Description of CrashMail's built-in AreaFix

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What is AreaFix?

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AreaFix is a feature present at most FidoNet nodes, either built-in in

the tosser or as a stand-alone program. AreaFix allows you to connect

and disconnect to echomail areas, change your password and change some

other things in your configuration without asking your feed/boss to do

it for you.

How do I talk to AreaFix?

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You communicate with AreaFix using netmail messages. The message header

of a message to AreaFix should look like this:

From: Johan Billing

To: AreaFix

Subj: <password> [<switches>]

<AreaFix commands>

...

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<Password> is your private AreaFix password that you need to make sure

that nobody else alters your configuration. Your AreaFix password is

assigned to you by your boss/feed, so you may have to ask him about a

password.

[<switches>] are extra commands that you can send to AreaFix. Currently

there is only one switch:

-l or -q Send list of all areas

This switch is only here to be compatible with other AreaFix programs.

It is recommended that you use the %-commands described later instead.

"---" marks the end of an AreaFix message.

NOTE: The name doesn't necessarily have to be AreaFix, your boss may have

configured CrashMail to use other names instead.

What commands can I put in the text?

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Change connected areas:

[+]areaname[,R=<max>] Connect to an area. The '+' is optional. If

the R option is specified after the area,

the specified number of old messages in the area

will be rescanned and sent to you.

-areaname Disconnect from an area

=areaname[,R=<max>] Update. You can use this to rescan an area which you

already are connected to.

Special commands

%HELP Send this text

%LIST Send list of all areas

%QUERY Send list of all linked areas

%UNLINKED Send list of all unlinked areas

%PAUSE Do not send any echomail until a %RESUME is sent

%RESUME Send echomail again. These commands can be useful

if you are away for a few weeks and don't want to

get any echomail.

%PWD <pw> Changes your AreaFix password to the new password

specified after the command.

%COMPRESS <name> Changes the packer used to compress your mail to

the packer specified after the command. Send

"%COMPRESS ?" to get a list of packers.

%RESCAN All areas that are added or updated after this

line will be rescanned, that is all old messages

in those areas will be sent to you. This can be

very dangerous since you don't know how many

messages you will get so in most cases, it is

better to use the R option when adding/updating

areas instead.

Examples:

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R20\_TRASHCAN Connect to R20\_TRASHCAN

%LIST Send list of areas

R20\_AMIGA,R=50 Connect to R20\_AMIGA and get the last 50 messages

in the area.

%PWD xyzzy Change your AreaFix password to "xyzzy".

%COMPRESS ZIP Change your compression method to ZIP.

%PAUSE Turn off echomail for a while

%RESUME Turn on echomail again

=R20\_AMIGA,R=100 Get the last 100 messages in R20\_AMIGA (if you are

already connected to the area)

A few words on rescan

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Messages that are rescanned might not look exactly like they originally did

because of the way they are stored locally. When messages are rescanned from

a JAM messagebase, all control lines ("kludges") will be at the beginning of

the message regardless of where they originally were. You can easily tell if

a message has been rescanned, just look for the RESCANNED control line.