

NAME

Mail::Box::MH::Index – keep index files for messages.

INHERITANCE

```
Mail::Box::MH::Index
    is a Mail::Reporter
```

SYNOPSIS

```
my $index = Mail::Box::MH::Index->new;
$index->read(...)
$index->write(...)
```

DESCRIPTION

Message folders which store their data in one single file per message are very inefficient for producing subject overviews and for computing message threads. The `Mail::Box::MH::Index` object is able to store and read a the headers of a set of `Mail::Box::MH::Message` messages which are part of a single `Mail::Box::MH` folder in one file.

When the `Mail::Box::MH::Index` functionality is enabled by specifying `Mail::Box::MH::new(keep_index)` when opening a folder, the index file is automatically read. When the folder is closed, a new index file is created.

Special care is taken to avoid problems which occur when the user changes or removes message files without updating the index. If the index is not trustworthy it will not be used (costing some performance for the reader of the folder).

Extends “DESCRIPTION” in `Mail::Reporter`.

METHODS

Extends “METHODS” in `Mail::Reporter`.

Constructors

Extends “Constructors” in `Mail::Reporter`.

`Mail::Box::MH::Index->new(%options)`

-Option	--Defined in	--Default
<code>filename</code>		<code><required></code>
<code>head_type</code>		<code>Mail::Message::Head::Subset</code>
<code>head_wrap</code>		<code>72</code>
<code>log</code>	<code>Mail::Reporter</code>	<code>'WARNINGS'</code>
<code>trace</code>	<code>Mail::Reporter</code>	<code>'WARNINGS'</code>

`filename => FILENAME`

The `FILENAME` which is used to store the headers of all the e-mails for one folder. This must be an absolute pathname.

`head_type => CLASS`

The type of headers which will be used to store header information when it is read from the index file. You can not be sure the index contains all header line (the mailbox may have been updated without updating the index) so this will usually be (an sub-class of) `Mail::Message::Head::Subset`.

`head_wrap => INTEGER`

The preferred number of character in each header line.

`log => LEVEL`

`trace => LEVEL`

The Index

```
$obj->append($messages)
```

Append `$messages` to the index file.

`$obj->filename()`

Returns the name of the index file.

`$obj->get($msgfile)`

Look if there is header info for the specified `$msgfile`. The filename represents one message in folder type which are organized as directory. This method will return an object of the new(head_type) as specified during creation of the index object, or undef if the information is not known or not trustworthy –i.e. the file size changed.

`$obj->read()`

Read the index file. The header objects can after this be requested with the **get()** method.

`$obj->write($messages)`

Write an index file containing the headers specified `$messages` (Mail::Message objects).

Error handling

Extends “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter.

`$obj->AUTOLOAD()`

Inherited, see “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter

`$obj->addReport($object)`

Inherited, see “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter

`$obj->defaultTrace([$level][[$loglevel, $tracelevel]][$level, $callback])`

Mail::Box::MH::Index->**defaultTrace**([\$level][[\$loglevel, \$tracelevel]][\$level, \$callback])

Inherited, see “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter

`$obj->errors()`

Inherited, see “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter

`$obj->log([$level, [$strings]])`

Mail::Box::MH::Index->**log**([\$level, [\$strings]])

Inherited, see “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter

`$obj->logPriority($level)`

Mail::Box::MH::Index->**logPriority**(\$level)

Inherited, see “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter

`$obj->logSettings()`

Inherited, see “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter

`$obj->notImplemented()`

Inherited, see “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter

`$obj->report([$level])`

Inherited, see “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter

`$obj->reportAll([$level])`

Inherited, see “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter

`$obj->trace([$level])`

Inherited, see “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter

`$obj->warnings()`

Inherited, see “Error handling” in Mail::Reporter

Cleanup

Extends “Cleanup” in Mail::Reporter.

`$obj->DESTROY()`

Inherited, see “Cleanup” in Mail::Reporter

DIAGNOSTICS

Error: Package `$package` does not implement `$method`.

Fatal error: the specific package (or one of its superclasses) does not implement this method where it should. This message means that some other related classes do implement this method however the class at hand does not. Probably you should investigate this and probably inform the author of the package.

SEE ALSO

This module is part of Mail-Box distribution version 3.009, built on August 18, 2020. Website: <http://perl.overmeer.net/CPAN/>

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