NAME

prt-pcsmail – print out mail messages to a printer

SYNOPSIS

prt-pcsmail [**−d** *dst*] [**−c** *copies*] [**−s** *sides*] [**−p** *mode*] [**−f** *form*] [*file(s)...*]

DESCRIPTION

Introduction

The `prt-pcsmail` program is used on a UNIX system to arrange to have one or more mail messages printed out to a printer. This program takes command line arguments similarly to the UNISON command *prt* except that only the options specified in this manual page are accepted. Any option specified other than that indicated above will cause the command to fail with an error message.

Options

Normally a **-d** option will be specified to select a printer destination. If this option is not specified, a default printer may be chosen if the user has a default configured. Default printers are configured on the Amdahls and the Suns by use of the PRINTER environment variable and possibly the UNISON `${HOME}/.prt` file. The UNISON `${HOME}/.prt` file is only used for option processing when the user has configured, via her command execution search path (environment variable PATH), to use the UNISON version of the *prt* command as the underlying print command. Other versions of the *prt* command can be used in the user's PATH as long as they support the standard UNISON command options. If a default printer is not explicitly defined by the user, a default printer may still be assigned by either the system from which the command is executed, the system on which the printer spooler is running, or by some other not easily understood mechanism. For these reasons, it is usually best for the user to have the PRINTER environment variable defined or to specify the printer destination on the command line with the **-d** option.

The **-c** option allows for the specification of the number of copies of the mail message to print out.

The **-s** option allows for the specification of the number of sides of paper to use for the printed out mail message. Valid values associated with this option key are '**1**' and '**2**'. If this option is not specified then the default number of sides configured for the printer will be used. For one-sided printers, this value will be set to '**1**' regardless of the user supplied value.

Briefly:

-p *mode*   This specifies the print mode of the print job. Possible values are:

```
land
port
```

-f *form*   This specifies the print form to use for the job's output. Common values are:

```
11x17
hole
nohole              (the default)
ledger
legal
11x14
```

Note that most printers now-a-days tend to completely ignore these form requests except for maybe the `11x17` value on some printers which are both capable of 11x17 output and which have been properly configured to adjust to using its 11x17 paper tray in response to this form request. Experience has shown that this conditions are usually quite rare.

If no files are given on the command line then input from the standard input is assumed. If files are given, then no input is read.

Execution

Typically, a user executes this command from within her mail reader program (such as the various PCS mail readers). A mail message is usually sent to this program's standard input using the mail reader

program's "pipe message" type of facility. For PCS mail readers, a user would use the mailer's "pipe" command (a '|' character for PCS VMAIL) to send the current mail message to the standard input of this command.

The command can also print out mail messages that are written out into UNIX files. In this case a file containing a mail message previously written out should be either directed to this program's standard input (using the standard UNIX system command- line redirection convention) or explicitly specified on the command line. In this latter case, as many files containing mail messages as you want can be printed out. Each mail message in a file will be printed out separately as an individual mail message. Mail messages from multiple file are never concatenated before printing.

Output

The printed output of this program provides for a "prettied" up version of the mail message with the FROM address (the person who sent you the mail message) distinctly displayed at the top of the printout along with the original SUBJECT of the original mail message. The output is in a landscape orientation suitable for printing as much information on a single piece of paper as possible.

EXAMPLES

☞   print a mail message from within PCS **readmail** to user's default printer:

> `?` | **prt- pcsmail**

☞   print a mail message from within PCS **vmail** to user's default printer:

> `?` |
> `enter command to pipe message to:` **prt- pcsmail**

☞   have a mail message in a file named *seeya* printed out to printer *gz3c4*:

> `$` **prt- pcsmail seeya - d gz3c4**

ENVIRONMENT VARIABLES

PRINTER   This variable, if defined and exported, will be used for a default printer if one is not specified on the command line.

SEE ALSO

readmail(1p), vmail(1p), prt(1), prtq(1), prtc(1), .prt(4)

CAVEATS

Not all platforms are supported equally with respect to continued user control over the disposition of the print job with respect to being either monitored (*prtq*) or canceled (*prtc*).

PATH TO

This program is currently located in `/usr/add-on/pcs/bin` or possibly `/usr/add-on/local/bin` on some systems.

WARNINGS

Be careful to put a space between all option key letters and the associated key letter parameter.

AUTHOR

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