

NAME

rem – request a reminder notification

SYNOPSIS

rem hour:minute 'message'

rem -

rem ±mail

rem +today

remday day hour:minute 'message'

DESCRIPTION

Rem logs requests for reminder notifications. Reminder items consist of a time and a message. The time is of the form "hours:minutes" (e.g. 9:15) or "hours" (e.g. 20). The hour may be specified on a 24 hour clock. Alternatively, hours specified on a 12 hour clock are assumed to be between 8 AM and 7 PM. This is done by converting times between 1:00 and 7:59 to the corresponding 24 hour time (i.e. 1:00 to 7:59 in the afternoon).

Every five minutes, the reminder demon checks whether any reminder messages should be announced. If so, it writes the message and the current time to the user's terminal. A message is announced when it is near to its specified time. The definition of "near" is given in the environment variable, **REM_TIMES**, set by the PCS profiler. The default value of this is 30, 10, and 5 minutes. Thus the reminder is announced 30 minutes before, 10 minutes before, 5 minutes before, and at the specified time of the message. The values of these warning variables may range between 0 and 90 minutes; if 0 no announcement is given.

If *rem* is invoked with the "-" argument, reminder records will be read from the standard input. Each record consists of one line containing "hour:minutes message".

The +mail and -mail options respectively add and delete a user from the mail notification list. If a user is in the mail notification list, that user's mailbox will be checked every five minutes by the reminder service demon to determine if mail has arrived within that period. If so, the message "new mail arrived" will be issued to all terminals on which the user is currently active (logged in). Once added to the notification list, a user remains on it until a "rem -mail" command is explicitly entered.

The +today option displays all of a user's reminders for the current day. These will include items passed to the reminder service by "cal2rem" during the standard PCS startup.

Reminders are for the current day, since all reminder items enqueued are removed at midnight. The cal2rem program, invoked automatically by the default PCS startup, places calendar items for today into the reminder queue. *Rem* places each reminder in a unique file in the reminder directory. These items are merged into the reminder file by the reminder monitor after its next five minute pass through the file. Reminder items, once entered, may not be removed. The **REM_TIMES** variable is used when *rem* enqueues the reminder, not dynamically during the day. *Remday* accepts requests for reminder notifications. If the day specified is the current day of the week, the reminder is passed to *rem* in the usual fashion; otherwise *remday* has no effect. *Remday* is designed to be placed in a user's .profile file to automatically request reminders for specific days of the week. For example:

```
remday fri 8:45 fill out time card
```

The day may be specified in as few letters as necessary to distinguish it from another day. (i.e. fr, tue, etc.)

FILES

<code>\${PCSDIR}/src/rem</code>	directory of source files
<code>\${PCSBIN}/rem</code>	executable program

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Use pursuant to Company Instructions.

<code>\${PCSBIN}/cal2rem</code>	executable program
<code>\${PCSBIN}/remday</code>	executable program
<code>\${PCSLIB}/remdata/remfile</code>	master reminder queue
<code>\${PCSLIB}/remdata/rem.*</code>	items not yet queued
<code>\${PCSLIB}/remdata/remtoday</code>	executable program
<code>\${PCSLIB}/remdata/mc_users</code>	users desiring mail notification

SEE ALSO

profiler (PCS)

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