTE TO 1:109/183 ALL ; default all mail to Washington
ROUTE FILES 1:109/183 ALL ; route files through Washington
Schedule @
```

There are many other statements we can use to direct our messages in different ways. Here are a few examples and their definitions:

SEND-TO: Qualifies all sites for sending mail, this must be present.

HOLD: Places all mail on Hold for the nodes specified and waits for them to pick up their mail.

EXCEPT: Depending on what statement this command follows determines how the except statement works. For example, in the following statement:

```
HOLD ALL
EXCEPT 5:432/1
```

This statement will place all mail on Hold except for mail addressed to 5:432/1, which will be called immediately.

In another example:

```
SEND-TO ALL
```

EXCEPT 5:432/1

This statement will qualify all sites for sending mail except address 5:432/1, which will be disqualified and mail will not be sent to that address.

ROUTE-TO: defines an alternate route for messages addressed for certain nodes. For example:

```
ROUTE-TO 1:109/183 ALL
```

This will allow all mail no matter who it is addressed to, to be sent to address 1:109/183. Another example:

```
ROUTE-TO 1:109/183 5:761/1
```

This will allow just mail addressed to 5:761/1 to be routed to 1:109/183.

In the above examples, the first address after the ROUTE-TO statement, 1:109/183 is the address to where the mail will be sent. The second address 5:761/1 or ALL is the address or address's selected to have their mail routed.

Let's look at another example:

```
ROUTE TO 1:109/183 ALL  
EXCEPT 1:109/151
```

In this example, all mail is selected to be sent to 1:109/183 except mail address to 1:109/151 that will be sent directly to them.

ROUTE-FILES: This command is identical to the ROUTE-TO statement except it allows files to be routed. For example:

```
ROUTE-FILES 1:109/183 ALL
```

This statement allows ALL files to be sent on your system to be sent to 1:109/183

SCHEDULE @: This statement must be present, it represents the programs pre-defined default event.

There are more routing statements. The several examples above are the ones most frequently used.

GEcho

What is GEcho?

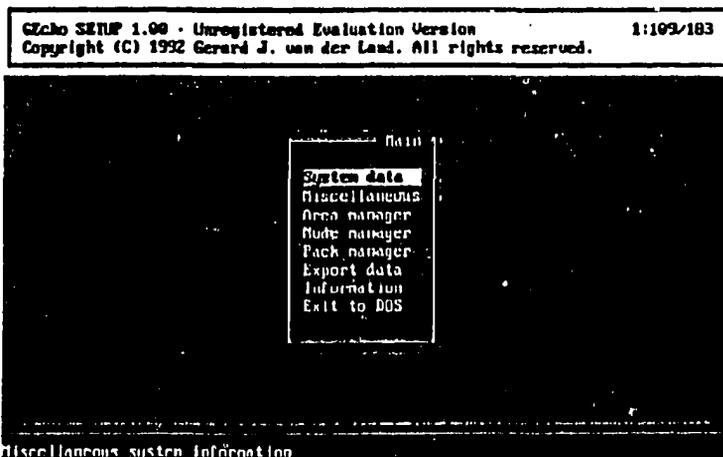
GEcho is a FIDONET compatible utility that unpacks compressed mail files, tosses and forwards inbound mail, imports NetMail, routes and packs outbound NetMail, processes and forwards AreaFix requests. It also compresses the created outbound mail packets, all in one single pass.

We have setup your system with a SENTMAIL folder and a RVCMAIL folder. When mail has either been SENT or RECEIVED, this program will TOSS the mail into the appropriate folder.

Here is how we setup the Folders:

GSETUP

When typing GSETUP, the Main Menu will appear:



System Data Menu

Highlight the System data selection and press enter.

The following menu will appear:

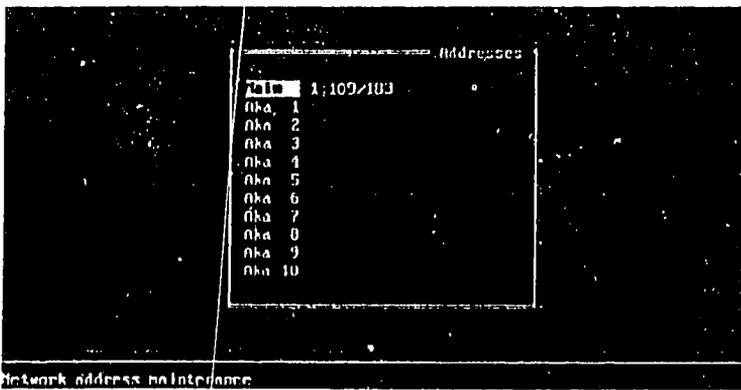
GEcho SETUP 1.00 - Unregistered Evaluation Version 1:109/183
Copyright (C) 1992 Gerard J. van der Laan. All rights reserved.



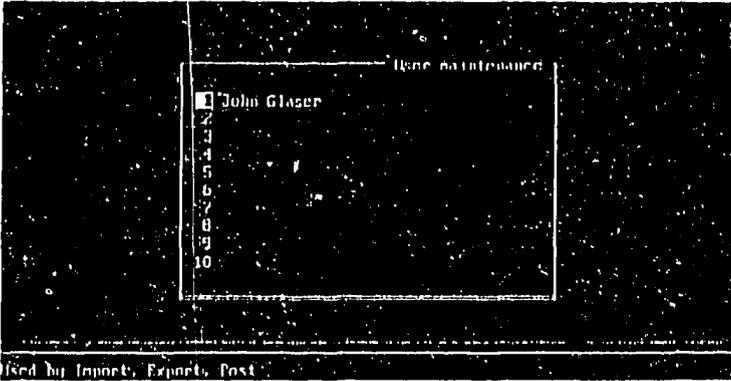
Network addresses

This where your FIDONET address(s) are placed.

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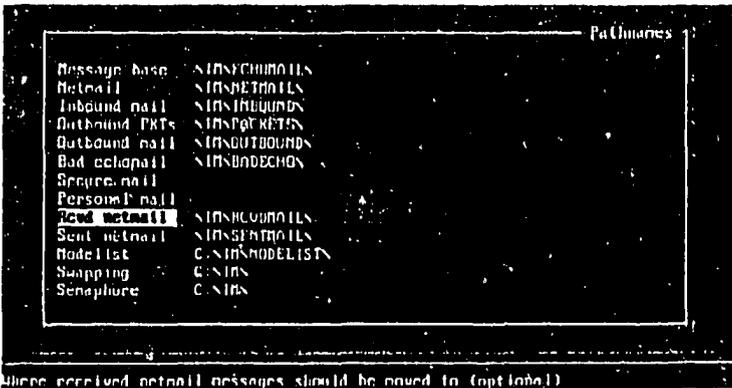


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Pathnames

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The path and directory where different types of mail are located.

Message base \\IM\ECHOMAIL\

Where the Hudson Message Base is located

NetMail \\IM\NETMAIL\

Where incoming and outgoing netmail messages are stored

Inbound mail \IM\INBOUND\
Where incoming compressed mail files are stored

Outbound PKTs \IM\PACKETS\
Where outbound mail packets (.QQQ files) should temporarily be stored

Outbound mail \IM\OUTBOUND\
Where outbound compressed mail files should be stored.

Bad echomail \IM\BADECHO\
Where bad echomail is stored (security violation/unknown areas).

Secure mail
Packets tossed from this path are not checked for security or local status.

Personal mail
Where received personal echomail messages should be copied to (optional).

Rcvd netmail \IM\RVCVDMAIL\
Where received netmail messages should be moved to (optional).

Sent netmail \IM\SENTMAIL\
Where sent netmail messages should be moved to (optional).

Nodelist C:\IM\NODELIST\
Where the Nodelist files are stored. Used by PM and PMNC.

Swapping C:\IM\
Where the swap file GECHO.SWP can be stored if you enabled disk swapping.

Semaphore C:\IM\
Where semaphore files should be created.

Filenames



The name and location of GEcho's log files

Echo log \IM\SYSTEM\GECHO.LOG

The name and location of GEcho's log file.

Mgr log \IM\SYSTEM\AREAMGR.LOG

AreaMgr log file - The GEcho log file will be used if blank.

MBUTIL log \IM\SYSTEM\MBUTIL.LOG

MBUTIL log file - The GEcho log file will be used if blank.

Areas file \IM\SYSTEM\AREAS.BBS

The name and location of your AREAS.BBS style file.

Compression Programs

Used to create/update and unpack compressed mail files.

F10-Default compression.

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```
Compression programs
-----
PKZIP -a
PKZIP -a -c -m1 -s -t0 -y
LZH LH0 A /Z81
PAK PAK a /L /ST
ZIP PKZIP -ao
SQZ SQZ a /40 /ZJ
U
9
10
GUS (*)

PKZIP
PKZIP -c -y
LZH LZH -y
PAK E /m
PKZIP -os -ed
SQZ SQZ
SQZ E /ul
```

Used to create/update and unpack compressed archive files. F10=Default compression

Origin lines

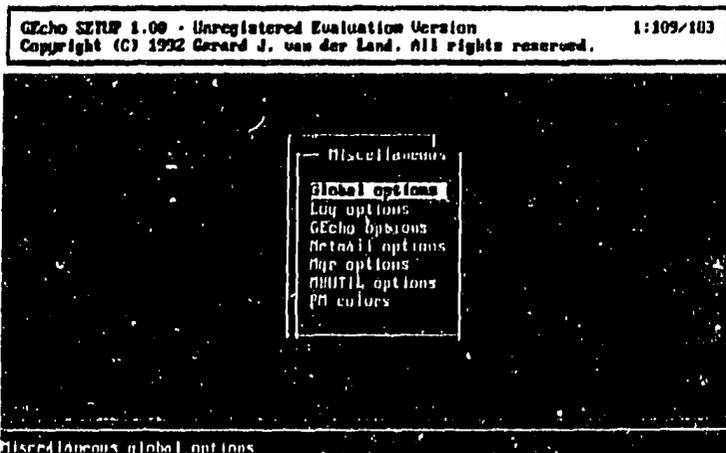
Origin lines appended to echomail messages. You may enter up to twenty.

```
GEcho Copyr Origin Lines: 183
-----
1 SAFIRE Project
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
```

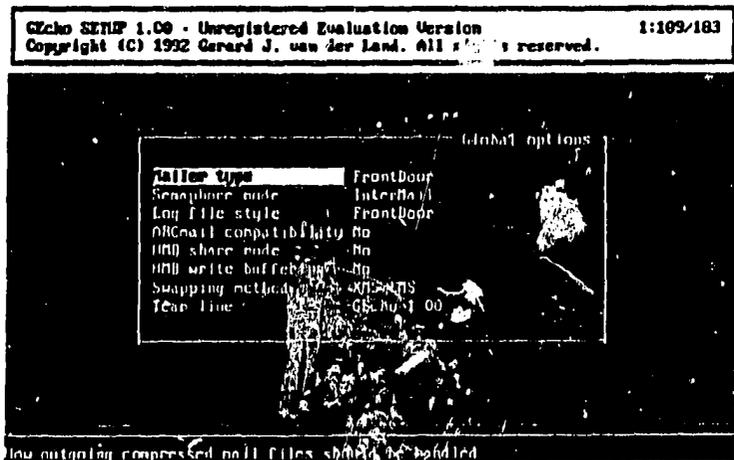
Origin lines appended to echomail messages

The next selection in the Main Menu is:

Miscellaneous



Global Options



Mailer type FrontDoor
How outgoing compressed mail files should be handled.

Semaphore mode InterMail
Which semaphore mode should be used for netmail rescans, etc.

Log file style **FrontDoor**
Which log file format should be used.

ARCmail compatibility **No**
If the ARCmail 0.60 naming convention should be used for out-of-zone mail

HMB share mode **No**
How the Hudson Message Base should be opened and shared

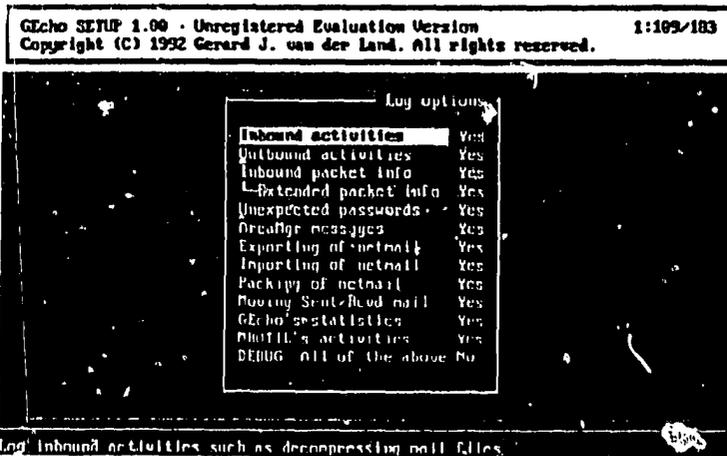
HMB write buffering **No**
Use buffer to write to the Hudson message base (requires 100 KB memory)

Swapping method **XMS/EMS**
How swapping should be done (possibilities listed in order of priority)

Tear line **GEcho 1.00**
Text that MBUTIL Export -Reteat should put on the tear line

Log options

Match the following configuration:



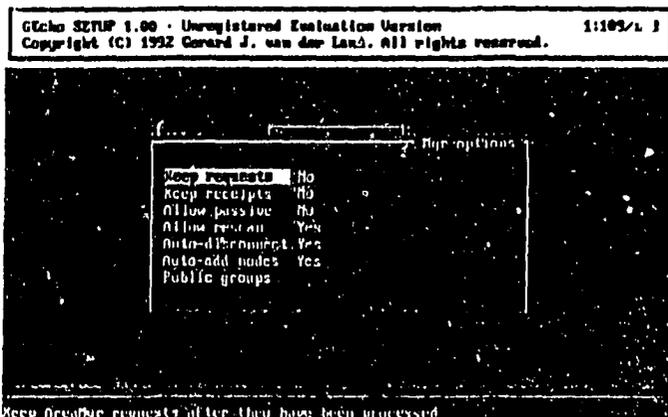
GEcho options



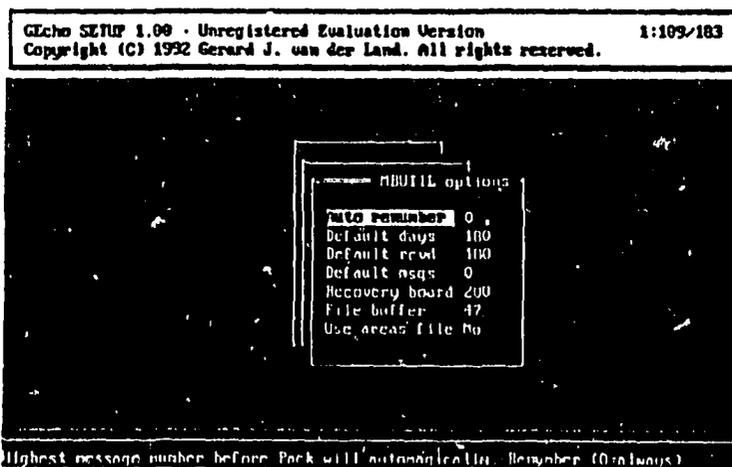
NetMail options



Mgr. options



MButil options



Area Manager

A menu will appear at the bottom of the screen.

This is where your Send and Received mail folders are setup. These folders have been setup for you. To create a folder press Ins, to edit an existing folder, press <enter>.

This is an example of my Received mail folder.

```

View 13/15 Area manager
Area name SENTMAIL
Comment SENTMAIL
Area type ActMail
Format = MSG
Path C:\INSENMAILS
Group =
Options Security Yes      Disconnected No      Notified No
          Check SD No      Import SD No          Trim SD No
          Mandatory No     No PASSIVE No        Visible No
          Allow Pst No     Del Future n/a       Keep SysOp n/a
Forge info Days old 0      Days read 0          Max msgs 0
Originator SA IRE Project
Origin ORG 1 109/103
Seen-By 1 109/103
Export TEXT
    
```

Enter-Edit Ins-Add Del-Delete F2-Global F4-Find F5-Browse Esc-Exit

Here is a copy of my SENTMAIL Area Folder

```

View 13/15 Area manager
Area name SENTMAIL
Comment SENTMAIL
Area type ActMail
Format = MSG
Path C:\INSENMAILS
Group =
Options Security Yes      Disconnected No      Notified No
          Check SD No      Import SD No          Trim SD No
          Mandatory No     No PASSIVE No        Visible No
          Allow Pst No     Del Future n/a       Keep SysOp n/a
Forge info Days old 0      Days read 0          Max msgs 0
Originator SA IRE Project
Origin ORG 1 109/103
Seen-By 1 109/103
Export list
    
```

Enter-Edit Ins-Add Del-Delete F2-Global F4-Find F5-Browse Esc-Exit

The remaining selections do not need adjustment.

NOTE: After setting up this area, you must then make sure the same information is located in the IMSETUP program under the Manager column and in the Folder selection.

Here is a copy of the IMSETUP Folder selection in InterMail.

Highlight the rcvdmil line and press enter,

This menu will appear:

#	Status	Users	Password	Title
1	EX1-Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	AFRICANA
2	EX1-Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	AFRICA_LINK
3	EX1-Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	AUTO109
4	EX1-Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	UNDECIO
5	EX1-Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	HIT_LISTSERV.DEVEL.L
6	EX1-Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	BRIGADE
7	EX1-Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	ECHO TRAINING
8	EX1-Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	INTREV
9	EX1-Q--	AAAA	No	RCVDMIL
10	EX1-Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	SAFE_PLANNING
11	EX1-Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	SAFE_SUPPORT

Status	
Origin	SAFE Project
Title	RCVDMIL
Path	C:\IM\RCVDMIL\
Users	1 2 3 4
Password No	
Disc QAN	1:1/1/1/1

Status, type and restrictions of folder.

Notice that the path C:\IM\RCVDMIL\, is the same as in the Gsetup program.

Highlight the Status line and press enter and view the following menu: Match the following configuration.

#	Status	Users	Password	Title
1	EXI--Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	AFRICANA
2	EXI--Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	AFRICA_LINK
3	EXI--Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	AUTOLOG
4	EXI--Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	BONDECHO
5	EXI--Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	HIT_LISTSERV_DEVEL
6	EXI--Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	BHICODE
7	EXI--Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	ECHO_TRAINING
8	EXI--Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	INTREV
9	EXI--Q--	AAAA	No	ICUDMAIL
10	EXI--Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	SOFTWARE_Planning
11	EXI--Q--	AAAAAAAAAA	No	SOFTWARE_SUPPORT

Status Origin: SOFTWARE:Project Title: ICUDMAIL Path: C:\MSKUDMAILS Users: 1 2 3 4 Password: No Use OK: 1:100/100	Status Restricted Echo Info Export OK Echomail Local Translate Hudson-Int Private Read-only
--	---

Status, type and restrictions of folder Space-Toggle

At the DOS prompt, if you type Gecho, you will see the following list of commands and their description.

Usage:

GEcho <commands> [switches]

Commands:

- Scan Export echomail and netmail
- Toss Process inbound mail
- Import Import netmail to Hudson message base
- Mgr Process AreaMgr requests
- Notify Send notify lists to nodes
- Fack Route and pack netmail
- Run 'GEcho ?' To get information about [switches].

If you type gecho ? you will see a list of switches:

Switches:

- Force Force complete HMB scan
- Quick Only scan HMB for outgoing mail if necessary
- NoMark Don't update High Water Marks
- IgnoreMark Ignore High Water Marks
- NoDupe Disable duplicate checking
- NoForward Disable echomail forwarding
- NoMgr Disable AreaMgr processing
- NoPwd Disable packet password checking

-NoSent	Don't mark exported echomail as Sent
-TossBad	Process bad echomail messages
-NoIntransit	Don't pack netmail with in-transit status
-NoLocal	Don't pack netmail with local status
-<status>	Pack netmail w/ <Crash Hold Orphan> status
-Flags	Pack netmail with ^aFLAGS field

Run 'GEcho' to get information about <commands>.

This can be a little confusing at first. You may want to refer to the Gecho.doc file located on your computer for additional explanations. Once the system has been configured, (it should already be properly configured) changes will not be necessary often.

Redirect

We have provided you with the program ReDirect. This is a FidoNet compatible utility that basically redirects mail to another FidoNet address, addressee name, destination node, or both.

The ReDirect Configuration file is called REDIR.CFG

The contents of REDIR.CFG are as follows:

The following information is required —

Address

SysOp

Your name

Mail

Here is an example of the first section of my configuration file:

Address	1:109/183
SysOp	John Glaser
Mail	C:\IM\NETMAIL
LogFile	C:\IM\REDIR.LOG

The rest of the file is a series of mail redirection commands.

For example:

```
ReDirect <from_where> to <to_where>
```

REDIR only works on the "addressee" fields on netmail addresses; the <from_where> above is the addressee's name and/or net/node number, and the <to_where> is the address to which these details are to be changed.

When an addressee's name is specified, and this contains multiple

words, you must use an underline character instead of a space separator; for example,

David Nugent would be entered as David_Nugent

Failure to do this will usually result in the first name being skipped and not used as part of the search.

You can include comments within the .CFG file when a line is preceded by a semicolon (;).

We have setup some TRADENET sites that only have Internet addresses. But we wanted you to be able to view these sites from the InterMail Message Editor. So we gave these sites a dummy address and ReDirected the dummy address to their Internet address.

For example:

```
;1000,Univ_Pretoria_Johan_Van_Zyl,South_Africa,  
Internet_tradenet,Redirect 1:109/183.1000  
to jvanzyl@agric.up.ac.za 1:109/183.9
```

In this example, the Univ of Pretoria is set-up with an address of 1:109/183.1000. Then when the ReDirect program runs, it will change the address to jvanzyl@agric.up.ac.za 1:109/183.9

NOTE: The address 1:109/183.9 is the SAFIRE INTERNET GATEWAY to the INTERNET.

Here are some more examples:

```
;  
;1001,Univ_Cape_Towne_Alán_Hirsch,South_Africa,  
Internet_tradenet
```

```
ReDirect 1:109/183.1001 to  
aesmew@bremner.aac.ac.za 1:109/183.9
```

```
;  
;1002,Univ_Western_Cape_Peter_Vale,South_Africa,  
eru@eru_und_ac_za,Internet_trade
```

```
net
```

```
ReDirect 1:109/183.1002 to  
eru@eru.und.ac.za 1:109/183.9
```

```
;  
;1004,AERC_Protus_Muteshi,AERC@eici_gn_apc_org,  
Kenya,Internet_tradenet
```

```
ReDirect 1:109/183.1004 to  
aerc@eici.gn.apc.org 1:109/183.9
```

You can also use Flags

Message flags

Additional switches may be used on redirection lines to modify message attributes.

/Private	Marks message as private (or privileged, if you prefer - both start with "PR")
/Crash	Mark message as crash (immediate send)
/Normal	The message is released from either crash or hold
/Hold	The message is held for pickup, not sent
/Direct	Send message directly if the destination is in another zone, zonegate routing is avoided if the /Zonegate switch is not used.
/Sent	Marks the message as having been sent. This will absolutely prevent ANY transmission of the message.

For additional information, refer to the ReDir.txt file on your system.

Modem configuration and troubleshooting

A "Modem" is a piece of equipment that connects a computer to a data transmission line (such as a telephone line). There are many different types of modems and the range of speed that they transmit data. We use modems that transmit data ranging from 1200 bits per second to 19,200 bits per second. There are internal modems that are located inside the computer, and external modems that will be placed in a convenient location next to your computer or monitor. There must be a data line attached to the modem and also to a junction box usually located on the wall.

The modem has many configuration options. There are also modem configuration options within the "InterMail Setup" program. This configuration tells the InterMail program how to communicate with the modem.

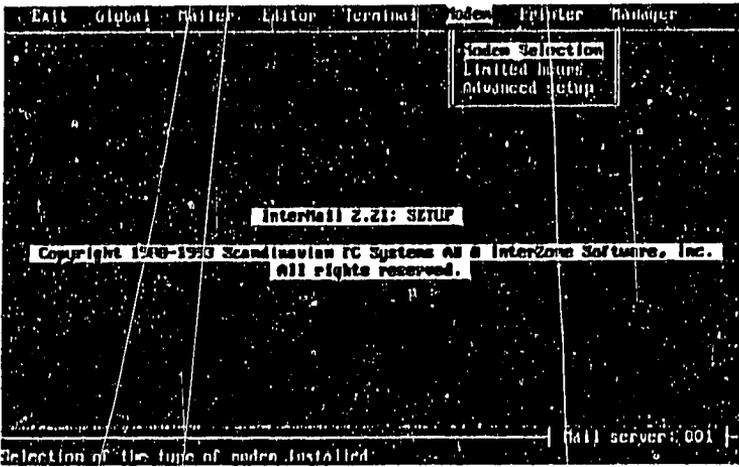
We can view the "InterMail Setup" modem configuration option by accessing the InterMail setup program,

- 1.) From the (C:\IM\) directory, type "IMSETUP"
- 2.) From the "Mailer Screen", type ALT-C, or <f10> for menus.

By executing either one of these commands, you will be presented with the "InterMail Setup" program.

The InterMail setup program

Arrow over to the "Modem" column and highlight the "Advanced" selection and press <enter>.



You will then be presented with the following menu:

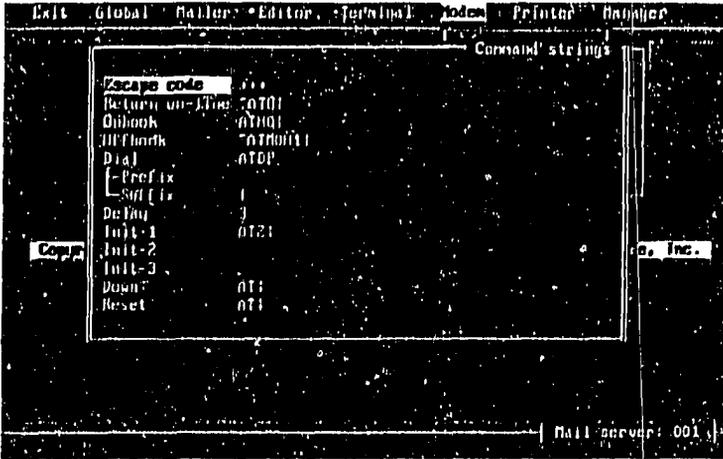
Advanced setup



Arrow down to the "Command strings" selection and press enter.

You will then see the following options: These statements and commands define the command strings that InterMail uses to

communicate with the modem.



The screenshot shows a terminal window with a menu at the top: "Exit Global Mailer Editor Terminal Modem Printer Mailer". The main content is a list of modem command strings:

```
Escape code      |
Return on-line  | 0000
Dialhook        | 0000
Dialhook        | 000000
Dial            | 0000
[- Prefix       |
[- Suffix       |
Delay           |
Init-1          | 0000
Init-2          | 0000
Init-3          | 0000
Down           | 0000
Reset          | 0000
```

At the bottom right, it says "Mail server: 000".

This can be quite confusing at first. Once you become familiar with the commands, it will become easier to understand. The InterMail manual provided for you has a complete list of these commands and their functions. I will explain a few of the important ones below.

DIAL - ATDT following the "DIAL" statement means "Attention Dial Tone" (If your system uses a pulse dial, you will want to use the "ATDP" command) this means "Attention Dial Pulse."

Init-1 - This stands for the Initialization strings sent to the modem, They are sent in order Init-1, Init-2, Init-3 every time the mailer initializes the modem. We put in the command "ATZ.1" This tells the InterMail program to read the modems internal commands. The modems internal commands are stored in the modem's memory and cannot be erased or modified accidentally.

AT — this command means Attention

| — this command signifies a carriage return. (press <enter>)

Viewing the Modems Internal Setup

To view the modems internal setup or "Profile" as we call it, you must be at the "Mailer Screen." Press "ALT-J" to enter the "Terminal Mode" this is where the modem's stored profile is located. First we will need to verify if the characters are being

displayed, we call this being "Echo'd."

press "AT" and press enter,

You should see the letters A,T being displayed and then an OK should appear.

If the letters do not appear, we will need to turn the "ECHO" on. to turn echo on press:

```
ATE1@W
```

And press <enter>. Now try to press AT again, and verify that the echo command has been turned on.

If the characters are being displayed, we can continue to view the profile.

To view the profile press:

```
ATI 4
```

This will display the profile. To edit any of the commands, you must type:

"AT — then the command to change, then @W to Write the change to memory.

For example:

If the sound control of my modem is set to "M0," that means that the sound is always off. If I would like to have sound turned on until I connect, I would enter:

```
ATM1@W
```

Press <enter>. This will change the sound control to leave the speaker on until a connection is established.

The other statements are:

M0 = speaker off

M1 = speaker on until connect

M2 = speaker always on

M3 = speaker on after dial, through connect.

There are many commands that can effect the way you modem behaves.

You will want to review you modem manual to become more familiar with these statements.

The following profile is one that I use and one used in the field.
We may have to try a different configuration depending on your environment.

```
at14
USRobotics Sportster 14400 Settings...
B0 E1 F1 M1 Q0 V1 X4
BAUD=38400 PARITY=N WORDLEN=8
DIAL=PULSE ON HOOK
&A2 &B1 &C1 &D2 &G0 &H3 &I0 &K3
&M4 &N0 &P0 &R2 &S0 &T5 &Y1
S00=000 S01=000 S02=043 S03=013 S04=010
S05=008 S06=002
S07=060 S08=002 S09=006 S10=007 S11=070
S12=050 S13=000
S14=000 S15=000 S16=000 S17=000 S18=000
S19=000 S20=000
S21=010 S22=017 S23=019 S24=000 S25=005
S26=000 S27=000
S28=008 S29=020 S30=000 S31=000 S32=000
S33=000 S34=006
S35=000 S36=000 S37=000 S38=000 S39=000
S40=000 S41=000
S42=000 S43=000 S44=015 S45=000 S46=000
S47=000 S48=000
S49=000 S50=000 S51=000
```

Internet

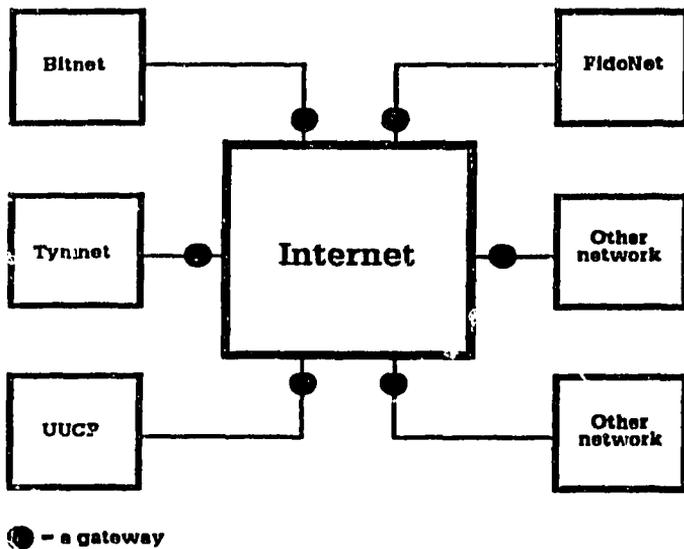
Internet

The "Internet" is a collection of different networks that work together as one large network. In other words, the Internet is a

world-wide "network of networks" that are connected to each other, using the "IP" protocol and other similar protocols. The Internet provides file transfer, remote login, electronic mail, news and other services.

Gateway

Each network is independently connected to the Internet through a "Gateway." A "gateway" allows a computer system to transfer data to another computer system that uses a different computer language. Using the English language, for an example, I send a message written in English to a person who only speaks Italian. The gateway would re-write the message from the English format to an Italian format and deliver the message. The same concept is used for the many different networks in the world no matter what technology there are using.



IP

The term "IP" stands for "Internet Protocol." It allows a packet to travel over multiple networks to reach its final destination.

The SAFIRE FidoNet Hub now has its own Internet Gateway. Now our FidoNet sites can send a message to anyone that has Internet access. There is not an address book for all the users of the Internet. It would be impossible to maintain such a record as there are many additions and deletions every day. Basically, you will need to know who you want to communicate with and have their proper Internet address. You will also need to know your own Internet address to inform people on how to send you a message.

Addressing the Internet

The following is information on how to address mail from a FidoNet site through the gateway to the Internet. The people in the TRADENET list that have TRADENET-INTERNET in their name do not need to be sent especially to the Internet. Please note that the regular FIDO gateway does not yet allow file attachments. If you need to send a file to someone on the Internet, contact us for specific instructions.

We setup the FidoNet address 1:109/183.9 to be the default address to the Internet. All mail addressed to this FidoNet address will be routed to the Internet gateway, providing the Internet address listed is valid.

Originating a message

You must use the following format when addressing an Internet user:

Userid@domain

For example: if you are creating a message to George Simon, and his userid is "simong", and his domain is "unicc.bitnet", use the following format:

To: simong@unicc.bitnet

Your mailer software will open up a "comma field," since it won't recognize an address like the above as a FIDONET Address. In that comma field enter ".9" to direct your message through the SAFIRE Gateway (point .9).

NOTE: your Internet address must contain an userid, "@" sign and a domain.

Mail to "simon" will fail.

Mail to "unicc.bitnet" will fail.

Mail to "simong@unicc.bitnet" will succeed.

Replying to a message from the Internet

If you are replying to a message from the Internet, for the time being, be prepared to rewrite the address that you get by default. Usually the "ALT-R" command will re-write the originating persons name and address. This will not work for all Internet addresses.

step 1) Hit alt R to reply to the message

step 2) enter your text as you normally would

—BUT—after entering your text, hit "Alt D" (for change destination), and rewrite the reply address getting rid of any "!" characters in the address.

You must arrive at a standard userid@domain format.

For example, if you receive a message from Abdulla, whose Internet address is actually abdulla@unicc.bitnet, the "By" line may look like this:

```
By: usaid.gov!CEARN.cern.ch!ABDULLA&UNI,  
SAFIRE Project (109/183.9)
```

When you press "ALT-R" to reply to the message, it will place this information on the "To" line:

```
To: usaid.gov!CEARN.cern.ch!ABDULL, SAFIRE  
Project (109/183.9)
```

What you need to do is re-write the address.

```
To: abdulla@unicc.bitnet (with .9 in the "comma  
field", of course)
```

```
=====
```

```
Sending Mail From the Internet to SAFIRE
```

```
=====
```

The SAFIRE FidoNet users won't directly use this feature, but you need to know how mail from the Internet is to be addressed to reach you on the SAFIRE system.

Your Internet address on SAFIRE is in the following format:

```
SAFIRE!first.last@prancer.usaid.gov
```

Let's look at this:

"SAFIRE" is the network,

"!first.last" is your name (or your site name) and

"prancer.usaid.gov" is the host site through which SAFIRE gets its connection to the internet.

For the moment, because we do not have a complete list of users at your every site, we are using, "Site name" for the first name in the address and "your city or country" as the last name, so for example, all users at WFP Maputo are reached with the following Internet address:

To: SAFIRE!wfp.maputo@prancer.usaid.gov

Another example: all users at WFP Ethiopia are reached with:

To: SAFIRE!wfp.ethiopia@prancer.usaid.gov