UnixWorld ‘‘New To Unix’’ Column: October 1988: Listings

Listing 1. Electronic mail is an important UNIX system service

A. Use the UNIX mail command to read your mail:

```
log-in sequence
You have mail
$ mail
>From dab Mon Oct 12 18:06 MDT 1988
Don’t forget to write the intro for the C language training brochure.
I need it by tomorrow morning if I’m to get the material to the printer
in time.

Thanks
Doris
? d
$ []
```

B. If you don’t remember what to do while using the mail program, type a question mark to display an on-line help message that summarizes mail commands. Here’s a typical display:

```
q               quit
x               exit without changing mail
p               print
s [file]        save (default mbox)
w [file]        same without header
-               print previous
d               delete
+               next (no delete)
m (user)        mail to user
! cmd           execute cmd
```

C. To send mail to another user, type "mail" with the use’s log-in name as an argument. Type the text of the message followed by a dot (.) or Control-D on a line by itself.

```
$ mail dab
Thanks for the reminder, Doris. I just sent the intro in a
separate mailing. If you have any problems with it, let me know.

Bye,
Augie
.
$ []
```

D. The mail program commands allows you to address mail to more than one user and to take text from a file via redirection:

```
$ mail dab viv ddc < new_procs
$ []
```

Listing 2: An example (fictional) UUCP-network

A. System interconnections among a group of Unix systems are obtained via direct and dial-up UUCP connections.

```
+---------+  +--------+  +--------+  +--------+
| site1   |--| site2  |--| backa  |--| site3  |-- jones
+---------+  +--------+  +--------+  +--------+
    |                        |
  mary                   +--------+  +--------+
                         | backb  |--| site4  |-- sparks
                         +--------+  +--------+
                             |
                           candy
```

B. Here are some sample mail paths between users on this network:

```
mary to jones:     site2!backa!site3!jones
mary to sparks:    site2!backb!site4!sparks
candy to mary:     backa!site2!site!mary
```

C. Equivalent Internet-style addressing. (Note: we need to convert each machine host name to a valid Internet domain name by tacking on a valid domain. Here we use ‘‘.com’’ for simplicity.)

```
mary to jones:     jones@site3.com
mary to sparks:    sparks@site4.com
candy to mary:     mary@site.com
```

Edited by Becca Thomas / Online Editor / UnixWorld Online / editor@unixworld.com

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