# Elist Manager

This is the Elist Manager application, written by John Dovey contactable via netmail at boondock@4:920/1 or boondock@12:3/1 or via [email](dovey.john@gmail.com)

## About Elist

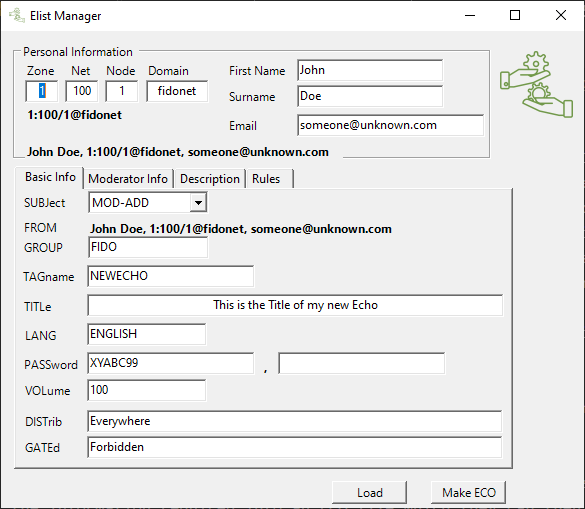
Elist is a program run by Vincent Coen (Vincent Coen@2:250/21) or [email](vbcoen@gmail.com). It essentially maintains a database of Echos (conference areas) which are active on various FTN networks, primarily FidoNet. In order to add an echo to the database, the moderator has to send, via netmail, a small file to Vincent and his automated system will add it to the database and end out a message on the Elist conference with the details of what’s been added (or updated or deleted).

There is a monthly report generated by Vincent from the data in his database of active echos, deleted echos, the rules for them etc.

Included in the monthly report, is a help file and instructions on submitting additions, updates and modifications.

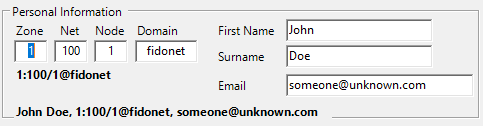
This application is designed to make it simpler for Moderators to gather and format the information required into an ECO file which they can then submit for action.

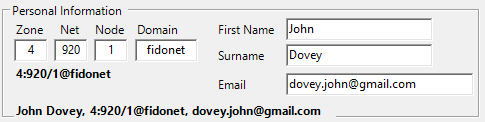
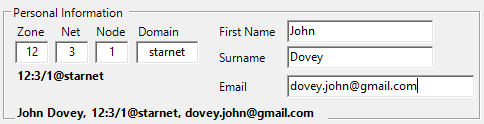
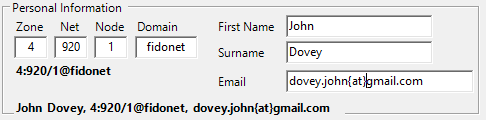
## The Program

On first opening, this is what the application looks like. 

As you can see, there is a lot of information on the screen. What you see there is a set of default values filled in that you need to change.

### Personal Information

The first set of information that needs updating is your personal information. That is the info in the box at the top of the screen. 

As you enter your own information, you will see the screen updating automatically. Here is the same screen with my information filled in:  This information shouldn’t change much unless you are submitting for echos on different networks, in which case you should enter that relevant information:  If you care concerned about your email address being harvested, you are welcome to use an obfuscation measure such as this 

Once you have your personal information entered, you need to update the rest of the information Starting with the “Basic Info” Tab.

## Basic Info

### SUBJect

To add a new echo, you need to set the subject to **MOD-ADD** which is easily done from the Drop-down.

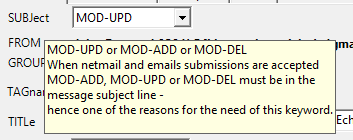
Subject: MOD-ADD

Subject: MOD-ADD

Adding an echo is only down once. Make sure that you change this to **MOD-UPD** for all subsequent submissions.

Subject: MOD-UPD

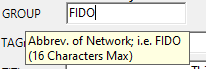
Subject: MOD-UPD

***Note***: You can hover on any field label at any time to get more information about the field. For example: . As you can see, the hover help text is taken directly from the Elisthlp.txt file distributed by Vincent.

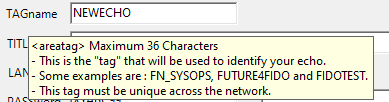
### FROM

Information for the FROM field is taken directly from your personal information entered at the top of the screen. 

### GROUP

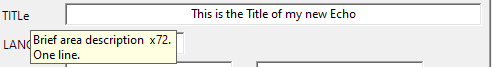
The GROUP Tag indicates what FTN Network this Echo is available on. It defaults to FIDO, but can quite easily be FSX\_NET or StarNET etc. 

### TAGname

This is possibly the most important field of all. It is the FTN Network tag name. This is the name which is used by everything on the FTN network to identify your echo. Make sure you get this right because it effects everything. 

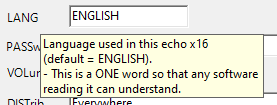
This tag must be unique across the network. Maximum length is 36 characters.

### TITLe

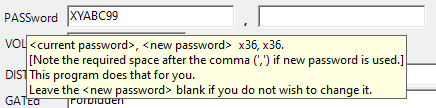
This is the descriptive title of your echo. 

It is a one line description of your echo of no more than 72 characters. This description, combined with the TAGname, is what most users will see when they see lists of available echos to participate in. It’s a good idea to make this descriptive so it encapsulates exactly what your echo is about.

### LANG

Language. The primary language of your echo.  You can describe the language using one word with a maximum of 16 characters.

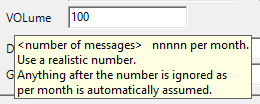
### PASSword

Select a password and enter it here. You cannot make changes to the Elist listing without using the correct password as entered in this field.  Please note that the default value entered here ***Must*** be changed.

If you wish to change your password, then place your current password in the first field and a new password in the second. New Password

### VOLume

The *Volume* is the number of messages per month you predict this echo will carry.

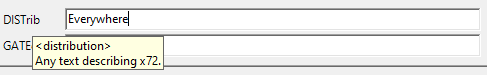


VOLume Tag

I would suggest be conservative, you can always update this information as your echo traffic grows.

### DISTRIBution

The distribution is how your echo will be distributed. Here you can indicated the source system, hubs etc or even specify that it is available on the *BACKBONE*…

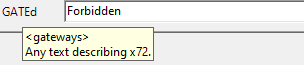


DISTRIBution Tag

This can (and should) also be updated later as it is picked up by more systems. Possibly indications of where in each zone it could be picked up would be appropriate.

### GATEd

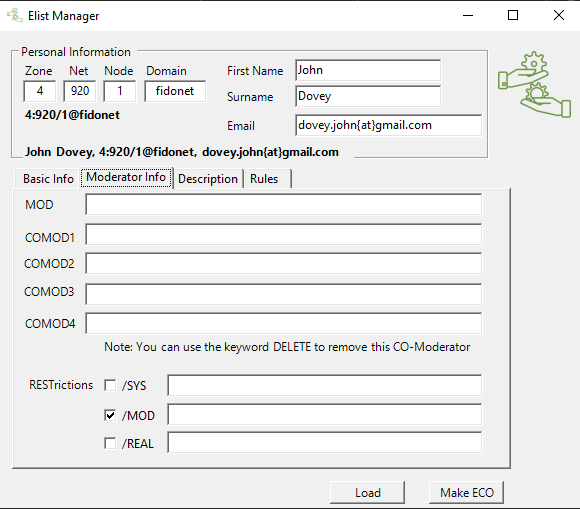
This field is to indicate whether this echo IS gated or whether it is allowed to be gated, as well as policy indicating whether it is allowed to be gated.



GATEd Tag

## Moderator Info

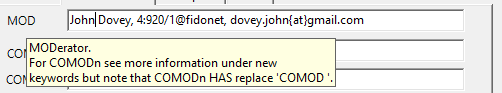
This tab is primarily about who the Moderator and co-moderators are. It also includes information on What restrictions (if any) there are on this echo.



Moderator Tab

### MOD Tag

The MOD Tag is used to indicate who the Moderator of the echo is. If it is blank, then the first time you click on the field it will fill in the information entered in Personal Information.

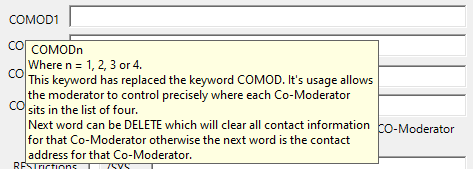


MOD Tag

The Moderator is the person who is “in charge” of the echo and will (or can) make decisions about what posts are allowed, what the rules are and post things such as the rules and announcements to the echo.

### COMODn Tags

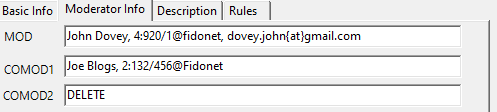
The COMODn tags indicate CO-Moderators.



COMODn Tags

The Co-Moderator tag should contain the contact information for any co-moderators. If you wish to change ownership of the echo, then this becomes important.

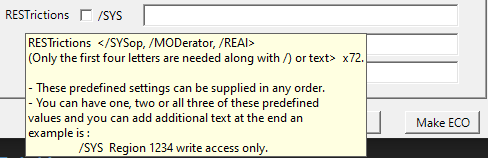
If you use the keyword **DELETE** in any of the Co-Mod fields then it will remove information for that co-moderator.



Co-Mod Info

Here you can see the fields filled out with a main Moderator, a COMOD1 and an instruction that the second CO-Moderator info should be deleted.

### RESTrictions



Restrictions

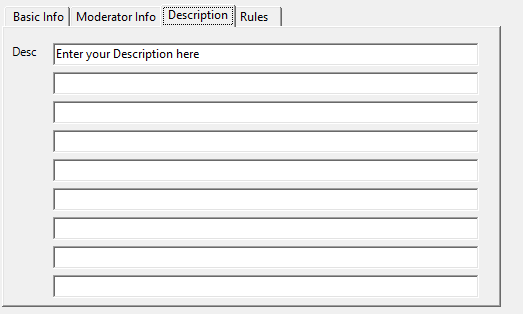
Restrictions can be placed on he usage of the Echo. These include: \* /SYS - Only SYSOPS may read and post \* /MOD - Only the Moderator my post \* /REAl - Real names only, no aliases allowed

 Each restriction has a check box to select it. If the check box is selected, then you can enter text in the associated field. If the box is not selected, then this field is ignored.

The additional text is free form and can used to specify the specific nature of the restriction.

## Description Tab

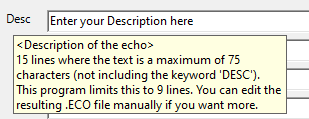
### DESC Tag



DESC Tag

Using this program, you can enter a description of nine lines only.

Each line is a maximum of 75 Characters and all lines will be displayed as a block of text after submission.



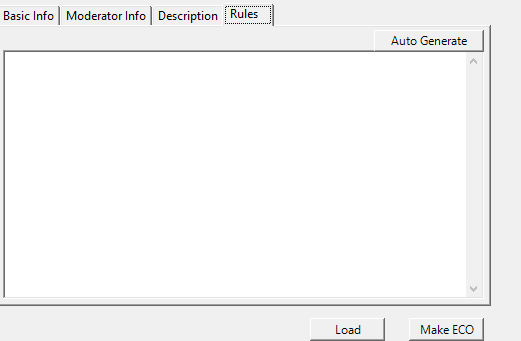
Description Help

The actual limit is 15 lines, but this program only allows 9. If you want more lines for your description, you can manually edit the .ECO file before submitting it. If you do so, however, then you sacrifice the utility of this program as subsequent lines will be lost if you use this program to edit the information later.

## Rules Tab

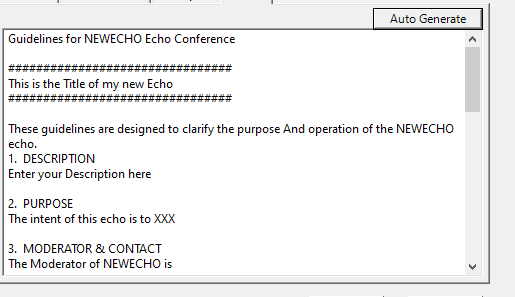
### Manual Entry.

You can enter anything you wish here. It is free form text. Be aware however, that any text that extends for more than 72 characters will be lost. You need to hit enter at the end of every line.



Blank Rules

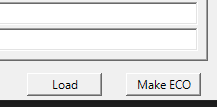
When you first open the tab, the rules are blank. If you are unsure what sort of thing to enter, then click on the autogenerate button Auto-Generate Button. This will populate the screen with some default text.



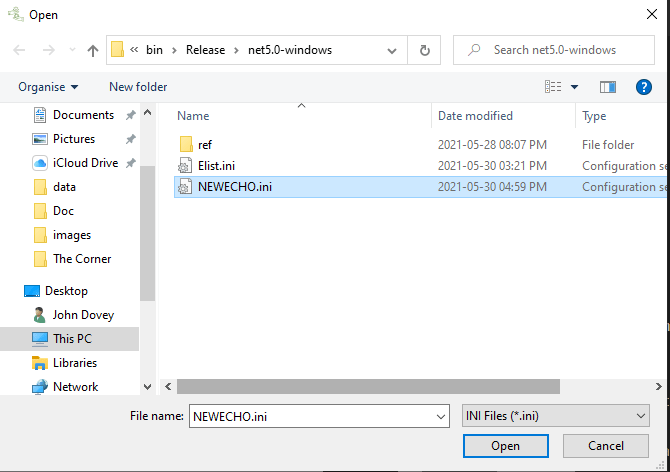
Auto Generated Rules

**PLEASE** ensure you edit this text. It is likely **Not** what you want and needs to be edited.

## Saving and loading the file

If you click on the “Make ECO” button, the ECO file is generated in the same folder as the program. You can generate the file as many times as you like. Each time a backup is created of the previous version.  The information is also saved into a file called .ini. If you want to edit the information later, you have two choices. The last information you worked on is saved and loaded automatically. If you work on more than one, however, you can click on Load and select the ini file of your choice.

When you click on load you will get a standard file selection dialog box.



File Load Screen

Simply select the file you want and click Open.