FileMgr

FileMgr, The ultimate file processor

User Guide

This user guide applies to version v0.80 and all builds within,
i.e., release v0.80.nnn where nnn is the build number.

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Manual tested using mark 1 eye balls using varifocals v4.02.

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1   Introduction

1.1   What is FileMgr?

FileMgr does for files what an echo mail processor does for messages. Just like echo mail, files can also be distributed in areas. The major advantages of this are that files are automatically placed in the correct directory on the BBS, can be announced in the correct echo mail area and that people can connect and disconnect themselves from such an area so they will only receive the files they are really interested in.

The program Tick introduced TIC files. These TIC files are sent with a file and contain the information about that file, like the name, the description, the area and information for the routing. Tick uses that information to move the file to the correct directory and to forward it to the systems that are connected to the area in question.

FileMgr too makes use of the TIC concept. FileMgr however offers more. It has possibilities to give files a special treatment, automatically start batch files, announce received files, allow systems to connect and disconnect areas and much more.

The first version of FileMgr was made in September 1991 as an alternative to Tick and Raid. In the mean time it has developed into the most complete file processing package and it has many users in the Netherlands, Australia, Belgium, Germany, Hong Kong, Sweden, Switzerland, Italy, UK and USA.

1.2   Features

The possibilities of FileMgr are too numerous to mention them all. Still, for new users a short list of the most important features.

4D zone/point support.

Allows use of more than one AKA, with optional AKA matching.

Incoming and outgoing mail through Hudson, Jam and other message bases or in *.PKT format which can be used by virtually any message base format.

Possibility to pack *.TIC files and the files themselves, choosing your favourite archiving program.

Very user friendly setup program, full screen using windows and menus.

Powerful and user friendly 'AreaMgr' like interface for downlinks.

Creates areas automatically.

Supports 'MAGIC' file request names.

'AllFix' compatible filefind feature allowing replies in the same or another echo mail area or even by Net Mail.

Very powerful and highly flexible template engine, which can be used for creating announcements, file find replies and the descriptions in your FILES.BBS or equivalent.

Excellent dupe checking on name, size and CRC-32.

Adopt files in a certain area, move files to a different area, make extra copies of a file etc.
Execute certain tasks at a desired moment, like weekly hatching a certain file, monthly posting of a message etc.

Supports a maximum of 1024 file areas with 0 to 255 downlinks each.

Automatic hatching or only announcing of files that are new on the BBS.
Hatching can be done either from the command line or by using the full screen hatch menu.

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3   Technology

This chapter assumes you are familiar with the structure and terminology of the FidoNet Technology Networks (FTN) and echo mail processors.

3.1   File distribution, the *.TIC concept

Sending a file from one fido system to another can be done many ways The most simple way to do this is to create a file attach message. For one time transfers this is a very usable method. As soon as files have to be transferred on a more regular basis (like NODEDIFF.* files) this method will prove to require much work and attention. Automation of the process is in order.

If a file needs to be sent every week, for instance, one can make use of a file robot. This is a program, or a part of a program, that offers the possibility to send a certain file to another system regularly, for instance once a week.

If files are being received from another system (uplink) regularly, other software might be useful. Based on a standard DOS file mask (for instance NODEDIFF.A*) such a program can determine the file was received and take certain actions as a result thereof. These actions might include moving the files to a different directory (a directory that is accessible for download on the BBS), sending the file to yet other FidoNet systems (downlink), adding a standard description for the file to a list file (I.e., 'Weekly Fidonet Node list update') and the execution of an external program, for example to update the Node list.

The method as described here works perfectly for files of which you can determine in advance what name they will have and what description they should get. As soon as you receive files of a wider variety this method doesn't suffice.

A different, more advanced method of sending is the use of a small accompanying text file, which can contain various information about the file in question. At this moment this method is widely used in FidoNet Technology Networks. In this case we use files that have .TIC as extension. Let's look at an example of a *.TIC file:

    Created by FileMgr, (c)1991 - 2008
    File NODEDIFF.A97
    Desc Nodediff for day 297
    Area NODEDIFF
    Origin 2:250/1
    From 2:250/1
    Path 2:250/1 720101091 Mon Jan 26 10:04:51 2008 UTC
    Seenby 2:281/603
    Seenby 1:281/200
    Seenby 2:281/611
    Pw YOYO

As you can see the *.TIC file contains not only the name and the description of the file ('File', 'Desc'). Additional information is given about the system that originally released the file ('Origin'), the system that sent the file to your system ('From') and the systems that already received the file ('Path' and 'Seenby'). You can also send a password in the *.TIC file ('Pw') so your system can verify that the file came from the correct feed.

One of the most important parts however is the area in which the file is being sent ('Area'). Using this, one can group certain files and give them special treatment. This way you can easily determine what kind of file it is (for instance a piece of Pascal source, a nodediff or an OS/2 file) and this enables you to only send the file to those systems that are interested in it.

All this information enables the receiving system to know exactly what to do with the file. Obviously this is a very pleasant way of working for the sysop (bbs system operator).

FileMgr offers the sysop the possibility to maximize the utilization of this method, but is also capable of working as a 'file robot'.

3.2   Packed *.TIC files.

Since *.TIC files are relatively small, and each file has it's own accompanying *.TIC file, the overhead in this system is rather large. Just think of it, for each *.TIC file a file attach must be made and on large systems with many downlinks this can lead to unacceptable results. Therefore a number of programs offers the possibility to pack these *.TIC files and the main files themselves into one big archive file. A program like TickPack uses it's own compression method to do this, other programs use regular archiving software like the PKzip program. Some programs pack just the *.TIC files, others allow all outgoing files to be packed.

FileMgr gives you the possibility to specify whether or not the *.TIC files and/or the main files must be packed per node. For each system you can specify which archiving methods (Arc, Lha, Zip, Rar, Zoo or Arj) should be used.

FileMgr will automatically unpack all received bundles. Obviously all methods used, will be supported providing you have the appropriate de-archivers in a directory which is in your DOS path.

3.3   Splitting or joining areas

Sometimes the feed in a certain area is so large that systems with a slow modem or little HD (Hard Disc) space won't be interested any more in receiving such an area. Also, the files of a certain area can be so diverse that a simple point would be forced to receive files they would almost certainly delete immediately.

Another problem is that you may receive several areas that contain the same type of files. In such a situation you might easily loose overview of what is arriving at your system.

To cope with these kind of problems FileMgr offers various possibilities, many of which are not available in any other package.

FileMgr can move files, based on a file mask, to a different area. This enables you to split large areas up and create specific areas. Also this option allows you to join areas together.

Furthermore you can make an area pass through (not stored on your own system), decide not to send files or copy files to a different directory, all based on area and file mask.

FileMgr also offers you the possibility to adopt a file which didn't come with a *.TIC file into a certain area based on a file mask.

3.4   FileFind/AllFix requests

Locating files through echo mail

Echo mail is a system to send messages to other systems in a network. FileMgr can use echo mail to allow users to locate files on other systems.

Suppose you are looking for a certain file. Normally you would need to call a BBS and look whether they have that file. If you can't find the desired file, which will happen quite often, you would have to continue your search. This can take a lot of time and money when there is an easier method.

Suppose you are looking for the program RemoteAccess. You have a general idea of the name, but you don't know where to find it. Using the FileFind you enter a message in an echo mail conference which is meant for that subject. You address the message to 'Allfix' and on the subject line you enter one or more search keys. You can specify a file mask, but you can also use a keyword. Keywords should be preceded by a '/'. An example of such a message:

    Fr: Vince Coen
    To: Allfix
    Re: RA_???.* /remoteaccess

This message will be sent to various other systems, that's why it is an echo mail message. All systems that have FileMgr (or another program that supports this) installed will receive this message. Subsequently on that system

FileMgr starts searching for the files that match your specifications. If one or more files are found, FileMgr will send a reply message containing the names and descriptions of the files that were found, together with some additional information about the system where the files were found. This reply message can be sent either through net mail or through echo mail.

This concept was first implemented in the program AllFix by Harald Harms. That is also the reason why we speak of 'AllFix' requests, even though the feature is called 'FileFind' in FileMgr. Apart from FileMgr and AllFix there are also other programs that support this method of locating files.

Requests can be offered to FileMgr in two ways. Directly in a message base (I.e., QuickBBS, Jam etc), or by use of packets (*.PKT files). The reply messages created by FileMgr can also be sent in these two ways, or through Net Mail. The latter can be used to reduce a large flow of reply messages in an 'AllFix' conference. At this time of writing, FileMgr is the only program that is capable of sending it's reply messages through Net Mail. FileMgr can also send it's reply message in another area other than the one the original message was found in.

3.5   Mail Robots

Just like you have files that need to be sent regularly, there are also messages, Net Mail or Echo Mail, that need to be sent on a regular basis. Such as the rules of an Echo Mail conference or a list of 'frequently asked questions' etc.

FileMgr supports this too. It is very possible to post the rules of a conference that you moderate once a month, or to send someone a Net Mail message with a certain content once a week or once a fortnight.

Obviously this opens up more possibilities to further automate your system.

4   Installation

4.1   General

It is advisable to reserve a separate directory for FileMgr. In the remainder of this manual we will assume that all program files are located in the directory C:\FileMgr. See separate documentation regarding the source code.

You are also advised to make some more directories, specifically:

C:\FileMgr\tichold

To store files that are on 'hold'. FileMgr can keep this directory 'clean' itself. This means that files that have been sent will be removed from that directory.

C:\FileMgr\badfiles

To store bad files, like files that are incomplete or files in an unknown area.

C:\FileMgr\tpl

To store the template files. These files are used by FileMgr to create messages. It is recommended to keep these files in a separate directory and to include the FileMgr system directory in your PATH statement. Example:

SET PATH=C:\;C:\DOS;C:\TOOLS;C:\FD;C:\FileMgr

If you choose not to do this, you will need to switch to the FileMgr directory in order to be able to start FileMgr, or you will need to specify FileMgr's system directory on the command line.

If is advisable (but not necessary) to add the variable 'FileMgr' to your environment:

SET FileMgr=C:\FileMgr

This way, FileMgr will look for it's system file in this directory.
Copy the following files to the FileMgr system directory:

FileMgr.exe
FileMgr.ovr
FMSetup.exe
FMSetup.ovr
FMDesc.exe
FMBill.exe
FMConv.exe

Depending on your operating system you may not have files ending in .ovr and you may have additional programs.

De-archive the file template.zip in the FileMgr template directory:

unzip template.zip -d C:\FileMgr\tpl

After you have completed this, you can start the configuration program Fmsetup, and enter your configuration.

If you have been using Tick and/or Raid as a file processor, please read paragraph 4.2 If you have been using AllFix before you switched to FileMgr, please read paragraph 4.3.

4.2   Tips for upgrading from Tick/Raid

Since FileMgr offers more possibilities than the Tick/Raid programs, FileMgr needs more information to operate correctly. It is possible to import your Tick and/or Raid configuration files with Fmsetup, but we advise you to carefully consider the following items.

FileMgr has a strong group orientation. All areas in FileMgr are split up into groups. When importing your Tick configuration FileMgr can't find this group information because Tick doesn't support this concept. You can solve this problem by changing your Tick configuration file.

First you need to sort the areas in your Tick configuration file so the areas are grouped together the way you want them to. SDN areas together, SDS areas together. Then *before* each group of areas, you add the following line to your Tick configuration file:

Group #

Where the '#' sign is the group ID. Example:

Group S

area c:\files\sds\sdsfront   sdsfront
        2:250/1   test   *H
        2:250/1   no   *H

area c:\files\sds\sdsbink   sdsbink
        2:250/1   test   *H
        2:250/1   no   *H

This tells FMSetup you want these two areas to belong to group 'S'.

Now it is much easier to enter the extra information that FileMgr needs for each area.

Before you import the Tick/Raid configuration file with Fmsetup, you need to define the necessary groups.

As a last step you use Fmsetup to import your Tick and/or Raid configuration file, and you check the configuration.

4.3   Tips for upgrading from AllFix

Because FileMgr offers more possibilities than AllFix, not all required configuration data can be imported from the AllFix configuration files. Some things are handled by AllFix in such a different way, that importing them makes little or no sense, this is because most of the data would have to be reconfigured afterwards.

Fmsetup allows you to import the areas, groups and nodes from your AllFix set up into the FileMgr configuration. This alone will save you a lot of work in most cases.

The AllFix configuration files that are used for the 'AllFix' request function offer insufficient information to import them in a way that would make any sense to FileMgr. Entering this information in Fmsetup, however, is very easy for those of you who are used to AllFix.

5   Fmsetup

5.1   General Information

Before FileMgr can be used, various data about your system needs to be entered. In order to do this you use the program Fmsetup. This is a menu oriented program which is very user friendly.

Fmsetup makes use of menus. You can move the selection bar up and down using the arrow keys. Selecting a menu item is done by pressing the [Enter] key. If you want to back out to a previous menu or cancel current edited data, press [Esc]. In some cases Fmsetup will ask you whether you want to save the information you changed, or that the changes should be discarded. When you are in a window, the up and down arrow keys will move the selection bar. The PgUp, PgDn, Home, End keys will move the bar to the first and last entry in the menu. In edit mode, the up and down keys will bring you to the previous/next data field. The left and right arrows will position your cursor within the field you are editing. The Home and End keys will position your cursor at the first/last position of the data field. The PgUp, PgDn makes you jump to the first/last data field on the screen. In the different manager menu's, the left and right keys will show the previous/next item. The Home, End keys will show you the first, last item in the list. The Enter key in a menu selects the item pointed to by the selection bar. In editing mode, this key will perform like the cursor down key.

The bottom line of the screen is used to display a short help line concerning the option the selection bar is on.

When entering or changing an item that specifies a directory, that directory may not exist. In that case Fmsetup can create that directory for you. It is also possible to create a directory more than one level deep all at once. For instance Fmsetup can create the directory C:\FILES\SDS\SDSFRONT even when C:\FILES does, but C:\FILES\SDS doesn't exist.

From any screen in Fmsetup you can invoke a DOS shell. You do this by pressing Ctrl-Z. You can do this to check something or look something up, without having to exit the program completely. Returning to Fmsetup is done by typing 'exit' at the DOS prompt.

Fmsetup can also be started with a command line parameter. One parameter is 'PACK' or 'PURGE', and is used to clean up the data files FileMgr uses. The other one is 'INDEX' which can be run after Pack or Purge and this will re-index the databases used by FileMgr. It is advised to do this regularly, especially if you create and/or delete areas regularly. These parameters can be supplied in upper or lower case.

5.2   System Data

Here you can enter general data about your system. In order to let FileMgr function correctly it is of the utmost importance that this data is entered carefully and correctly.

5.2.1   Addresses

Main address

Specify your main network address here.

It is necessary to specify a network address however if you are not in a network such as Fidonet you will have to use a 'fake' address, which will be used for FileMgr to create various file types such as *.PKT and .TIC files and when processing both files types. This address must also be added to the configuration of your echo mail processor. You are strongly advised to choose an address of which it is very unlikely that it will exist somewhere in the network, for instance '99:9999/9999'. FileMgr also supports 4D point addresses such as points, but your echo mail processor needs to support this too. If you have been set up as a point from another BBS system the sysop will give you a address to use in the form of 9:9999/9999.999 and this is what is you need to enter here.

As an extra measure of security it is possible to specify a password which will be used in the header of the .PKT and .TIC files. Specifying a password ensures that FileMgr will only process files that contain the same password.

The check for the password is case insensitive. FileMgr will, in return, also use this password in the .PKT and .TIC files it creates. See under 'Uplinks' and 'Node Manager' in the menu.

AKA #1
...
AKA #10

If you have more than one node number and want to make use of them, you can specify up to 10 AKAs

5.2.2 AKA Matching

If you are a part of more than one network, and therefore have more than one node number, the AKA matching feature might prove very useful. You can specify up to 15 combinations of zone and net number with the network address to be used for that combination.

FileMgr will use this AKA matching when answering Net Mail messages, and optionally when sending *.TIC files. You can specify this for each area (ref. 5.4, Area Manager).

5.2.3 Site Info

Sysop's name

Specify your full name here.

System name

Specify the name of your system.

Registration code

The previous Beta and Gamma releases of FileMgr required the key '[EVALUATION]' to be entered here.
For GPL Open Source versions leave blank as it is unused.

Mailer type

Normally FileMgr runs in FrontDoor mode. If you use Binkley or D'Bridge as your mailer software you can specify that here. In FrontDoor mode, FileMgr will always create *.MSG file attaches. In D'Bridge mode, FileMgr will directly write to the D'Bridge outbound queue. In Binkley mode, FileMgr will create *.?LO files. If you use the D'Bridge or Binkley mode, you need to specify a queue/ outbound path. (see 5.2.4 Path & file names -> Queue path).
Other options include 'Portal of Power' and InterMail,

BBS type

Specifies the type of BBS program that you use. After you have set up the basics here you must run FmConv.exe to set the type.. BBS's supported at time of writing are:

SuperBBS v1.18
QuickBBS v2.76
Maximus v3.0
Ezycom v1.10
ProBoard v1.31
Spitfire v2.6b
RemoteAccess v1.11, v2.0x & 2.5x
Roboboard v1.08
Opus v1.70
WME v1.90 beta 2611
Concord v0.01 &1.06
a Generic BBS using the standard file FLSEARCH.CTL

File base type

Here you specify the type of file base which is dependent on the bbs used. If you don't use a standard one you can just leave this as files.bbs and this file will be used for each area to hold the details of each file in the bbs system by file area. See File areas ref 5.8.1 for more information.

5.2.4   Paths & File Names

Inbound files

Here you specify in which directory FileMgr should look for files that have just been received by your system. Usually it is the same directory that is specified in your mailer as 'inbound path'.

Secure Inbound

Specify the secure inbound directory, normally same as inbound above.

Outbound files

Here you specify a directory FileMgr can use to store the files that must be sent to other systems. It is advised to use a separate directory for this purpose (ref. 4.1). FileMgr also puts its *.TIC files that are bound for other systems here. FileMgr will maintain this directory itself, which means that it will remove files that have been sent automatically.

Netmail

Here you specify the *.MSG Net Mail directory which is used by your mailer. FileMgr will put the file attach messages for outbound files here. FileMgr also uses this directory to search for messages addressed to 'FileMgr' from your downlinks. Finally, if you use the FileFind feature with the *.PKT interface, FileMgr will look here for mail bundles addressed to the address specified as '*.PKT address' in the section 'Addresses' (ref. 5.2.1).

Bad files

This is the directory where 'bad' files are moved to. This can happen for various reasons. Generally the causes for this are an incorrect CRC, a wrong password or an unknown area. It is advised to use a separate directory here (ref. 4.1).

Areas.bbs

Here you specify the location of your AREAS.BBS file (or any other file with the same format). Fmsetup can use this type of file to make selecting message areas easier. An AREAS.BBS file is a plain text ASCII file, with the following set up for a Hudson style (QuickBBS) message base:

```
<line with system name or comment>
;
<boardnr>       <areatag>       <downlinks>
<boardnr>       <areatag>       <downlinks>
....
etc.
```

FileMgr uses the board number and the area tag. For the *.msg message base the layout of this file is slightly different, but this file can be used by FileMgr too.

Specifying this file is optional, it is only meant to make your work easier and reduce the chance of errors. FileMgr's functionality is not affected by this option.

Template path

This is the place where FileMgr can find your template files. These are ASCII text files that contain special keywords which are used to determine the layout of messages and descriptions. You can use the FileMgr system directory for this purpose, but it is advised to use a separate directory (ref. 4.1). On all occasions where you need to specify a template file, Fmsetup will offer you the possibility to open a window with a list of all available template files. This greatly enhances the ease of looking up template files and reduces the chance of errors. Since this list contains all

files of the directory specified here, it is advised to use a separate directory. This way you are sure all files in the list are template files.

Logfile name

This is the location and name of the log file that FileMgr must use. FileMgr uses a FrontDoor style log file. Examine this to check for error or caution messages from time to time but daily or better when setting up FileMgr.

Areamgr Logfile name

This is the location and name of the log file that FileMgr will use for logging areamgr activity. FileMgr will use the log file described above if this entry is empty.

Temporary Path

Directory for the sole use of Filemgr. Used to hold temporary files..

Quote file

The messages that are created by FileMgr can be built using a variety of special keyword or macros. One of these template keywords allows you to include a one line 'quote of the day' in a message. If you specify the path name of a plain ASCII text file here FileMgr will get its 'quote of the day' from that file. This is done at random. If you don't specify a quote file, and use the appropriate keyword anyway, FileMgr will generate a quote itself, which will usually be some kind of advertisement for the program itself :-). The file quotes.fm is supplied with the package for this purpose.

Magicname list 1

FileMgr allows you to update the file your mailer uses to know what 'magic' file request names can be used. These 'magic' names work according to the following principle. On your system a file is maintained with the following contents:

FM_BETA C:\BETA\FM_2610B.ZIP
FileMgr C:\FILES\FileMgr\FileMgr.ZIP

Now, if a user enters a file request for the file FileMgr, your mailer will send the file specified above. This can be very useful for users who don't know the exact file name.

FileMgr can maintain this list. This happens when a received *.TIC file contains the keyword 'Magic'. FileMgr will then update the file specified here with the correct magic name and path name specification.

Magicname list 2

What applies to 'Magicname list 1' also applies to the file specified by the path name here. The difference is that in this case the file will not be updated with the magic and the path name of the file, but with the magicname and the description of the file. This 'Magic name list' can be used to inform your users about the 'magic' names that are active on your system.

Queue path

If you use FileMgr in D'Bridge mode this is where you enter D'Bridge's queue path. If you are using FileMgr in Binkley mode, this is where you specify Binkley's outbound path for the default zone. The default zone is defined as the zone number of your main address in FileMgr. (ref. 5.2.1)

Retirement path

The path to the directory that will contain all old files that have been retired by Filemgr by a more recent one received from your uplinks, e.g., fred120.zip would be replaced by fred121.zip if the .TIC file specified a replace command, and the old file placed here. This should be checked & cleaned at weekly or monthly intervals.

Semaphore path

Directory containing special files of minimum size that is used to ensure that only one copy of Filemgr and/or bbs and/or mailer is running at a time. Used for single and multi node systems and should be the same as used by the bbs and mailer if possible.

External Editor

Full path and file name of your text editor to be used with text files such as templates when in Fmsetup.

5.2.5   External Programs

5.2.5.1 Archivers

In a number of cases FileMgr will use external archiving utilities such as PKZIP, RAR and ARJ, for instance to pack and unpack bundled *.TIC files, to pack *.TIC file bundles (ref. 3.2), and when using the *.PKT interface in combination with the FileFind feature, to unpack the mail bundles. FileMgr supports the most used archiving methods, specifically ZIP, ARJ, ZOO, RAR, ARC and LZH (LHA) as well as Hyper, squeeze and DWC. To be able to call these programs correctly, you need to specify in Fmsetup what the exact name is of these programs and what parameters should be passed to them. Fmsetup's will set defaults for many of them.

ZIP	:	zip.exe -o -9 %1 @%2	pkunzip.exe -d -o %1
ARJ	:	arj.exe a -m1 %1 !%2	arj.exe x -y %1
LZH	:	lha.exe a /m %1 @%2	lha.exe x /m %1
ARC	:	pkarc.exe %1 @%2	pkarc.exe %1
PAK	:	pkpak.exe -a %1 %2	pkunpak.exe -e %1
RAR	:	rar.exe a -tl -av -ep1 %1	unrar.exe e -o+ -c %1

These settings should be checked against the individual archivers documentation for the current best settings as new versions can cause a change. For each archiving utility there are two columns, the left column specifies the call when compressing, the right column specifies the call for decompressing. There is also settings to add a banner which is only shown when entering an individual archive settings.

There are two special parameters you need to use here. The first is '%1' which is substituted by FileMgr for the name of the archive file when it calls that program. This is used for both compressing and decompressing. When compressing files a second parameter is used: '%2' which will be replaced with the name of a plain ASCII text file containing the file names of the files that must be compressed into the archive.

It is very important to understand this well, since specifying wrong or omitting necessary parameters will, especially when compressing, lead to very undesirable results. After set up and when running, watch out for error messages on screen (subject to setting up of 'packing visible' and 'unpacking visible') during file processing and in the log file to ensure that you have configured these correctly. Note that the log file will not contain archivers messages.

Unpack

When decompressing files, FileMgr uses the extension of a file to determine which program should be used. When for instance the file FM017D6A.ZIC is received PKUnzip will be used. If you don't trust this method, you can use a general unpacking program or shell, like for instance GUS. In that case you need to specify the name of this program and all necessary parameters here. Don't forget to specify the '%1' parameter at the appropriate place or your program won't know what to unpack, which is not very efficient :-)

Convert

The name and parameters of your external archiver convert program. If empty, done internally.

Test

The name and parameters of your external archive test utility.

5.2.5.2 Virus Scanner

Scanner path

The name and path for your scanner

Scanner Parameters

The parameters for the scanner to use.

Max Errorlevel

The maximum error level that means no viruses found. For many this is 0 (zero).

Files to scan

Only when these files are present will Filemgr start the scanner. Usually set to '*.*' (without the quotes).

5.2.5.3 Options

Swapping method

Memory swapping method to use. Usually set to 'Ems/Xms/Disk'.

Show Swapping

Set to Yes if number of bytes swapped to disk/ems/xms must be visible.

Packing Visible

If output of archivers during packing should be visible. This and the next two settings should be left set on to help verify that you have set up the archivers (5.2.5.1) and virus scanner (5.2.5.2) correctly. After you have done so you can turn these off when you are happy that all settings are correct.

Unpacking Visible

If output of archivers during unpacking should be visible.

Virusscan Visible

If the output of the virus scanner during scanning should be visible.

5.2.5.4 Banners

The path and file name of the banner definition files for re-archiving. You can specify up to 15 and can edit the file contents by pressing F2 when highlighted. You must have the external editor set up. See ref (5.2.4).

5.2.6 Behaviour

Specify yes or no, if certain events should be reported in the log file.

5.2.7 Miscellaneous

Here you determine FileMgr's behaviour at various points. It is advised to read this section carefully and set everything up according to your needs.

Days to keep files

Here you specify the number of days FileMgr should keep files that have not been collected by the receiving system. After that period, FileMgr will delete those files. This avoids the situation of your HD getting full and files that will never be collected. You should inform the sysops of the systems you send files to about this setting. Don't forget systems fail. Usually when the sysop has just gone on holiday, so allow for 2 – 3 weeks. We suggest 28 days.

Touch files

Here you specify whether or not FileMgr should change the date of received files to today's date. This can be useful if you work with a BBS program that can show your callers a list of new files, and when this list is compiled based upon date/time. FileMgr only changes the date of the file in your BBS directory not on hold.

Replace outdated files

Received *.TIC files can contain the 'Replaces' keyword and the name of a file. This is used to replace an older version of a program with new one. This way you can prevent the situation that you have three versions of the same program in your directory; one correct version and two old versions. This is confusing and takes unnecessary disk space. With this switch you determine whether FileMgr will replace old versions of files when a 'Replaces' keyword is encountered. Usually Yes.

Kill received requests

If this switch is set to Yes, Net Mail messages addressed to FileMgr will be killed immediately after processing. If you set this switch to 'No', they will be marked 'Received'. Usually Yes.

Ignore unknown areas

If this switch is set to 'No' and FileMgr receives a file in an area that doesn't occur in your configuration, this file, including its *.TIC file, will be moved to the 'Bad file directory'. If you set this switch to 'Yes', FileMgr will leave the file in your inbound path for later processing. This can be useful if you don't use FileMgr for all areas. This way you can let another program handle these areas after FileMgr has run.

FileMgr also has the possibility to allow systems that you receive files from to create new areas. In that case this switch is inactive, because the 'unknown area' is created immediately, and is therefore no longer unknown.

Ignore bad CRC files

This switch works similarly to the 'Ignore unknown areas' switch. If a file is rejected because the CRC-32 doesn't match the CRC-32 specified in the accompanying *.TIC file, in virtually all cases that means the file is useless. Several causes can play a part here, most of which mean the file is not usable. It is therefore logical to move these files to the 'Bad file directory'.

On the other hand it could be that the received file was not complete, for instance because the carrier got lost during the transfer. If this happens, and you call the system that you receive files from again, usually you don't need to receive the entire file all over again provide you use a modern transfer protocol. This is impossible when FileMgr has moved the file to the 'Bad file directory'. If this happens to you regularly you might consider setting this switch to 'Yes'. The files will remain in the inbound directory of your mailer and FileMgr will check whether the CRC is OK each time it is run with the 'scan' parameter see (6.2).

In most cases however, it is advised to leave this switch set to 'No'.

Force ^AINTL kludge

The INTL kludge is used in Net Mail messages addressed to someone in a different zone than your own. This kludge looks something like:

^aINTL <dest.addr> <orig.addr>

Normally FileMgr will only add this kludge to messages of which the zone numbers of addressee and sender are different. Setting this switch to 'Yes' will force FileMgr to always add this kludge.

Update magic list

This switch determines whether the 'magic' file name lists should be updated when FileMgr encounters a 'Magic' keyword in a *.TIC file (ref. 5.2.4).

Weeks to keep history

Of each file that is processed by FileMgr the name, size, area and CRC-32 are written to a history file. This file is used to check for duplicates; files that were received before and don't need to processed again. Here you specify the number of weeks FileMgr should keep the entries in the history file. It is advised to keep this value as high as possible I.e., 52.

Max. size of history

The maximum size in kilobytes the history file may get. See previous item for more information.

Area sorting method

With this option you can determine in what order the entries in the Area Manager (ref. 5.4) will be sorted. The options are TAG or GROUP. The latter is usually easier.

UTC difference

The 'Path' lines in a *.TIC file also mention the time and date a file was processed. This time should be displayed as UTC (GMT) time. In order to correctly calculate the UTC time from your system time, FileMgr needs to know how much difference there is. Here you enter the number of hours FileMgr should ADD to your local time to calculate UTC. e.g., value range -23 to 23.

Default password

FileMgr can send files to systems that are not in its configuration. This doesn't give many problems, the file attach will be addressed to 'sysop', and as long as the address is in order, the file will arrive. The only problem is the password that is mentioned in a *.TIC file. In such a case the password is unknown. Omitting the field after the 'Pw' keyword, or even omitting the 'Pw' line completely will not always be accepted. The password you enter here as 'Default password' will be used in the *.TIC file in these cases.

Ignore extended ASCII

Should Filemgr ignore extended ASCII characters in the file_id.diz files. Also see 'Reformat Descriptions'.

Description starts

In which column does the description start, normally 14 but only for files.bbs file bases.

Use AREADESC keyword

Should Filemgr use areadesc keyword in .tic files for new areas. Usually yes.

Duplicate Checking

Specify whether Filemgr should declare files as duplicates on a overall, group or area basis.

Max. netmail msg size

Specify the maximum size of net mail messages for Manager and Scheduler.

Update old *.zic files

Specify whether Filemgr should try to update old *.zic packets or only create new ones (but not if using Dbridge.

Max Chars file_id.diz

Specify the maximum number of characters to use when importing file_id.diz files. Usually set to 1024 but subject to bbs maximum.

Reformat Descriptions

Specify if Filemgr should reformat file descriptions automatically and ignore linefeeds.

Logfile information

Specify if the log file should have compact or expanded information

Minimum hard disk space

Specify how much hard disk space must exist before Filemgr can start, value is in Kb (Kilo bytes).

5.2.8 Origin Lines

Here you can enter up to 14 origin lines which can be selected in either the FileFind menu (ref. 5.8) and the Message manager (ref. 5.9).

5.2.9 Aliases

Do you know them too? Sysops who, even though you told them at least three times over, keep addressing their messages to Raid, when you have stopped using that program weeks ago. Make it easy on them. Here you can enter up to 10 different names that FileMgr will recognize as messages to itself. You can use the '*' wild card at the end of a name to indicate anything starting with that name should be recognized. A couple of examples:

#1:   FileMgr*
#2:   RAID
#3:   FILEFIX
#4:   Allfix

This makes sure that messages addressed to anything starting with 'FileMgr' as well as messages addressed to 'RAID' and 'ALLFIX' will be processed by FileMgr.

Name matching for this feature is case insensitive, I.e., both 'raid' and 'rAiD' will be recognized in this example.

5.2.10 Logfile

Specify which, if not all events are to be reported in the log file.

5.2.11 Uplinks

Specify here the details of your uplink system/s (the system or systems that sends you files).
Here you select the:
      node address in the form nn:nnnn/nnnn
      The program that Filemgr should address file requests to
      The password to use between you both
      Should Filemgr prefix '+' to request file areas from this uplink (this depends on their software. Usually Yes
      Which groups this uplink is feeding you
      What is the name of the ASCII text file containing file areas from this uplink. Usually filegate.zxx
      Which of your akas addresses should be used when writing messages to this uplink

5.2.12 Tpl Language Definitions

Specify here the spelling for the days in the week, months in a year (if not English), names of the template files and at the same time you can edit these using your defined external text editor via the F2 key. As well as other help files that can be sent to your downlinks using the template file sub system.

5.2.13 Semaphores

Specify what mode the semaphores should use, time to wait before aborting on other tasks, how long to wait before semaphores are declared old and the file to create or touch for a mailer rescan.

5.2.14 Security

If you wish to set up a password for access to Fmsetup define it here. Make sure you keep a note of it. Not really needed if you are the only user of the computer.

5.3   Group Manager

As already mentioned in paragraph 4.2, FileMgr is strongly group oriented. All file areas in FileMgr are grouped. The advantage thereof is that a lot of settings can be prepared per group. When creating a new area, automatically or manually, these settings can be copied to the new area as defaults.

FileMgr allows systems that you send files to, to connect or disconnect, complete groups of areas with only one command. This eases the use greatly. Also where security is concerned, the group concept is important. Whether or not a certain system can or cannot connect itself to a certain area is determined by the fact whether or not it has access to the group the area belongs to.

Announcing newly received files is also done on a group basis. By group you can determine what echo mail area the file should be announced in.

Obviously groups are very important in FileMgr and defining them takes some caution and planning. The most logical method is defining a group for each file distribution network you are attached to.

Group Number

The group number is used to refer to a group by the Area manager (ref. 5.4) and elsewhere in the program. The number must be unique (which Fmsetup will check), and is between 1 and 255.

Description

Here you describe the group in question. Where the Group number is most important to FileMgr, you and your downlinks will most likely think of the description as the most important field. This description will be placed in the Area Manager (ref. 5.4) and in the lists that FileMgr can send to the connected systems and to yourself. This description can also be used when placing group based announcements. Please be specific when entering a description, for instance 'PDN, Programmers Distribution Net'.

Format *.TPL

When a file arrives on your system, the file will usually be copied to a directory on your bbs that is accessible for your users for download. Also a file (usually files.bbs) must be updated with the name and description of this file. Since not all BBS programs use the same type of file for this purpose, FileMgr allows you to define the layout of the entry that will be placed in this file yourself. To this end, you can use a template file, which is the same method that is used when announcing received files. You can use special keywords in a template file which allows a very flexible layout. Pressing F2 will allow you to edit a selected file or create a new one using the external editor you have defined in (5.2.4 Paths and file names)

When your bbs uses the standard 'files.bbs' file, you can use the file 'filesbbs.tpl' which is included in the template.zip archive.

Other programs, like PCBoard, will require you to create your own template file. A detailed description of the format of these template files can be found in (12 Template files).

Directory

Here you enter the directory the files that are received in this area should be copied to. Generally this is a directory that is available on your bbs. As soon as the file is received and found ok, it is copied to this directory.

List file

Usually the 'files.bbs' file or its equivalent is located in the same directory specified at 'Directory' (see above). Some bbs software however uses a file with a different name, or even in a different directory. FileMgr supports this, so you can specify the exact pathname of that file here.

If you enter or change the 'Directory' field of an area, FileMgr will ask you whether it should update this field with the new path. FileMgr will assume the list file is called 'files.bbs'.

Batchfile

FileMgr allows you to start an external program or batch file when one or more files are received in a certain area. This can be useful to handle certain files. An example could be the nodediff. Immediately after reception of a nodediff file you can start a batch file that updates your nodelist and recompiles it.

FileMgr passes three parameters to this batch file. The name of the file, the directory the file was copied to and the tag of the area the file was received in. You can test this by creating a simple batch file containing:

echo %1 %2 %3
pause

and specifying this batch file with this group.

Description

When you receive files in an area belonging to this group that don't have a description in the *.TIC file, the description you enter here will be used. Example: '[No description, inform the sysop]'.

Message file

The full path of a text file to include in a net mail file attach

Messages

This field is very important. As soon as a file is received in an area belonging to this group, FileMgr checks whether you want to announce its reception. This can be configured per area (ref. 5.3, 'Status'). If that is the case, FileMgr needs to determine in which message area(s) the announcement must be placed. Here is where you enter that. You enter an area number which is defined in the Message Manager (ref. 5.9). There you specify where exactly the message should be posted, in what form and with which origin address.

If you omit this field no announcements will be made.

Re-archive

Specify here if you want all archived files re-archived and if so what archiver.
If the file is the same archive format do you want it re-archived.
If archive has AV security do you want it re-archived or skipped (normally skipped).
Do you want strange extentions changed I.e., .A01, .R02, .Z03 etc.
Do you wish to add a banner to the new archive and if so what one, see (5.2.5.4 Banners).

Cleanup

Specify here if filemgr should delete files based on date (how many days old) or maximum amount of files to keep.

Replace mode

Should filemgr delete, ignore or copy files to be replaced if *.TIC file has the replaced keyword.

Cost Sharing

If you wish to use the Cost Sharing facility this is the place to set it up on a group file area basis.
So, here you set the cost in cents by file or per block of 100kb or 1 Mb, whether to include the uplinks costs, include all downlinks in calculation or only the active ones for this area, include yourself as the host in the calcs and add a percentage to the total block amount. See (7 Billing Manager) for additional information.

Status

For each area, a number of things can be switched on or off using these status bits.

CRC check

In some *.TIC files the 'Crc' keyword is mentioned, behind which the CRC-32 of the file in question is specified. Using this information FileMgr has a very good way of determining whether it was received correctly and completely. FileMgr does this by calculating the crc-32 of the received file and comparing this value with the crc-32 which is specified in the *.tic file. If these two don't match, the file will be copied to FileMgr's bad file directory (ref. 5.2.4), unless you instructed FileMgr to ignore files with a 'bad crc' (ref. 5.2.4, Ignore bad crc files). When the latter is the case, the file will remain in the inbound directory.

The 'CRC check' status bit determines whether the check for a valid CRC should be executed. Obviously this check cannot be performed when the received *.TIC files don't contain the 'Crc' keyword. In that case you should ask the sysop of the system you receive files from to change this for you.

Dup check

This status bit determines whether FileMgr, after receiving a file in this area, will check whether this file hasn't been received before by your system. To this end FileMgr uses a list of filenames, file sizes and crc's that is stored in FileMgr's history file. This check is thorough, and a file with the same name as an already received file is not automatically seen as a duplicate. Both size and crc must be identical too. This check covers ALL areas, not only the receiving area is checked.

If this status bit is set to 'No', this check will not be performed. The file's information however will always be written to FileMgr's history file.

A 'duplicate file' will be moved to FileMgr's bad files directory.

FuzzyDup

Only look at the file name but not the extension on every file.

Tiny

Normally FileMgr adds your network address to the list of 'Path' and 'Seenby' information that it encounters in a received *.tic file, so the systems that you forward files to, can see where the file has come from and via which route. That's why FileMgr offers you the 'Tiny' status bit. If this bit is set to 'Yes', FileMgr will only include the information about your own system in outgoing *.tic files. Use this status bit with extreme caution. Stripping 'Seenby' information increases the chance of duplicates.

Be aware that this switch (together with the 'MoveToArea' function of the Exception Manager, ref. 5.6) can be used to generate illegal side branches of closed networks. This is an issue which is the user's responsibility.

Secure

This status bit determines from which systems you accept files in this area. If the 'Secure' bit is set to 'Yes', FileMgr will only accept files from systems that have the import switch set. If this status bit is set to 'No' any system can send files to you for this area. For security reasons it is advised to set 'Secure' to 'Yes'.

Backup

If you forward files in this area to other systems, a file attach must be made. This file attach must also contain the location where your mailer can find the file that must be sent. If the 'Backup' status bit is set to 'No', this is the same directory as the directory you specified at the 'Directory' field for this area. This can however be risky if you regularly clean up your BBS directories and also delete recent files in the process, for instance because they are of no importance to your BBS. If you accidentally delete a file that still has to be sent to another system the sysop of that system will be in for an unpleasant surprise; the file has vanished.

If you want to prevent this, you can set the 'backup' status bit to 'Y'. This will cause FileMgr to make a copy of outbound files in FileMgr's outbound directory (ref. 5.2.4). This copy will be removed when the file has been sent to all systems that are connected to this area. This is the recommended setting.

Hide

If a sysop requests a list of areas that are available to him from FileMgr, he usually gets a list of all areas belonging to the groups he has access to. In some cases it may be necessary not to show one or more areas in these lists, even though the area is accessible. To accomplish this you can use the 'Hide' status bit. If you set this status bit to 'Yes', this area will not appear on any list sent to other systems.

VirusScan

Set if you wish to scan for viruses for all incoming files. Set to yes is highly recommended.

ImportDiz

Set to yes to import the file description from the file_id.diz file if present, in every incoming archived file.

LongDesc

Set to use long descriptions from the .tic file if possible. Normally set to Yes.

AnnNew

This status bit works similar to the 'Hatch new' status bit, except that no complete hatch is performed. New files will be announced by FileMgr as if they had just been received when filemgr called with NEWSCAN. If you specify the 'Hatch new' switch, setting this switch is unnecessary since 'Hatch new' includes 'Announce new'. Also see HatchNew.

HatchNew

If you set this status bit to 'Yes', FileMgr will check the directory specified in the 'Directory' field for files that weren't there the last time FileMgr looked. If this is the case, and these new files weren't placed there by FileMgr itself, they will automatically be hatched into the area, using the description found in the 'List file'. Subsequently the file will be treated just as if it had just been received by your system, including forwarding and announcing. This is a very handy option for those who regularly download utilities and hatch them in a certain area.

This function only works in combination with the command line option 'NEWSCAN' of FileMgr (ref. 6.8, 'NewScan').

Seen-by

Here you can tell FileMgr which of your network addresses it should use to update the 'Path' and 'Seenby' keywords in outgoing *.tic files. When you send files to systems in various networks, it may be easier to select 'AKA matching'. FileMgr will then determine what aka to use based upon the aka matching table (ref. 5.2.2, 'AKA matching'). This depends on the network address of the receiving system. This way you can use your SIG net address when sending files to SIG net nodes, and your Fido net address when sending files to Fido Net nodes.

5.4   Area Manager

The Area Manager is probably the most important part of the Fmsetup program. Here you define all data concerning your areas. This data determine what FileMgr will and will not do with the files your system receives. Make sure you understand what influence various settings will have on FileMgr's functionality before you use them.

Area tag

This is a unique name that identifies the area. This name must be an exact match of the name specified after the 'Area' keyword in the *.tic files your system receives. You can compare this with an echo mail conference. Usually the system you receive files from allows you to request a list stating the exact tags of the areas you are connected to. An example of such a tag is 'pdnpascl'.

Description

This description will, like the group description, be used in announcements and reports of areas. An example of a description could be: 'PDN pascal area'.

Group number

Here you enter to which group the area belongs. A list of available areas will be displayed, so don't worry if you can't remember the group numbers. As soon as you enter or change the group, FMsetup will ask you whether you want to copy the group defaults. If you answer this question with 'Y' all the remaining fields will be filled in by the group settings see Group Manager settings (ref. 5.3). As soon as you have selected a Group number the appropriate description will be displayed.

You can than edit all fields should you need to change any of the default settings all of which are the same as in (Group Manager 5.3).

Status

Most of these are the same as in the Group Manager settings except for three additional fields.

Test file

Set to Yes to test each file with the external file test program as defined in Archivers (5.2.5.1)

Notified

Should the sysop be notified if this area is disconnected from the uplink.

Disconnect

Has this area been disconnected from the uplink.

Connections

The Node Manager must have been used to set up the node prior to using this function.
Set up here which systems are connected to this area or to see which have connected to it. If you wish to add a node then use the insert key and enter the node number, sysop name, If they import the file or export it. Is it a mandatory area. Is it a pre-release area and lastly what packing should be used I.e., default, all *.tic files or all files.

5.5   Node Manager

In the Node Manager you specify the systems you regularly send files to or receive files from. The data in the Node Manager is used to determine which areas a specific system has access to, who the files will be sent to, whether the files will be sent crash or put on hold, and which password will be used. Therefore it is very important to enter the data in the Node Manager with great care. This data have a big influence on FileMgr's functionality.

System address

Here you specify the 4D network address of the system in question When entering the address you can use short addressing; if you enter just a 3, and your own address is 2:250/1, Fmsetup will assume you mean 2:250/3. If you enter .1, Fmsetup will (in this case) change that to 2:250/1.1.

Operator name

The name of the sysop of the system. This name will be used in the 'To:' field of Net Mail messages.

Password

The password you and the sysop of this system have agreed upon. Note that the password verification is case insensitive. For FileMgr the passwords 'FileMgr' and 'FileMgr' are identical. Please choose a password that is not based on a real word or someone's name, it reduces the chance that someone will succeed at guessing it easily.

Available groups

The groups the system has access to. The sysop of the system in question can connect to the areas in this group him/ herself provided the 'Remote Maintenance' status bit is set to 'Yes' (ref. 'Status'). In any case you can connect a system to an area it cannot connect itself to.

Visible groups

The groups listed here will be in the lists a sysop can request. Generally you specify the same groups here as in 'Available groups', but it is possible to show areas in lists the system has no access to. These areas will be preceded with a '-' to tell the difference from accessible areas. The sysop is thus enabled to see what areas your system carries, but can only connect the areas belonging to groups listed as 'Available groups'.

Default new group

If you allow a system to create new areas on your system, you should specify a group number here. The newly created area will belong to the area you specify here. All necessary data will be copied from the Group Manager defaults. In order to be allowed to create new areas it is necessary that the system has the 'Can create new areas' status bit set to 'Yes' (ref. 'Status').

*.TIC file type

Here you specify what kind of *.TIC files this system wants to receive. FileMgr can do this in three ways. Your options are:

Antique

These are normal *.TIC files, which can be processed by programs like Tick. These files have names like TK######.tic, where the '#' characters represent a unique number.

Advanced

This type of files can only be processed by FileMgr and a limited number of other programs. They are slightly more compact. Their names look something like FM######.tic, where the '#' characters represent a unique number. Check with your downlinks (systems that you send files to) as to their capability.

None

If you select this option the system concerned will receive no *.tic files at all. Point systems and other small systems generally do not automatically process files. In this case sending *.tic files is not useful.

If this system has the 'Remote Maintenance' bit set to 'Yes' the sysop of the system can choose what kind of *.tic files, if any, he wants to receive.

Packing method

FileMgr has the ability to bundle the files that are being forwarded to other systems in one big file. This is done using a standard archiving utility, like for instance Zip (ref. 3.2 and 5.2.5.1). Here you specify whether any packing should be done, and if so, what files must be packed.

None

This choice tells FileMgr not to pack any files. All files will be sent separately. Recommended setting.

Pack *.TIC only

Packing of *.TIC files alone doesn't take much HD space, but it will strongly reduce the number of file attaches. This can result in a major speed gain on busy systems. You should verify that the system you are send these to can process them.

Pack all files

This option tells FileMgr to pack all files for this system. You should be aware that this option takes a lot of disk space. For a safety aspect, this is not recommended, i.e., increased risk of errors when using modems etc.

Archiver

When using the pack feature, this is where you decide what archiving utility to use (ref. 5.2.5.1).

Maximum bundle size

When using the pack feature, this is where you specify whether FileMgr should try to keep the bundles from getting larger than the amount of kilobytes entered here. This can be helpful to prevent many files from getting lost when the bundle gets damaged.

Default mail status

Here you specify what status the file attaches this system will receive will have. You can also specify that on a per group basis (ref. 'Status per group').

Crash

Crash mail is usually sent to the receiving system immediately.

Hold

Mail that is put on hold is usually collected by the receiving system and will not be sent to it when polling it.

Direct

Direct mail is usually brought to or collected by the receiving system itself. No intermediate systems will be used for routing the files. For a detailed description of the effect that the various flags have please see your mailer's documentation.

Manager Mail Status

Specify the status of Net Mail messages that FileMgr generates, with the exception of the file attaches. This allows you to have these messages packed or routed.

Crash
Hold
Direct

Refer 'Default mail status'.

For a detailed description of the effect that the various flags have, please see your mailer's documentation.

Status per group

To allow files from some groups to be sent with different settings than specified at 'Default mail status', or use a different packing method than specified at 'Packing method' you can specify whether FileMgr should use the default settings or group specific settings for mail status and/or packing here.

Crash
Hold
Direct

Refer 'Default mail status'.

Default mail

If you select this option the mail status specified at 'Default mail status' will be used.

Pack *.TIC files
Pack all files

Refer 'Packing method'.

Default packing

If you select this option FileMgr will pack the files as specified at 'Packing method'.

System status

Here you can switch various options on or off for this system.

Remote maintenance

If this status bit is set to 'Yes', FileMgr will process messages from this system, thus enabling the sysop to (dis)connect areas, request lists of available areas, etc.

Notify

This status bit determines whether or not this system will receive a list of active areas and additional information when you run FileMgr with the 'Notify' command line parameter (ref. 6.7).

Pause

If this status bit is set to 'Yes', this system will no longer receive any files, even when the system is connected to one or more areas. This can be useful when the sysop is temporarily absent, for instance because of a holiday. If this system has the 'Remote maintenance' status bit set to 'Yes', the sysop can switch the 'Pause' bit on or off himself. This will result in the sysop not getting any files that may come in to your system while this setting is in place.

Add to new area

This status bit determines whether this system should be connected to an area that was newly created by another system. Connecting to the area will of course only happen when this system has access to the group this new area belongs to (Ref. 'Groups').

Can create new area

This status bit determines whether or not this system is allowed to create new areas on your system. If this status bit is set to 'Yes' and *.TIC files are received from this system bound for an unknown area, this area will automatically be created. The area will be added to the group mentioned in the 'Default new group' field. Subsequently all systems with access to this group who also have the 'Add to new area' status bit set to 'Yes' will be connected to this area.

5.6   Exceptions

FileMgr offers a set of useful and unique possibilities to give certain files a special treatment. You will find these options in the Exception Manager of FMsetup. Based on a file mask and an area tag, files can be selected and one can determine what should be done with those files.

In each of the different exception types, a file mask must be specified. Such a file mask may contain standard dos wild cards. In addition to that you can also use the unique FileMgr wild cards. '#' can be used to replace any numeric digit ('0' through '9'), '@' can be used to replace an alphabetical character ('A' through 'Z'). A number of examples will probably clarify this.

```
Mask                    Possible matching file names
-------------------------------------------------------------
FNEWS???.*              FNEWS192.ARC, FNEWS12B.ARC, FNEWS___.ARC
FNEWS###.*              FNEWS192.ARC

NODEDIFF.*              NODEDIFF.A92, NODEDIFF.ARC, NODEDIFF.029
NODEDIFF.@##            NODEDIFF.A92
-------------------------------------------------------------
```

To avoid unexpected and probably undesired results it is advisable to specify the file masks as accurately as possible. This reduces the chance of selecting wrong files.

5.6.1   Move File

This is a very useful and powerful option. With this exception you can move certain files from one area to another. This allows you to split or join areas. It also allows you to rename areas.

From area

This is the tag of the area the move will be performed upon. Files must be received in this area to be processed by this exception.

To area

The name of the area where the selected files will be moved to. Files will subsequently be processed as if they were received in that area.

From node

The address, files moved by this exception will seemingly come from. This to avoid possible security problems.

An example to clarify this:

```
Type      :      MoveToArea
File mask :      SCAN*.*
From area :      4US281
To area   :      MCAFEE
From node :      2:250/1
```

When your system receives a file that matches the above file mask in the area specified, FileMgr will move this file to the MACAFEE area and process it as if it were received from node 2:250/1.

5.6.2   Adopt File

This exception was designed to allow processing of files that arrive without an accompanying *.TIC file. You can compare this feature to FileFix. Based on the file mask, files are adopted into a specific area.

To area

The area a matching file should be adopted into.

From node

What system, FileMgr should consider to be the sender of the file.

Description

As a *.TIC file is missing, there is no description available. Here you specify the description FileMgr should give this file. In this description you can use FileMgr's template keywords.

An example to clarify this:

```
Type          :      AdoptFile
File mask     :      VSIG####.@@@
To area       :      TBSCAN
From node     :      2:250/1.14
Magic         :      VSIG
Description   :      Latest TBscan(x) signature file @day @dd @month
```

If FileMgr encounters a file in your inbound directory without a *.TIC file that matches the specified file mask, FileMgr will process this file as if it were received in the TBSCAN area from 2:250/1.14 with 'Latest TBscan(x) signature file' as the description. Furthermore the file can be requested under the name 'VSIG'.

FileMgr checks for the existence of these files after the files that are accompanied by a *.TIC file have been processed. This to prevent the wrong files from being adopted.

5.6.3   NoForward

Sometimes you may **not** want to forward files from a certain area to the systems that are connected to that area. The 'NoForward' exception can take care of that.

From area

Specify the area concerned.

An example to clarify this:

```
Type          : NoForward
File mask     : VSIG####.@@@
From area     : TBSCAN
```

In this case the files received in the area TBSCAN that match the file mask VSIG####.@@@ will not be forwarded to the systems connected to this area. The file will however be moved to the bbs directory.

5.6.4   PassThru

The 'PassThru' exception can be described as the counterpart of the 'NoForward' exception. It allows you to forward files in a certain area without processing them on your bbs.

From area

Specify the area concerned.

An example to clarify this:

```
Type    :      PassThru
File mask :      VSIG####.@@@
```

From area :   TBSCAN

In this case the files that arrive in the TBSCAN area that match the file mask VSIG####.@@@ will not be processed on your system. This means they will not be copied to the directory specified for this area. Files matching the specification will however be forwarded to connected systems.

5.6.5   Copy File

Sometimes moving the file to the bbs directory is not enough. It can be useful to have an extra copy of the file somewhere else on your system e.g., latest virus data file to go into your virus scanner directory. This is where the 'CopyFile' exception comes in.

From area

Specify the area concerned.

Directory

The directory a matching file will be copied to.

An example to clarify this:

Type   :   CopyFile
File mask :   VSIG####.@@@
From area :   TBSCAN
Directory :   C:\VIRUS\DATA\

In this case each file received in the TBSCAN area that matches the file mask VSIG####.@@@ will be copied to the directory C:\VIRUS\DATA.

5.6.6   Other Path

Maybe you sometimes receive files in one area that you would like to be in different directories on your bbs. If these files can be recognized by a certain file mask, FileMgr can help you.

From area

The area the files should be selected from.

Directory

The bbs directory the selected file(s) will be moved to. Also the files.bbs or it's equivalent will be updated with the name and description of the file in question.

An example to clarify this:

Type   :   OtherPath
File mask :   VSIG####.@@@
From area :   TBSCAN
Directory :   C:\VIRUS\DATA\

If, in this case, you receive a file in the TBSCAN area that matches the file mask VSIG####.@@@, this file will not be placed in the directory specified in the 'Directory' field of that area, but in the directory specified here. That is also where the files.bbs will be updated.

5.6.7   CopyToArea

This option enables you to process certain files in various areas. In contradiction to the 'Move' option, where the file is moved and treated as if it had arrived in a different area, this option also processes the file in the original area.

From area

The area from which the file(s) should be copied.

To area

The area the file(s) should be processed in as well. The file will be processed both in this area and the originating area.

From node

The address files moved by this exception will seemingly come from. This to avoid possible security problems.

An example to clarify this:

```
Type      :      CopyToArea
File mask :      SCAN*.*
From area :      4US250
To area   :      MCAFEE
From node :      2:250/1
```

When your system receives a file that matches the above file mask in the area specified, FileMgr will copy this file to the MACAFEE and processed as if it were received from node 2:250/1. The file will also be processed in the 4US250 area.

5.6.8   Magic Name

This option can be very useful for maintaining the 'magic' file names on your system. These 'magic' names are used by your mailer to increase the ease of use of file requests. A certain program can always be requested under the same name using this method, no matter what the version and/or name of the program. To maintain part of your list of 'magic' names you can use the MagicName option.

From Area

The area the file will be received in.

MagicName

The 'magic' name this file can be requested as.

An example to clarify this:

```
Type      :      MagicName
File mask :      SCAN*.*
From area :      MACAFEE
Magicname :      SCAN
```

If a file is received in the MACAFEE area that matches the specified file mask, the 'magic' name list of your mailer will be updated with the magic name you specify here. In order to have this option function as designed it is necessary that you have your 'Magic name list 1' correctly specified (Ref. 5.2.4)

5.6.9   Exec Command

Allows you to run a program or a batch file whenever a specific file arrives,i.e., when a nodediff arrives you can tell if to run a batch file that will update the nodelist.

File Mask

File mask to use for this function.

File Area

File area in which this file come in.

Exec Command

The program or batch file to execute.

5.6.10 Delete File

File Mask
From Area

As previous exceptions.

5.6.11 Unpack File

File Mask
From Area

As previous exceptions

Directory

The directory to unpacked the file in.

5.6.12 No Announce

If this file comes in acording to this file mask do not announce it.

File Mask
From Area

As in previous exceptions.

5.6.13 Node Path

On this exception you can specify a specific holding directory for a node. When such a directory is defined, FileMgr will place all the outgoing files for that system in that directory. It will not create a file attach message, or update any queue files. The purpose of this option is to make it possible to provide files via tape subscriptions or via other methods.

File Mask
From Area

As in previous exceptions.

For Node

For which node is this to be processed.

Directory

The directory to move the file and .tic file to.

5.7   Scheduler

Some procedures have to be carried out on such a regular basis, it is worth the effort to automate them. To achieve this, many utilities are available, but most things can be perfectly well done by FileMgr using the Scheduler.

The Scheduler can do many things for you. You can specify whether these tasks should be performed daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or bi-monthly.

In contradiction to the exceptions, that are always active if you run FileMgr with the 'Scan' parameter (ref. 6.2) the scheduled events specified here will only be carried out when you run FileMgr with the 'Schedule' parameter (ref. 5.7). It is most useful to do this once a day, for instance during a nightly maintenance event of your system.

5.7.1   AutoHatch

If a certain file needs to be hatched with a certain frequency, the 'AutoHatch' function can do that for you. This function enables you to hatch a certain file automatically at predetermined times.

Frequency

How often you wish this to be processed, i.e., daily, weekly, monthly etc.

AKA

The AKA that should be used when hatching the file.

Filename

The file that must be hatched. You can specify a complete pathname, but you may also use wild cards (including FileMgr's wild cards '#' and '@').

Area Name

The area the file(s) should be hatched into. A list of all areas is shown for you to select.

Magic

If this file can be requested under a certain 'magic' name, this is where you should specify it.

Description

A description for the file that will be hatched. You may use all available FileMgr templates for descriptions.

An example:

```
Type       :       AutoHatch
Freq       :       Weekly      Fri
AKA        :       2:250/1
Mask       :       C:\FILES\FILEMGR\FILEMGR.ZIP
TAG        :       FILEMGR
Magic      :       FM-BUILD
Description
FileMgr information @day @dd @month
```

This tells Filemgr to hatch the specified file every Friday in the FILEMGR area. The file can be requested under the name FM-BUILD and will be hatched from 2:250/1

Replace

If the file is replacing a older version you can specify it's name here.

5.7.2   Post Message

If you regularly need to send a message to someone, send a file or request a file from another system, the 'Net Mail' option can be for you. This option allows you to send various types of Net Mail messages, with or without text in the message itself.

Frequency

How often you wish this to be processed, i.e., daily, weekly, monthly etc.

AKA

Which of your addresses FileMgr should use for this message.

From

Name of the sender.

To

Name of the addressee.

Subject

What should be on the subject line of the message. If you want to send or request a file this is where you enter the file name.

Attributes

Select the appropriate attributes for this message. For a detailed description of the meaning of these attributes please refer to your mailer's documentation.

Message Text

The name of a plain ASCII text file, which will be imported as the message body by FileMgr. If the message doesn't need to contain any text you can omit this field.

Msgbase

The message base which can be Squish, Hudson, Fido, Jam, Ezycom and mail type, I.e., echo or Net mail and the message base name if applicable.

An example to clarify this:

```
Type    :       Netmail
Freq    :       Weekly      Mon
AKA     :       2:250/1
To      :       Gerard van der Land, 2:283/15
Subj    :       GECHO
Attr    :       Crash FileReq
Text    :
```

Each Monday FileMgr will create a crash file request for 2:283/15 to request the latest GECHO. No text will be added to the message.

5.7.3   *C Report

Coordinators like to know what is going on in their net. Usually this concerns information about the areas and those who are connected to them. Using the '*C report' option you can regularly send a report to those who are interested in one.

Frequency

How often you wish this to be processed, i.e., daily, weekly, monthly etc.

AKA

Which of your aka's FileMgr should use for this report.

To

The name and network address of the person you want to send the report to.

Attributes

Select the appropriate attributes for the message.

Groups

Which groups should be included in the report. For each group all areas will be listed together with the connected systems and the average flow per month in that area.

Msgbase

The message base which can be Squish, Hudson, Fido, Jam, Ezycom and mail type, I.e., echo or Net mail and the message base name if applicable.

MaxMsg Size

Give the maximum message size if known.

An example to clarify this:

```
Type    :       *C Report
Freq    :       Monthly on day 1
AKA     :       2:250/1
To      :       Ron Huiskes, 2:281/506
Attr    :       Crash Direct
Grps    :       1 16-20 128
```

Every first day of the month FileMgr will create a report of all areas in the groups 1. 16 to 20 and 128 which will be sent to Ron Huiskes at 2:281/506.

5.7.4   Exec Program

This option allows you to execute a specific program or batch file regularly.

Frequency

How often you wish this to be processed, i.e., daily, weekly, monthly etc.

Command Line

The full pathname of the program or batch file you want to execute, including the command line parameters if any.

An example to clarify this:

```
Type    :       Exec Program
Freq    :       Monthly on Day  2
Exec    :       \TOOLS\CPT_BAT.EXE 1200 CPT
```

This will make FileMgr execute the program \tools\cpt_bat.exe every second day of the month, with '1200 CPT' as command line parameters.

5.8 FileFinder

Paragraph 3.4 already discussed the possibility to allow users to look for files on other BBS's through echo mail using special software like FileMgr or AllFix. By entering a message in an area created especially for this purpose, FileMgr will be triggered on all connecting systems. FileMgr will find out whether the requested files are present on the BBS and, if they were found, will send an answer to the user with information about the files that were found.

In FileMgr this feature is called FileFind. Before you can use the FileFind on your system, you need to configure various things.

Note that the FileFind feature will only be active when you run FileMgr with the 'FileFind' command line parameter (ref. 6.6, 'FileFind').

5.8.1 File Areas

First you have to tell FileMgr which file areas of your BBS should be checked by FileMgr's FileFind function. To this end Fmsetup reads your bbs message base. At this time RemoteAccess, QuickBBS, Maximus, SuperBBS and Jam are supported by FileMgr others could have been added since, so check with FmConv.exe during setup and the rest of the documentation.

In the File areas menu you can select all areas that FileMgr should search in. If the file area is selected a small square will appear in front of the name of the area.

5.8.2 Message Areas

You will also need to tell FileMgr what message areas should be searched for FileFind requests. FileMgr allows you to search message areas in two ways. If you use a BBS message base FileMgr can directly search your message base. If you don't use this type of message base, you can let your Echo Mail processor export the message areas that must be searched to FileMgr's fake address (ref. 5.2.1). FileMgr will find the mail bundles your Echo Mail processor created and unpack them. FileMgr will subsequently search the *.pkt files that emerged from the mail bundle for FileFind requests.

TAG/board

If you use a bbs message base you can specify the board number of the area that must be searched here. If you want to use the *.pkt interface, this is where you enter the tag of the conference that should be searched.

Reply base

What area FileMgr should post the replies to FileFind requests. FileMgr has the unique possibility to do this via Net Mail (in that case specify 'NETMAIL' or '0' here). Also, like with 'TAG/Board #', you can specify a board number or an area tag here. This does not necessarily need to be the same name or number specified at 'TAG/Board #'.

The next few fields determine the layout of the message FileMgr will post as a reply to a successful FileFind request. Here you specify the file names of template files. In these template files you can use all kinds of special keywords that determine the layout of the message. For a detailed description of the template files refer to paragraph 12, Template files.

Header

The name of the template file FileMgr should use to create the header of the message. In this template file you state information about your system like your phone number and the speeds of your modem or internet upload connection. Also the header can list what the user originally requested.

Footer

The name of the template file that should be put at the bottom of the message.

File entry

This template file is used by FileMgr for each file it found and that is included in the message. Name, size and description of the file should not be omitted.

Block header

This template file is used for each file area FileMgr finds a file in. In this template file you can mention the name of the file area and for instance a line of dashes.

Block footer

This template file is used at the bottom of each file area that files were found in. Here you can list the total number of files and their total size.

Program ID

Here you can choose how FileMgr will identify itself as the program that posted the message. You can chose between a tear line, which is the line at the bottom of a message that starts with '---' followed by the name of the program, or a PID kludge. That is a hidden line that will be entered in the message.

Origin line

The origin line to add to the message. You can also instruct FileMgr to pick an origin line at random (ref. 5.2.8).

Origin AKA

Select the address, FileMgr should use as the sender of this message.

5.8.3   Miscellaneous

There are a number of other things that influence the behaviour of FileMgr's FileFind feature. You find them in this menu.

Maximum nr of '?'

The maximum number of '?' wild cards that may be used in a FileFind request. If a request contains more than that amount FileMgr will refuse to process it. This way you can prevent FileMgr from finding too many files.

Expand '*' to '?'

FileMgr will accept the '*' wild card in a FileFind request, but treats it somewhat differently than dos would do. A '*' wild card in a FileFind request will be translated to the number of '?' wild cards specified here. This too was done to prevent FileMgr from finding too many files.

After FileMgr has replaced the '*' wild cards with '?' wild cards, it checks whether the total number of '?' wild cards does not exceed the number specified at 'Maximum nr of '?''. If that is the case, the request will not be processed.

Min. keyword length

FileMgr's FileFind function can also look for a keyword. In a FileFind request a keyword must be preceded by a '/' character.

Specify here the minimum number of characters a keyword must have before FileMgr will process it. If a keyword is shorter than the number of characters you specify here, the request will not be processed.

Maximum nr of files

The maximum number of files FileMgr may report found in its reply message to a FileFind request. This field defaults to 30. Entering 0 means there is no limit.

Local requests

Here you tell the filefind function whether or not it should respond to messages that are found in your own message base. These are most likely to have come from your own bbs users.

Maximum msg size

Specify here any change in size from current default of 16 Kb.

5.8.4   FileFind Door

Various settings if you wish to use Filemgr as a door. This has not been tested when converting the source code to Open Source.

5.9   Message Manager

In paragraph 5.3, Group manager, the Message Manager was already discussed. The Message Manager contains all information about the announcements that FileMgr will make of received files. Each entry in the Message Manager has it's own unique number, which is used in the Group Manager to indicate which announcement(s) should be used. In the Message Manager you define where your announcements must be posted, and how they should look.

Note that announcements will only be posted when you run FileMgr with the 'Announce' parameter (ref. 6.4, 'Announce). As soon as you receive a file that will be announced FileMgr will show '(announce)' on your screen and in the log file. This means that data is stored concerning this file so it can be announced. It does NOT mean that the file is announced right that minute. That happens only when you run FileMgr with the 'Announce' parameter. That way it is possible to post your announcements a limited number of times a day, this to avoid too many announcements containing only one file. For example every day at 06:00.

ID / Descr.

Here you specify the ID of the message, and the description of it. The ID is a unique field and will be used to refer to this message. The ID ranges from 1 to 255. This way 255 different announcement messages are possible. The description will be mentioned in the list that is displayed on your screen when you want to select the messages to be used in the Group Manager (ref. 5.3, 'Messages'). An example of a good description is: 'ENET.SOFT, Software announcements Europe'.

Frequency

How often you wish this to be processed, i.e., daily, weekly, monthly etc.

Sort order

In what order FileMgr should put the files in the announcement.

None

FileMgr doesn't sort the file names. They are listed in order of processing.

File

FileMgr sorts the file names alphabetically.

Area

FileMgr sorts the file names by the area they were received in. This also allows FileMgr to place an additional header and footer for each area.

Group

FileMgr sorts the file names by the group they were received in. This also allows FileMgr to place an additional header and footer for each group.

The next few fields determine the layout of the message FileMgr will post as an announcement. You will need to specify the file names of template files. These template files can contain all kinds of special keywords that determine the layout of the message. For a detailed description of the template files please refer to 12 Template files.

Header

This template file is placed at the top of each announcement. It should contain information like the name of your system, the date, etc.

Footer

This template file is placed at the bottom of each announcement. It could contain information about the file request hours your system has.

File entry

This template file is used for each file that is being announced. The name, size and description of the file should not be omitted in this template file.

Block header

This template file will only be used when the sorting method is set to 'Area' or 'Group'. In either of these cases this template file will be used as the header for each area or group that is being announced. The template file could for instance contain the description of the area or the group.

Block footer

This template file will also be included only when the sorting method is set to 'Area' or 'Group'. This template file will be used as a footer for each area or group. It could contain the total number of files and their total size.

Message base or TAG/board #

This gives a range of options related to your bbs message base, I.e., Squish, Hudson, Fido, Jam, Ezycom, Packet or text as well as whether it will be net mail or echo mail.

When you use a BBS message base this is where you either specify the board number of the message or the location of the message area the announcement should be posted in. When you use FileMgr's *.PKT interface, this is where you specify the area tag of the area this message should be posted in.

If you want to send an announcement to yourself via Net Mail you can specify 'NETMAIL' or '0' here.

From

What should be put in the 'From:' field of the message. You can use your own name, the name of your system, or something completely different as well as what aka you wish to use.

To

What should be put in the 'To:' field of the message. 'All' is usually the most appropriate here.

Subject

What FileMgr should put on the subject line of a message.

Program ID

Chose the method FileMgr will use to identify itself as the program that posted this message. You can chose between a tear line, which is the line at the bottom of a message that starts with '---' followed by the name of the program, or a PID kludge, which is a hidden line that is entered into your message.

Origin line

Select one of your origin lines to use for the message. You can also instruct FileMgr to pick an origin line for the message at random (ref. 5.2.8).

5.10 Export Reports

You may want to have a short report of some of the data from your configuration in an ASCII text file. You can do this using the Export menu. After choosing one of the options FileMgr will ask you for some additional information when necessary and the name of the text file the report should be exported to.

Nodes

Specify here either full detail or compact tag list.

Groups

A detailed report of all defined groups.

Areas

A report of all your groups and the areas that belong to them. For each area the average flow per month will be listed.

Member

For one system this option lists the tags and descriptions of the areas that system is connected to.

Taglist

This is a raw list of the tags of all areas in your configuration.

Downlinks

This is a raw list of the addresses of all systems in your Node Manager.

Flow

Full flow listing by areas, group or nodes.

Mailer Request

Creates a mailer request directory listing.

Full Site Report

This report will create all of the above reports other than the member report and save it as site.txt. This report will use the full and detail listing as described above and all areas and groups that have been defined currently and is produced in the same order as the listings above. This report should be run after any large changes so that you have a hard copy in case of major hardware failure. It may also be used in the event of problems with FileMgr.

6   FileMgr

6.1   General Information

FileMgr is the program that does the actual processing of files. You can use the program with a number of command line parameters. When you start FileMgr without any parameters or with a wrong parameter, the following will appear on your screen:

Usage: FileMgr <command> [<command>]

Scan	Scan, move, forward files.
Mgr	Process FileMgr requests.
Announce	Post announcements of arrived files.
Schedule	Process scheduled events.
FileFind	Process FileFind requests.
Notify [<address>]	Send a FileMgr status report to <address>, (wild cards possible) or to all systems with the 'Notify' flag set.
[-NoList]	Do not create list reports.
[-NoQuery]	Do not create query reports.
[-NoUnlinked]	Do not create unlinked reports.
[-NoHelp]	Do not create help reports.
[-NoStatus]	Do not create status messages.
NewScan	Scan your areas for new files.
Clean	Clean your FileMgr outbound dir.
Hatch	Send files from your system manually.
-A<area>	Area to hatch file in.
-F<filespec>	File to hatch.
-D<description>	Description of hatched file. Use '_' for spaces.
[-X<filename>]	File to replace with hatched file.
[-S]	Send file only; don't move to area.
[-M<magicname>]	Magic request name
Cost [<address>]	Add or deduct an amount from <address>
[<+/-cents>]	Cost sharing field.
-NoForward	Do not forward files to downlinks.
-NoBill	Do not send bills to downlinks.
-NoMaint	Do not perform file area maintenance.

The operation of the various command line parameters will be explained in the following items. If you want, you can start FileMgr with more than one parameter at a time. The following line for instance, is valid:

FileMgr Mgr Scan announce

FileMgr's command line parameters are case insensitive.

6.2   Scan

This is FileMgr's base function. 'Scan' lets FileMgr check the inbound directory for *.tic files and files that should be adopted. 'Scan' will also keep FileMgr's outbound directory clean.

If you activate the 'Scan' function and *.tic files are found, depending on your configuration, something like this will appear on your screen and in your log file:

Scanning inbound path...

(1) NODEDIFF.A97 from 2:250/1 in NODEDIFF (move) (announce) (backup)
(2) NODEDIFF.A97 to 2:281/611.1

(3) Forwarding to 2:281/611.1 (hold) (direct) (1)

(4) Forward: 0   Requests: 0   Files: 1   Bad: 0 Systems: 1   Announce: 0

(5) Active : 0:03

A prompt like (1) will appear as soon as FileMgr notices a *.tic file in the inbound directory. FileMgr will report the name of the file, the system the file has come from, the area the file is received in to and the various operations FileMgr performs after that. We will discuss a number of prompts from this example:

(move)	The file is moved to the BBS directory.
(announce)	An announcement is prepared. Again, this doesn't mean the announcement is posted. In order to achieve that, FileMgr must be run with the 'Announce' parameter.
(backup)	A copy of the file is stored in FileMgr's outbound directory because it needs to be forwarded to one or more systems and because the 'Backup' status bit is set to 'Yes'.

Subsequently FileMgr reports what systems the files that were found, must be sent to. In this case (ref. (2)) only 2:281/611.1 will receive this file.

As soon as all files have been processed FileMgr will start with the actual forwarding of files. For each system FileMgr will check which files should be forwarded and creates the appropriate file attach(s). In this example you see this on line (3).

When all processing is done, FileMgr will report some data about this run (4) and the amount of time it took (5).

When FileMgr reports problems with .tic or archived files it places the problem files and their .tic files in the badfile directory, renaming the extension .tic with another three character name that defines the problem and they are:

.CRC = bad crc
.PTH = bad path in area
.ILL = file sent by illegal uplink
.LNG = file contains bad language
.UNK = unknown area
.DUP = duplicate file received
.NTF = file not found in inbound directory
.DES = bad description
.ACT = no action
.ACC = no access
.VIR = virus found

6.3   Mgr

This is the feature of FileMgr that processes Net Mail messages from connected systems. This way the sysop's of these systems can keep an eye on the areas they are connected to. A system can only make use of the 'Mgr' feature when its 'Remote maintenance' status bit is set to 'Yes' (ref. 5.3, 'Status').

A message to FileMgr must originate from a system mentioned in the Node Manager of your system. The message must be addressed to 'FileMgr' (or one of the names you defined as aliases, ref. 5.2.9, 'Aliases'). The subject line should list the password as specified in the Node Manager for this system.

The message itself, can contain a command to FileMgr on each line. The following commands are available:

+<areatag>	Connect to a file echo.
-<areatag>	Disconnect a file echo.
%+	Connect ALL groups.
%-	Disconnect ALL groups.
%+<grouptag>	Connect to a group of file echoes.
%-<grouptag>	Disconnect a group of file echoes.
%list	Ask for a list of available echo's.
%query	A list of connected echo's.
%unlinked	A list of not connected echo's.

%flow <grouptag>	Request a full flow report of a group.
%cost <grouptag>	Request a full cost report of a group.
%tick	Send Tick/Raid compatible *.TIC files.
%FileMgr	Send FileMgr compatible *.TIC files.
%none	Don't send *.TIC files at all.
%pause	Put the system temporary on pause. No files will be sent.
%inactive	Same as %pause
%resume	Start sending files to the system again.
%active	Same as %resume
%status	Ask for a status report (password, pack method).
%compress <method>	Change the compression program.
%compress ?	Request a list with available compression programs.
%volume <Kb's>	Set the total maximum file volume to <Kb's>
%from <address>	Remote maintenance. Must be the first command.
%pwd:<pwd>	Change the password to <pwd>.
%req:<file>	Ask for a specified <file> to be (re)send, with a *.TIC file.
%help	Ask for instructions (this message)
---	Marks the end of your msg (optional)

You can determine the layout of the help message that is sent to a sysop, that sent a '%help', yourself by creating a plain ASCII file called 'FileMgr.hlp' and placing this file in FileMgr's system directory. This file is included with the FileMgr package.

6.4   Announce

In paragraph 6.2, 'Scan', you read that a received file will not be announced immediately. After reception (if a file must be announced) only the information necessary for the announcement will be written to a file.

To actually post the announcements you run FileMgr with the 'Announce' command line parameter. The file containing the information about received files will be read by FileMgr, and the announcement will be posted. A statement is placed on your screen and in your log file. An example is found below:

Processing message 2 (sorting) (posting) (22)
 - Standard to AA Local (All)
Processing message 3 (sorting) (posting) (22)
 - Announce for the Net 250 (All)
Processing message 4 (sorting) (posting) (1)
 - Announce for OS2Net (All)

The message '(sorting)' will only appear if you have set the announcement to sorting on area or group (ref. 5.9, 'Sort order').

Announcements are only processed on the days marked in the Message Manager (ref. 5.9, 'Frequency').

6.5   Schedule

If you run FileMgr with the command line parameter 'Schedule', FileMgr will check whether the activities you listed under Scheduler in Fmsetup (ref. 5.7, 'Scheduler') must be executed today. If that is the case FileMgr will display a description of what it is doing both on your screen and in your log file. FileMgr will execute these activities once a day. If you run FileMgr with the 'Schedule' parameter again straight afterwards, nothing will happen.

6.6   FileFind

To activate the FileFind feature of FileMgr you need to run FileMgr with the 'FileFind' command line parameter. FileMgr will then search the boards and/or *.pkt files listed by you. On your screen and in your log file FileMgr will display the following report:

Scanning for FileFind requests...

Board 66 FileFind request by Vince Coen (searching) (posting reply)
Board 65

In this case A FileFind request was found in board 66 of the bbs message base by 'Vince Coen'. FileMgr will subsequently look for the files listed. In this case the search was successful and FileMgr posts a reply message to the request ('(posting reply)').

FileMgr also checks board 65 of the message base, but no FileFind requests are found.

6.7   Notify

If you want to keep the sysops connected to your system posted of their status on your system, you can run FileMgr with the 'Notify' command line parameter. There are two ways to use the 'Notify' feature.

If you want to send a report to all systems in the Node Manager that have their 'Notify' status bit set to 'Yes' you can run FileMgr with 'Notify' as the command line parameter.

FileMgr NOTIFY

If you want to send a report to the sysop of one specific system, you need to specify that system's address on the command line:

FileMgr 2:250/1.1

You can also use the short addressing method, as in the Node Manager:

FileMgr .1

If FileMgr can find this address in the Node Manager, the report will be sent and FileMgr will report something like this to your screen and in your log file:

Posting status report for 2:250/1.1 (query) (help) (list)

6.8   NewScan

FileMgr's NewScan feature searches through all areas that have the 'Hatch new' or 'Ann. new' status bits set to 'Yes' in the Area Manager (ref. 5.3, 'Status'). If a file is found in any of these areas that wasn't there the previous time the 'NewScan' feature was used, the file will automatically be hatched or just announced.

Scanning for new files...

26 area(s) scanned, 0 new file(s) found.

6.9   Hatch

You can manually send files in an area by 'hatching' the file. The file will subsequently be forwarded to all connected systems, together with an accompanying *.TIC file. FileMgr offers you two ways of hatching. Interactively, so the program can ask you for all necessary data, or from the command line, where you specify all data in command line parameters. Both methods will be discussed in the following items.

6.9.1   Interactive Hatch

You activate this method by running FileMgr with 'Hatch' as the Command line parameter. FileMgr will give you a full screen window, where you can enter all required data necessary to correctly hatch a file.

Area (TAG)

Of course it is necessary to specify the area the file should be hatched in. FileMgr checks the existence of this area in the Area Manager and displays the description. By pressing the return key you will be shown a list of all areas available to select from.

Filename

The full path and name of the file that should be hatched. FileMgr will check whether the file exists.

Replaces

If the file you want to hatch is a newer version of an existing file, you can specify the previous version's name here. Other systems can automatically delete the old version subsequently. You should use this option whenever possible, it saves other sysops loads of work.

Magic name

If you want the file to be available for File Request with a 'magic' file name, this is where you specify the 'magic' name (ref. 5.2.4).

Hatch date

The date that the file will be hatched on or after. This will depend on how often Filemgr is run.

Release

The date that the file can be released. This can not be before the hatch date.

(As this has only been part coded it is not yet in use, but the rule above still applies.)

Active AKA

The network address FileMgr should use. FileMgr will default to this address for the 'Seenby'. Generally it is not necessary, and even unwise to change this.

Description

A clear description of the file you are about to hatch. If the file is hatched in an area that will be spread through more than one country, please use the English language. It is very annoying for people abroad to receive descriptions in a language they can not understand.

6.9.2   Command Line Hatch

The possibility to hatch using command line parameters is useful when you want to hatch a file from a batch file. In this case you must make certain all necessary parameters are included. Otherwise FileMgr will not execute the hatch. Command line parameters that are optional will be marked with block brackets [ ]. All other parameters are mandatory.

-A<area>

The area the file must be hatched in. If FileMgr can not find the tag in the Area Manager, the hatch will not be executed.

-F<filespec>

The full path and name of the file that must be hatched. If you don't specify a directory, FileMgr will search for the file in the directory belonging to the area. If FileMgr can not find the file, the hatch will not be executed.

[-X<filename>]

If appropriate, this is where you specify the name of the previous version of the file you are hatching. This filename will be used in combination with the 'Replaces' keyword in the *.tic files.

-D<description>

A clear description of the file you want to hatch. Use the English language when hatching into an international area. You must use '_' to replace spaces in the description.

[-S]

This parameter makes sure the file is only sent, and it will not be moved to the BBS directory that belongs to this area.

[-M<magicname>]

A 'magic' name to request this file (ref. 6.9.1, 'Magic name').

6.10 Using FileMgr's Parameters

Some of FileMgr's functions you may want to execute as soon as you received one or more files. Other functions should probably be executed only once a day. The parameters are case non-sensitive.

The best way to start FileMgr after receiving mail/files is:

FileMgr Mgr Scan

This makes FileMgr process all messages to FileMgr immediately, and before FileMgr starts processing files.

Once a day is enough for the scheduler:

FileMgr SCHEDULE

Personally I prefer posting announcements, executing filefind and newscan once a day. It strikes me as hardly useful to execute these features each time a mail bundle or other file is received. Making only one announcement per day keeps the number of messages under control and more importantly easier to read for other sysops and users.

Of course this is left to your own discretion.

FileMgr Announce Filefind Newscan

Remember that the NewScan and FileFind features can take a lot of time when you execute them whenever you receive mail.

7   Billing Manager

FileMgr offers a way of cost sharing & billing. On an per area basis you can deduct credits based on bytes, files or session, add percentages for specific nodes, send bills (immediately or on a per time block) and includes a smart billing history viewer.

This feature was put in place when the use of modems was common and helped to defray the cost of long distance phone calls. With the internet this is somewhat redundant. However it, has been left in as it is another way of keeping an eye on number of files or total volume going to all downlinks if you set it up in the appropriate way.

8 Fmbill

Fmbill is a utility to look in FileMgr's billing file.

Command Line Options

None necessary, you can however specify a specific node on the command line to show the data for that node only, or specify a /M<month> for a specific month.

Fmbill will check for the Filemgr environment variable, and use it if found. If not used, the FileMgr billhis.fm file should be in the current directory.

9 Fmdesc

Import area descriptions from the filegate.zxx file into FileMgr

Fmdesc will go through the filegate.zxx list, and replaces every existing area description in your FileMgr setup with the description that is in the filegate.zxx or a similar supplied list.

Command Line Options

Fmdesc [filename]

By default Fmdesc uses the 'filegate.zxx' name to use as the file to import, but specifying an alternative name on the command line will override this.

Fmdesc will only read and write FileMgr's own files, and opens these files in Share/ReadWrite/Deny mode. Every possible error is trapped and reported back to the user. The file filegate.zxx or it's replacement is opened in Read mode only.

Fmdesc will check for the Filemgr environment variable, and use it if found. If not used, the FileMgr config files should be in the current directory.

10 HScan

HScan is a simple utility to look in FileMgr's history file. You can use HScan with or without a command line parameter.

If you don't specify a parameter HScan will give you a list with information about all entries in FileMgr's history file.

You can use a file mask containing standard dos wild cards as a command line parameter. HScan will now give you a list of information about all files that match your specification. This way you can easily check whether or not a certain file was received.

Caution: The source to this program is not available and this program dates back to 1994 ish and may not execute by giving the infamous Error 200.

11 FMstats

Creates Weekly or Monthly (4 Weeks) list of file flow Through FileMgr Sites. Optionally creates list compatible with Fstats. Creates summary list (Weekly or Monthly) of flow by area.

Installation

Just unpack the FMstats archive into your Filemgr directory.

Usage

The command line switches are as follows

FMStats /?   Displays All Switches Available
FMStats /W   Produces Weekly Stats
FMStats /W /T   Produces Weekly Stats in Tic log format for further processing with FSTAT
FMStats /M   Produces Monthly Stats
FMStats /M /T   Produces Monthly Stats in Tic log format for further processing with FSTAT

Note: I do not have the source code (or the executable) for this program and Fmstats can also produce the Error 200 message.

If there is interest for this program I will have a go at recreating it but look at the Export function first to see of that covers your requirement.

12   Template Files

12.1 Template File Keywords.

12.1.1 File Related Keywords

@filecrc   ; file CRC
@filedate   ; file date
@filedesc   ; file description
@overflow   ; will be replaced by the remainder of a @filedesc or @filepath keyword when it is too long to fit.
If there is no remainder, the line on which the @template keyword is used will be omitted completely

@fileexport   ; number of system file is forwarded to
@fileext   ; file extension 'ZIP'
@filefrom   ; file from address
@filekb   ; file size in kb
@filemagic   ; files 'magic' request name
@filename   ; full filename 'SAMPLE.ZIP'
@filenodes   ; Systems to which the files is forwarded on to
@fileorigin   ; file origin address
@filepath   ; file path (systems)
@filerepl   ; file which is replaced by the announced file
@filesize   ; file size

12.1.2 Area Related Keywords

@areaname   ; area name 'Sample file areaname'
@areatag   ; area tag 'SAMPLE'

12.1.3 Group Related Keywords

@groupname   ; group name 'Another group description'
@grouptag   ; group tag 'A'

12.1.4 System Related Keywords

@sysop   ; sysop full name 'Vince Coen'
@sysopfirst   ; sysop first name 'Vince'
@system   ; system name 'Applewood'
@aka   ; active system address '2:250/1'

12.1.5 Personalisation Specific keywords

@msgto   ; message 'to' field 'All users'
@msgfirst   ; first part of message 'to' field 'All'
@quote   ; 'quote of the day'. Needs a text file with quotes (define; in Fmsetup).

12.1.6 File Find Keywords

@fsearch   ; search argument (only valid for FileFind replies)

12.1.7 Date & Time Keywords

```
@hour          ; hours
@min           ; minutes
@sec           ; seconds

@dd            ; day '10'
@d3            ; day 'Thu'
@day           ; day 'Thursday'
@dnr           ; daynumber
@mm            ; month '09'
@m3            ; month 'Sep'
@month         ; month 'September'
@yy            ; year '92'
@y4            ; year '1992'
```

12.1.8 Program Information Keywords

```
@program       ; Current FileMgr program version 'FileMgr GAMMA'
```

12.1.9 Subtotal and Total Calculation

```
@blockcount    ; Number of files in the last block
@blocksize     ; Total size (in bytes) of files in the last block
@blockkb       ; Total size (in Kb) of files in the last block
@blockmb       ; Total size (in Mb) of files in the last block

@totalcount    ; Number of files in this announcement
@totalsize     ; Total size (in bytes) of files in this announcement
@totalkb       ; Total size (in Kb) of files in this announcement
@totalmb       ; Total size (in Mb) of files in this announcement
```

12.1.10 Cost Sharing Related Keywords

```
@creditsleft   ; How much credit the current node has left
@creditswarn   ; At what credits level forwarding to a node stops
@creditsstop   ; At what credits level the node gets a warning
```

12.2 Formatting Commands.

To modify the way FileMgr treats these keywords, use the following syntax:

@(<command>[,<command>])<keyword>

12.2.1 Adjusting Keyword length

```
<len>                  Force length to be <length>

@(5)program            'FileM'
@(15)filename          '12345678.123   '
```

12.2.2 Adjusting the keyword start & length

```
<fr>:<len>             Start at pos <fr>, and force length to be <len>
```

```
@(2:5)program          'ileMg'
@(2,15)filename        '2345678.123   '
```

12.2.3 Forcing upper or lower case

U   Force uppercase

```
@(U)program            'FileMgr GAMMA'
@(U)filename           '12345678.123'
```

L   Force lowercase

```
@(L)program            'FileMgr gamma'
@(L)program            '12345678.123'
```

~   Just try it (in ENET.SOFT for example :-)

12.2.4 Character padding of keywords

@<char>   Pad with <char>. Is only valid with <len> or <fr:len> This one defaults to <space>

```
@(@-,15)program        'FileMgr GAMMA--'
@(@*,15)filename       '12345678.123***'
```

12.2.5 Justification of keywords

R   Right justification. Only useful when used with <len> or <fr>:<len>.

```
@(R,15)program         '  FileMgr GAMMA'
@(R,15)filename        '   12345678.123'
```

Using the @<char> command

```
@(R,@-,15)program      '--FileMgr GAMMA'
@(R,@*,15)filename     '***12345678.123'
```

C   Center justification. Only useful when used with <len> or <fr>:<len>.

```
@(C,16)program         '  FileMgr BETA  '
@(C,16)filename        '  12345678.123 '
```

Using the @<char> command

```
@(C,@-,16)program      '--FileMgr BETA--'
@(C,@*,16)filename     '**12345678.123**'
```

12.3 Keyword and Commands Examples.

```
@(R,@0,2)dd-@(R,@0,2)mm-@(2)yy    '11-03-08'
--@(R,@-,15)areatag----           '---------PDNPASCL----'
FileMgr version @(4:4)filename    'FileMgr version 0.80.07'
@(@0,R,7)filesize                 '0126482'
@(R,7)filesize                    ' 126482'
```

13   Credits

13.1 Copyrights and Trademarks

All brand and product names are copyright (C) material, Trademarks (tm) or Registered (R) Trademarks of their respective holders:

Fido, FidoNet	Tom Jennings and Fido Software
FrontDoor	Joaquim H. Homrighausen
AllFix	Harald Harms
Tick	Barry Geller
FileMgr, FFD	Vincent B Coen, Ron Huiskes & Erick van Emmerik
RemoteAccess	Andrew Milner & Continental Software, Inc.
Gecho	Gerard J. van der Land
GoldED	Odinn H. Sorensen, Goldware International
PKZIP	PKWARE, Inc.
LHA	Haruyasu Yoshizaki
ARJ	Robert K. Jung
ARC, ARCmail,	
SEAdog	Systems Enhancements Associates
QuickBBS	Pegasus Software
SuperBBS	Risto Virkkala and Aki Antman
BinkleyTerm	Bit Bucket Software
D'Bridge	Chris Irwin
QEMM, DESQview	Quarterdeck Office Systems, Inc.
Microsoft, MS-DOS	Microsoft Corporation
IBM, PC-DOS, OS/2	International Business Machines Corp.

14   Support for FileMgr

It is hoped that this document is complete in regard to the functionality of FileMgr. If you find any faults or omissions please contact the author with the problem.

This software is available on the web at sourceforge.net (search for FileMgr) or via file request to fidonet 2:250/1.

A fidonet message echo 'FILEMGR' has been set up for the support of this package which can be used to advise of new releases, suggestions for improvement, reporting of bugs or undocumented features, help in usage and suggested fixes to code.

The FileMgr source code is now released as Open Source under the GPL v2 license and copies are also available at sourceforge.net as well as through the filegate (www.filegate.net) or its hubs and all major bbs systems throughout the world. (from 1st March 2008). This software is designed to work under Dos or in a Dos box (via the command prompt) under Windows. In addition it has been developed, compiled, and works in Linux within a dos box using Dosemu and Freedos.

The source code for FileMgr is primarily written in Borland Turbo Pascal v7.0. There is inline assembler code included in some units as well as quite a few assembler modules. Most of these assembler elements both inline and as self contained modules are to help speed up processing of strings etc, and was designed when the primary computer was 8086 based. To compile the source you will only need the Borland Turbo Pascal compiler.

With this in mind and the need to move away from TP (it does date from 1992) to Free Pascal (see sourceforge.net for access to downloads in both source and binaries) this assembler code needs to be converted to Pascal or to C.

I am looking for people who can help with these problems, so if you have Pascal and/or Assembler experience and are willing to help, please get in touch through the echo, the Forums on Sourceforge.net for Filemgr or direct to me via Email to vbcoen@btconnect.com or vbcoen@tiscali.co.uk and I will arrange to set up an account on sourceforge for you to get SVN access. (I will be placing the source onto this shortly, well as soon as I understand how to).

Additional Notes:

Prior to using this software please read all notes included in the distribution for last minute additions and advice on installation and usage.

In any event, you should consider this software a test release and do NOT just drop it in to your production environment without testing it first in a backup copy of your bbs system. If you are short of disk space the simply way of doing this is to make a copy then remove the file content of the bbs download directory tree. It makes it easier to examine the files that have been effected by the FileMgr process at each stage. Watch out for any errors in the dates used (messages produced by Filemgr such as file announcements etc, as well as any reports and the set up program Fmsetup) just in case I have not removed all problems that could relate to the millennium bug. Make use of the new fido net message echo FILEMGR to report problem, seek advise, see when new release are available etc.

Also as FileMgr produces a log file (keep all options for this logging set to yes for maximum information), to help in debugging and please look at on a daily basis if running a busy system.

Any programs that are called by FileMgr when running such as archivers please ensure that the parameters used are correct for the specific versions you are running. Failure to do so, **will** result in FileMgr failing to work correctly or as expected.

Again: Read all notes included with the distribution before installing this package.

I hope that you find FileMgr is a very helpful tool in running your BBS.