Gun Gotham Users of NeXT
BULLETin
The New Y ork NeXT Users Group December 1991

Setting Your Mail Return Address

by Tim Reed

You may include a special “Reply-to” label in your outgoing e-mail messages to specify a different return address from the workstation you’re sending e-mail from; this is useful if the you wants replies to arrive at a different site (like home, work, a different mail domain, etc.). Changing the Reply-to address usually requires editing complicated sendmail configuration files, and shouldn’t be attempted by novice or intermediate computer users. However, it is possible for you to reset your Reply-to address yourself using the following methods.

Mail.app uses /usr/lib/sendmail as the delivery agent for all outgoing mail. To insert your own Reply-to address, create a shell script “wrapper” for sendmail that first prepends the Reply-to address to your outgoing mail message, and then sends your message with the new Reply-to address to the real sendmail.

Enter the following shell commands in your favorite editor:

```
#!/bin/sh
if test -f ${HOME}/.reply-to ; then
  REPLY="`cat ${HOME}/.reply-to`"
fi
(
if test -n "${REPLY}" ; then
  echo "Reply-to: ${REPLY}"
fi
cat -
) | /usr/lib/sendmail "$*"
```

Save the new file file as “.sendmail-wrapper” in your home directory.

Bring up Tools->Inspector from the Workspace and make “.sendmail-wrapper” executable.

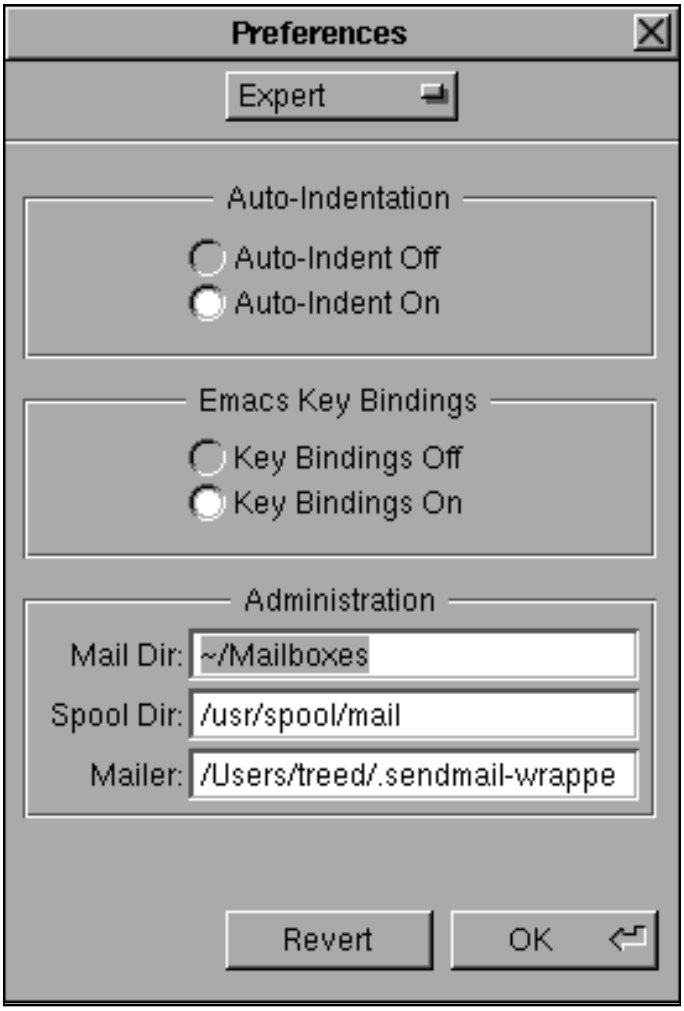
“.sendmail-wrapper” looks for your return address in a file in your home directory called “.reply-to”. Create a new file and insert your Reply-to address, and save the file as “.reply-to” in your home directory.

My “.reply-to” file contains the following line:

Timothy Reed <nobugs!treed@uunet.uu.net>

so that replies to my e-mail gets routed to my home even when I’m sending mail from a customer site.

Launch /NextApps/Mail.app, click Info->Preferences, and select the Expert item on the pull down list (see illustration).



Type in the full path of your .sendmail-wrapper script in the Mailer field. Don’t use ~yourname, because (unlike the Mail Dir field) this field does not understand the '~' wild card character. Click OK when you’re done.

Send yourself some test mail. When your test mail arrives, click Select, followed by Reply. The To: field should be set with the contents of .reply-to. You can change the contents of .reply-to to reset your Reply-to address immediately. If you delete or rename .reply-to, .sendmail-wrapper will send your e-mail with the default return address.

Thanks to the following for the suggesting sendmail wrappers:

orie.ocsys.flab.fujitsu.co.jp!kiss (Mitsuhiro Kishimoto)

Ole Holm Nielsen <Ole.Holm.Nielsen@ltf.dth.dk>

NeXT In The News

compiled by Eric Rosenthal

"Why I Need Objective-C", Christopher Lozinski, *Journal of Object-Oriented Programming* [September 1991, pp. 21-28]: "This article examines the limitations of C++ as compared to Objective-C. The differences in the programming philosophy underlying each of the languages is explored and the application development advantages of Objective-C are presented."

"Apple/IBM Reaction" (letter), Kirk Chase, *MacTutor* [September 1991, p. 5]: "Apple/IBM have the advantage of looking at the lessons of NeXT."

"Play the Waiting Game with Windows vs. OS/2", William Zachmann, *PC Week* [September 9, 1991, p. 68]: "Microsoft is pushing Windows. IBM touts OS/2. Of course, they aren't the only voices, either. Unix advocates urge that we wish a plague upon both their houses and embrace Unix. Apple suggests that we make our next PC a Macintosh. NeXT claims that it is still next. Vendors involved in the ACE initiative will soon try to convince us to drop Intel-architecture systems in favor of systems based on the MIPS architecture."

"Rumor Central: Top-Seeded Compaq and IBM Volley for Product Advantage", *PC Wee*k [September 9, 1991, p. 130]: "With all the celebs at the Open last week, Spencer figured that chances were good he'd run into Steve Jobs. No such luck, as the barefoot boy wonder is busy plotting to decrease NeXT's dependence on Motorola. The sporting Katt overheard a Wall Street analyst say that NeXT is testing four prototype workstations, all based on different RISC processors."

"A Radical Transformation Lies Ahead for IBM" (editorial), Sam Whitmore, *PC Week* [September 16, 1991, p. 66]: "Yes, you [IBM] trusted Microsoft too much, but you wisely diversified your portfolio. You invested in Metaphor, then bought it outright. You now have a say in the affairs of NeXT, Go, Lotus, Novell, Borland, Xyquest, Bachman and Delrina, to name just a few."

"Rumor Central: At Comdex, the Pen's Going to Be Mightier than the Squabble", *PC Week* [September 16, 1991, p. 150]: " 'Great. Now I've got a new assignment for you,' Spencer snapped. The Katt grabbed Cal by the shoulder and led him to the door. 'Go find out what Steve Jobs and John Sculley are cooking up. They've been seen doing lunch in the Valley, with no ensuing food fights. If it's an IBM/Apple/NeXT deal, I want it first.' "

"Dr. Watson Add-On Detected on CompuServe", Carole Patton, *PC Week* [September 23, 1991, p. 76]: "Have you ever wondered how operating systems compared to cars? I skipped over to Ziffnet to track such burning questions on the PC Week forum. Here's what a think-in among myself and several PC Week readers produced recently.… NeXT/Motif is a red Lamborghini—sleek, sensual and designed for the future. The big question: When will the future arrive?"

Editor's Choice, *Publish* [October 1991, p. 27]: Adobe has released Illustrator 3.0 for the NeXT, which allows editing in any display mode, and TouchType.

"No More Armies, Just Rock Bands", Stuart Silverstone, *Publish* [October 1991, p. 152]: Design consultant Roger Black, in interview, calls NeXT and Sun platforms "the most interesting challenge to the Macintosh" for publishing.

"NeXT's Revenues Strong, But What About Profits", *UNIX World* "Industry News" [October 1991, p. 20]: NeXT reports second quarter revenues increased to $46 million, but does not release earnings or shipments.

"Afterthoughts" (editorial), *Computerworld* [October 7, 1991, p. 24]: Editorial about IBM/Apple alliance. "And then there's the matter of getting hundreds of third-party software developers to commit limited research and development funds to support the promise of the next generation of desktop computing. As Steve Jobs and his NeXT company discovered, it can be might lonely in the market without a lot of this support."

"Graphics vendors stand up for NeXT", Elizabeth Eva, *InfoWorld* [October 7, 1991, p. 3]: NeXT products introduced at Seybold Computer Publishing Conference and Exposition included Lighthouse Design's *Concurrence*, Computer Support's *Arts & Letters Graphics Composer*, Media Logic's *TopDraw Version 2.0*, Altsys's *Virtuoso*, and RightBrain Software's *PasteUp*.

"Adobe brings news page to PC screen", Mark Stephens, *InfoWorld* {October 7, 1991, p. 6]: Adobe demonstrates "Carousel" technology for displaying PostScript images on NeXT and other platforms at Seybold Conference. The technology for displaying the same image on "nearly any computer" overcomes font substitution problems with a special multiple-master font that can imitate any Type 1 font. Adobe chairman John Warnock said a product would be available in 1992.

"Laser Printers Head List of Expo Debuts", Kelley Damore, *PC Week* [October 14, 1991, p. 23]: NeXT to integrate Pantone color simulations into Color Panel.

Computerworld [October 21, 1991, p. 73]: Product announcement for SAS Institute, Inc.'s *SAS System* for NeXT.

"*Improv* adds dimensions to spreadsheets", John Walkenbach, *InfoWorld* [October 21, 1991, pp. 154, 156, 160]: "For developing complex budgets and other hierarchical models, *Improv* is perhaps the best tool on the market. It's a significant improvement over 3-D spreadsheets and even *Excel's* outlining feature.… We're impressed with *Improv.* It's one of the most innovative programs we've seen in some time. Unfortunately, most users don't have access to a NeXT system. Let's hope Lotus develops a version for Windows so this technology can reach a wider audience. It's well worth its $695 price tag; we rate it an excellent value."

"Ray Charles Will Not Play This Xmas Party" (item in Notes from the Field), Robert X. Cringely, *InfoWorld* [October 21, 1991, p. 206]: "Even Steve Jobs, a guy who never paid attention to the odds before, is having to make shrewd moves. Look for NeXT to shift its manufacturing offshore—probably having it done by Canon in exchange for another capital infusion. The incredible automated 300,000-unit-per-year NeXT factory in California will probably go on the block. Don't look for any deals between NeXT and Apple. People keep calling me about sighting Sculley at NeXT HQ, but as long as Jobs continues to ban Pepsi from the premises, nothing will happen."

"SAS Targets NeXT with *Stat*, DBMS Software", *PC Week* [October 21, 1991, p. 65]: Product announcement for SAS Institute Inc.'s *SAS System*.

News Briefs, *PC Week* [October 21, 1991, p. 69]: Brief mention of Altsys Corp.'s *Virtuoso* drawing program for NeXT.

"IDB Object Database Gains Mac, HP Support" (item in News Briefs), *PC Week* [October 21, 1991, p. 112]: Product announcement for Persistent Data Systems Inc.'s *IDB Object Database version 1.1* for several platforms, including NeXT.

BYTE, Barry Nance [November 1991, pp. 187-188, 190, 192, 194, 196]: Discussion of presentation layer of OSI model states "when IBM,

DEC, Apple, NeXT, and Burroughs computers all want to talk to each other, some translation and byte reordering is needed."

"Forget Hype and Beware the Siren Song of SCSI", Chris DeVoney, *Computer Shopper* [November 1991, pp. 136-137, 144]: History of SCSI standards recounts difficulties of chaining SCSI devices and mentions NeXT.

"Programmer's Bookshelf: Making Contact with Computers", Ray Duncan, *Dr. Dobb's Journal* [November 1991, pp. 131-132, 134-135]: "Until very recently, the architects of human-machine interfaces have been unsung heroes (and villains) in a rarely visible and even-more-rarely appreciated specialty. For example, if you look inside the case of a classic black desk telephone, you don't find the names of the patient designers and researchers at AT&T who spent years refining the ergonomics of that humble instrument. There was no equivalent of Steven Jobs at Bell Labs to immortalize these fellows!… I'm happy to stipulate that the Apple System 7 is the best GUI on a mass-market computer today, but there are certainly worthwhile innovations in NextStep, Motif, and even (heaven help us) OS/2 Presentation Manager that could have been discussed [in the review of The Art of Human Computer Interface Design, edited by Brenda Laurel and published by Addison-Wesley], not to mention the stylus-oriented platforms such as PenPoint that are looming on the horizon."

Hardware & Software Support, *UNIX World* [November 1991, p. 160.]: Brief listing for Morning Star Technologies' *SnapLink X.25* communications subsystem.

"*WordPerfect* for Windows: The Best Graphical Word Processor Yet?", Edward Mendelson, *PC Magazine* [November 12, 1991, p. 187.]: "WordPerfect Corp. learned by writing *WordPerfect* for the Macintosh and NeXT platforms: The Windows version looks like a native Windows product rather than an accomplished immigrant."

"Not an Edison" (letter), Chia-teh Wu, *MacWorld* [December 1991, p. 40]: Response to Steven Levy's September column about Bill Gates. "If anyone is to be credited for the PC/digital revolution, it should be Steve Jobs. Steve Jobs at least had the following to his credit: the first successfully mass-marketed microcomputer, the Apple II, and the first successfully mass-marketed GUI microcomputer, the Macintosh."

ABOUT GUN...

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Discounts

GUN has arranged for discounts on popular NeXT hardware and software. These discounts are *only* available to members with current dues paid. For further information, contact Ed Wright.

Communications

GUN maintains a mailing list through which anyone can contact a member of the group. Email can be addressed to a member using the following format: "Firstname_Lastname@gun.com". Members often have other addresses at which they might prefer to receive email.

Newsletter

The GUN Bulletin is produced monthly (more or less) using FrameMaker 3.0 on a Color NeXTstation, with headlines created by Adobe TouchType. Article text is written directly in FrameMaker, with WordPerfect, or imported from other platforms (ugh !).

If you are interested in working with the newsletter crew, contact Robb Allan or Jim Cornaccia at the email addresses above.

Individual Dues

- $25 per year (tax deductible)
- Newsletter
- e-mail alias
- Inclusion in group e-mail list
- Eligible for group discounts (contact Ed Wright)
- Eligible for individual UUCP services
- Eligible for individual Internet connectivity
- NeXTWORLD disount

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