

BBBS v3.14.95, SysOp Manual

Kim Heino and Tapani T. Salmi

COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> BBBS v3.14.95, SysOp Manual		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY	Kim Heino and Tapani T. Salmi	January 6, 2023	

REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

Contents

1	BBBS v3.14.95, SysOp Manual	1
1.1	Table of Contents	1
1.2	Quick Startup	2
1.3	Logging in to the System	2
1.4	SysOp's local keys	3
1.5	GROUPS File	4
1.6	Filearea Setup	6
1.7	Description Files	8
1.8	EXTERNAL.BBB File	9
1.9	Protocols	9
1.10	Packers	10
1.11	Nodelists	10
1.12	Tick files	10
1.13	BOGUS Mail Tosser and BackDoor Mailer	12
1.14	Meta strings	13
1.15	ALIAS.BBB File	14
1.16	Directories and files in BBBS	14
1.17	Directories	15
1.18	/BBS dir	15
1.19	/BBS/MAIN dir	16
1.20	/BBS/MENUS dir	17
1.21	Local screen	18
1.22	BTerm Terminal Emulator	19
1.23	Toggle audio	20
1.24	Send Break	20
1.25	Charset	20
1.26	Download	20
1.27	Elapsed time	21
1.28	Hangup	21
1.29	Send fax	21

1.30	Clear screen	21
1.31	Toggle Logfile	21
1.32	Send voice	21
1.33	Phone book	21
1.34	Quit BTerm	22
1.35	Backscroll	22
1.36	Upload	22
1.37	Exit BTerm and BBBS	23
1.38	Shell to OS	23
1.39	This help	23
1.40	Using BBBS as a SysOp	23
1.41	Main menu	23
1.42	Backward Log	24
1.43	B Statistics	25
1.44	Show free memory & disk space	25
1.45	Delete log	25
1.46	Do OS Command	25
1.47	Eject other node	26
1.48	Hide yourself	26
1.49	Hippo command	26
1.50	Show logfiles	26
1.51	Outbound manager	27
1.52	Reset the periodical statics	27
1.53	Shell to OS	27
1.54	OS/2 prompt	27
1.55	Text editor	28
1.56	Spy on a user	28
1.57	User login	28
1.58	Read menu	28
1.59	Fix resume links	29
1.60	Mark as sent	29
1.61	Mark as unsent	29
1.62	User editor	29
1.63	Zap names	30
1.64	File menu	30
1.65	Describe a file	30
1.66	Free a file	30
1.67	Install files (hard)	31
1.68	Install files (soft)	31

1.69	Touch files	31
1.70	Unfree a file	32
1.71	File menu	32
1.72	Account add	33
1.73	Account assing	33
1.74	Account change	33
1.75	Account members	33
1.76	Account view	34
1.77	Bank Time for user	34
1.78	User File access change	34
1.79	Find user or group by name	34
1.80	WandOfTurnUndead	35
1.81	Next user	35
1.82	Previous user	35
1.83	Invite a user to conference	35
1.84	Kill user	36
1.85	Limits for users	36
1.86	Sysop Access	36
1.87	Status Change for user	36
1.88	Time Limit for user	37
1.89	Un-invite	37
1.90	Outbound manager	37
1.91	Change number of busy polls for node	38
1.92	Change number of bad polls for node	38
1.93	Create message for node	39
1.94	Change message number/all messages for node	39
1.95	Clear tickdir and attach messages	39
1.96	Delete message	40
1.97	List messages (for node)	40
1.98	Quit back to main menu	41
1.99	Operational System	41
1.100	Communication Setup	41
1.101	Communciation setup, BBBS/D	42
1.102	Communciation setup, BBBS/2	42
1.103	BBBS/2 TCP/IP support	43
1.104	BBBS/2 ISDN CAPI support	44
1.105	BBBS/D vs. BBBS/2	44
1.106	Environment Variables	45
1.107	Parameters	45

1.108X [node]	46
1.109BCONF	47
1.110BDATE	47
1.111BFILEIDX	47
1.112BFILSORT	48
1.113BHATCH	48
1.114BLINKFIX	48
1.115BLIST	48
1.116BMSG	48
1.117BNC	49
1.118BMT	49
1.119BNDIFF	49
1.120BNEWF	49
1.121BNMSG from to message	49
1.122BOGUS Fidonet mail processor	49
1.123BOK	50
1.124BPC	51
1.125BPUS	51
1.126BSETPACK	51
1.127BSTAT	51
1.128BTICK	51
1.129BTXT2BBS	52
1.130BUUCP	52
1.131Errorlevels	52
1.132OS Errors	53
1.133Example BATch Files	53
1.134Top-17 Errors	55
1.135References	57
1.136Addresses of the Authors	59
1.137How to use the help system	60

Chapter 1

BBBS v3.14.95, SysOp Manual

1.1 Table of Contents

BBBS Version 3.14.95 SysOp Manual
Copyright 1990,1992-1995 by Kim Heino
and Tapani T. Salmi.

Table of Contents

SysOp Functions:

Quick Startup

Logging in to the System

GROUPS File

Filearea Setup

Description Files

EXTERNAL.BBB File

ALIAS.BBB File

Directories and files

Local screen

Local SysOp keys

Using BBBS as a SysOp

BTerm Terminal Emulator
Environment:

Operational System

Communication Setup

BBBS/D vs. BBBS/2

Environment Variables
Commandline parameters
Errorlevels
OS Errors
Example BATCh Files
Miscellaneous Info:
Top-17 Errors
References
Addresses of the Authors

1.2 Quick Startup

If you already are reading this file, you must have unpacked the distribution files or one of them. It is recommended to unpack them into following directories:

Packet	Directory
BBBS_D	/BBS
BBBS_GEN	/BBS
SCRIPTS	/BBS
DOCS	/BBS
MENUS	/BBS/MENUS

The configuration program is loaded with the command 'BCFG4 node', where node is the number of node you want to configure. Start it with node 1. Most of the options should be already correctly, but you should carefully check them all. You can press F1 at all times to get more help, so we will not cover the options here. At the end save the config. It can take a long time, but patience is a virtue!

Now you can log in the system and see what BBBS is about. You should also check GROUPS and EXTERNAL.BBB files (see below), but that can be done later.

See Also:

Logging in to the System
EXTERNAL.BBB File
GROUPS File

1.3 Logging in to the System

BBBS is run with the command `BBBS [x] \{node\}`, where x is the number of the COM port to be used and node is the node number to be used. If you want to start a local node of BBBS you specify the COM port to 0. After that BBBS will ask your first name. You can give your name separately as your first name and your last name or both in the same line. By adding a `Q` at the end of it you can speed up the login by not showing the login screen. By adding an exclamation mark (`!`) in front of your name you can login in with the HIDE mode if you are SysOp. Your password will be asked after the name but can be included it in the first line.

```
Example: What is your FIRST name? Kim
         What is your LAST name? Heino
         Please enter your password (dots will echo): .....
```

```
         What is your FIRST name? !Kim Heino q mypass
```

There are also some special keys SysOp can use while there is somebody logged in. Press Shift-F10 in BBBS to get brief help about them.

1.4 SysOp's local keys

When a user is logged in to your BBBS, there are several keys that are available at the local monitor screen if you have enabled them in BCFG4.

See bcfg4 under local: general for enable/disable SysOp local keys.

```
KEYS:
F6      Start SysOp chat - Fullscreen mode.
        Press <esc> to end chat.
F7      Start SysOp chat - Line-by-line mode.
        Press F7 again to end chat.
F10     Show information about the user that is online.
        This will give you the online user's name, address, phone,
        birth, up'n downloadstats., SysOp access, limits, online
        time, number of calls and date of last call.
alt-A   Set yourself available for chat requests.
alt-C   Same as F6.
alt-D   Jump to OS. The online user will get a message telling
        him that SysOp has jumped to OS, and that he should wait
        until SysOp is back.
alt-E   Echo on/off. Toggles whether Screenwrites will be sent
        to remote user or not.
alt-F   Grant fileaccess to online user. This is a permanent
        access change. Next time this user logs in, he will have
        fileaccess.
alt-K   Hangup this node now.
alt-L   Lock remote keyboard. With this you can make sure that
        the remote user don't interfere with your doing on the node.
        Very usefull when you grant temporarily SysOp access.
alt-N   Set yourself not available for chat requests.
alt-Q   Take down BBBS after user logs out. Sets the phone
        busy.
alt-S   Grant temporarily SysOp access to online user. The
        access will only be in effect as long as the user is online.
```

Press alt-S again to remove temporarily SysOp access.

alt-U In HYDRA sessions will add file to outgoing batch.

alt-F1 Take 5 minutes online time away from online user.

alt-F2 Take 1 minute online time away from online user.

alt-F3 Grant online user with 1 more minute online time.

alt-F4 Grant online user with 5 more minutes online time.

alt-F5 Same as alt-F1.

alt-F6 Same as alt-F2.

alt-F7 Same as alt-F3.

alt-F8 Same as alt-F4.

alt-0 Run keyboard macro 0. See bcfg4.gui for more information on keyboard macros.

alt-1 Run keyboard macro 1.

alt-2 Run keyboard macro 2.

alt-3 Run keyboard macro 3.

alt-4 Run keyboard macro 4.

alt-5 Run keyboard macro 5.

alt-6 Run keyboard macro 6.

alt-7 Run keyboard macro 7.

alt-8 Run keyboard macro 8.

alt-9 Run keyboard macro 9.

1.5 GROUPS File

BBBS's access control system is based on the GROUPS file. This file resides in the /BBS directory. The file is plain ASCII file, so it can be edited with any text editor. Groups which are defined in this file are global, they are used everywhere in the system.

The format of the file is simple:

```
groupname1:user_name1\{,user_name2\{,...}}
groupname2:user_name1\{,user_name2\{,...}}
```

Predefined groups:

all	All users are always a member.
firstname.lastname	All users are always a member of the group with their own name.
limit*	All users are always a member of the group Where * is his/her "u limit"-value.
nochat	For members of this group SysOp is always unavailable.
okuser	Members of this group may log in during a nouser-event.
telnet	Members of this group can TELnet out. (OS/2 version only.)
rlogin	Members of this group can RLogin out. (OS/2 version only.)
noaccount	If no account defined.
account	If account defined and has some money/credit left.
nomoney	If account defined but no money/credit left.

First example: bz:kim heino,tapani salmi
 fsysop:bz,kimmo ketolainen
 tarufans:jari saarenmaki,kim heino

```
cindyfans:marko ruotsalainen
```

You must create groups if you want to have so called private conferences or want to limit access of some users. You can use the semicolon (;) to mark the comment line. Comments are recommended because that makes your group file easier to read.

Let's take more complex example:

```
----- cut -----
; General Groups

bz:kim heino,tapani salmi
fsysop:bz,kimmo ketolainen
tarufans:jari saarenmaki,kim heino
cindyfans:marko ruotsalainen
false:tatu lund,toni lund

; Age groups

kids:<18
oldfart:>17

; Conferences

news@r:all
news@w:fsysop
users@r:all
fileinfo@r:all
49beta@:all
49beta@w:bz
bbbs.sysop@:all
bbbs.sysop@r:49beta@w,false
netmail@:jori kuusinen@950101
myynti@r=(markki|market):teemu peltonen
----- cut -----
```

General groups are simple, just the groupname and users/groups. You can also use user's ages in groups with the '<' and '>' chars. See "kids" lines in upper example.

If you want to limit users access to conference, you have to specify a conference group. Let's take a closer look:

Basis is very clear, you give the name of the conference in which you want user to have limited access. Again you can use multiple groups for one conference. By default every user has full (read and write) access to all conferences, notify this when creating new conferences. Accesses are given with the following flags:

```
@:group      removes read and write access from group
@r:group     gives read access to group
@w:group     gives read and write access to group
@s:group     gives read, write and SigOp access to group
```

If you want to have a conference with just a few users, you first must to remove access from all and then give write access to those users. See

"49beta" from upper example.

Three last lines shows you clearly the power of the groups. Lets go through those very carefully. Line "netmail@:jori kuusinen@950101" removes all access from the user called Jori Kuusinen in the conference NetMail. This limitation will be automatically removed 01.01.1995, ie. then he will again have full read and write access to the conference. Three days before the user expires from the group he will recieve a node message telling him so. He will also recieve a node message the day he expires letting him know that his access is now expired.

Next line "myynti@r=(markki|market):teemu peltonen" is even more powerful. First it specifies new group called "myynti", which contains user Teemu Peltonen. He will have only the read access to all conferences matching regular expression "(markki|market)" (like SF.Markkinat, Market and LV/Markkinat).

Whenever it is possible, please use regexp-groups, like this:

```
----- cut -----
sysconf@=\.sysop:all
sysconf@w=\.sysop:fsysop
----- cut -----
```

It is important that you really understand what regexp is, see bbbshelp for more information about it. "Normal" OS-alike wildcards (* and ?) are part of regexp, but they have totally different meaning in it.

Using regexp-groups will save memory, diskspace and your effort! (And BBBS might crash if your groups get too big.)

1.6 Filearea Setup

You must make FILEDIRG.000 file (to your /BBS directory), ←
containing
following information about your file areas:

```
virtual_directory      real_directory      description_and_flags
```

DESCRIPTION:

Virtual directory: The name of the directory user sees.

Real directory: Files are stored here on your disk drive(s). You must create these directories.

NOTE! It is very important to use lower case letters only. Do not use /Windows/Games etc, this will only show directory /windows and not its sub-directories. This is one of the top-17 errors

Description: Description of the directory. User sees this when (s)he lists the files/dirs.

Flags: With following flags you can specify groups accesses

to the directory. If no read access is defined, it will be the default for all users. (R=Read, W=Write)

```
@r:group1\{,group2\{,...}}
@w:group1\{,group2\{,...}}
@rw:group1\{,group2\{,...}}
@wr:group1\{,group2\{,...}}
```

With the @e flag you can prevent scanning of the new files from the directory.

Different description files can be specified by @0 flag.

You can format text output with @n and @@ flags. @n generates the line feed character and @@ generates one @ character.

You can split directory lists for multiple files. Files are numbered from 000 to 999, and named FILEDIRG.nnn. For the each node you can specify independent directories. First directory in the FILEDIRN.nnn file will be the node's "hold" directory. Hold directory can be used for temporary storage. File FILEDIRN.001 is for node one, and so on. To make things universal over all BBBSes, please use /tmp as your hold directory.

The "point-line" can be used with the removable drives, like CD-ROM. If the file specified after the point is not found, the rest of the directory list is skipped. The part after "point-line" will be skipped by BBBS BLIST command. If filedirg begins with "point-line" the whole filedirg will be skipped from the filelist. Again to keep it simple, please use directory /cdrom for the all of your CD-ROM disks. You can use same directory for all of your disks as long as you are using correct point-lines to auto-detect the disk in the drive.

Example:

```
----- filedirg.000 -----
/                d:/bbs/files/root                @w:fsysop Root directory
/incoming        d:/bbs/files                @rw:fsysop New uploads
/bbbs            z:/bbbs                    @w:fsysop BBBS software
/bbbs/conv       d:/pub/bbbs/conv                       @w:fsysop Update utilities
/graph           d:/bbs/files/graph           @w:fsysop Pictures
/graph/gif       e:/bbs/files/graph/gif       GIF-pictures
/graph/gif/cindy c:/bbs/files/graph/gif/cindy           @r:cindyfans Cindy Crawford
/graph/gif/taru  c:/bbs/files/graph/gif/taru           @r:tarufans Taru Valkeapaa
/graph/jpeg      a:/jpeg                                    JPEG-pics @0c:/desc/jpeg.d
----- cut -----

----- filedirg.001 -----
. h:/index/simtel.20
/cdrom           h:/                        CD-ROM! @1c:/desc/root.cd1
----- cut -----

----- filedirg.002 -----
. h:/index/garbo.fi
/cdrom           h:/                        Another CD-ROM! @1c:/desc/root.cd2
----- cut -----
```

```
----- filedirn.001 -----
/tmp          d:/bbs/h1          @rw:all @e Your personal hold directory
----- cut -----
```

1.7 Description Files

BBBS stores the file descriptions in DESCRIPT.ION files (4DOS compatible format). These files may have hidden-attribute, but not readonly.

Remember that the description for one line must not exceed 750 characters.

File format is following:

```
filename description_and_flags
```

You can use the following flags:

```
@r:group1\{,group2\{,...}} -> set read access to group
@w:group1\{,group2\{,...}} -> set write access to group
@p:group1\{,group2\{,...}} -> set private access to group
@@                          -> write the "@" char
@n                          -> insert new line
@f                          -> mark file as free
@lfilename                  -> link to the real file
@a                          -> specifies filedate for desctype-1
@s                          -> specifies filesize for desctype-1
```

The @r, @w, @@ and @n flags are used like in the directory listing. The @p flag specifies private file for the group(s). File can be marked as free with the @f flag. Especially useful files (like virus scanners and BBBS) should be made free, that way an user with no download access can download the file immediately.

With the @l (link) flag you can specify different filename and directory for the file. Otherwise than another flags this flag must be the first entry in the description field. There also must be a file named as the link (we suggest zero byte length files, but that does not matter).

You can specify different name and path for the descript.ion file by using the @0-flag in the directory list.

There is also a special desctype-1 file, which can be used on read-only drives, like CD-ROM. It has two new flags, @s which specifies the filesize in bytes and @a for the file date. Desctype-1 file can be specified by using the @1-flag in the directory list (instead of the @0).

You can use two different special files in the descriptions. First is "." and the second is "..". The "." entry is shown as is (without ".", of course) when user lists files in this directory. Files before and after "."-line are sorted separately (in bfilsort). The ".." lines are shown right after when user changes directory to this directory. You can use multiple entries for both special files.

Example:

```
----- cut -----
.. Here are all of the files for BBBS
. The main files are:
.
bbbs_d.lzh BBBS for PC DOS @f @d45
bbbs_gen.lzh Shared parts of BBBS
.
. And some utilities:
.
bag.exe BBBSHELP-reader for PC DOS
----- cut -----
```

1.8 EXTERNAL.BBB File

Like GROUPS file, EXTERNAL.BBB is plain ASCII file. It contains external protocol configuration, packer configuration, nodelist names and TICK configuration. Again you can use the semicolon (;) to mark the comment line.

This file is divided into different sections, each starting with the header "[section_name]". To have different sections for OS2 and DOS you can use sections named as "[section_name.OS2]" and "[section_name.DOS]"

See also the example in the distribution archives about this file.

```
Protocols

Packers

Nodelists

Tickfiles

Bogus and BackDoor

Metastrings
```

1.9 Protocols

```
[t_name]          Defines the internal/external protocol names. If
you
want to add more protocols, just add one line here.
Protocol numbers 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8 can be handled
internally, but you can redefine them all here. If you
add more protocols, you must to add them to BBBSTXT line
358, too. Please note that when you delete one line, the
other lines are renumbered (which must be fixed).
```

[t_download] This is DOS command string to start specific protocol. With the internal protocols you can use -.

[t_gr_down] The automatic protocol start string to be send to remote before download starts, if user has selected the G&R transfer commands. - disables this feature.

[t_upload]
[t_gr_up] These are the same as [t_download] and [t_gr_down], but for uploading. BBBS can handle internally protocols 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8.

SEE ALSO:

meta strings

1.10 Packers

[af_ext] The extension of the file this packer generates. ←
Also
used to identify packer which user has chosen.

[af_ident] These bytes are used internally to identify packer's "fingerprint", numbers are in hexadecimal. First number is the offset in the file (beginning from 00), followed by a comma and the ident-byte(s). If the ident-bytes are found from the offset, the file is packed with this packer.

[af_pack1] DOS command string to pack multiple files (filenames are in text file) into one packet.

[af_pack2] DOS command string to pack one file into the packet.

[af_unpack] DOS command string to unpack the packet to the current directory.

SEE ALSO:

meta strings

1.11 Nodelists

[nodelist] You should list full names of all of your nodelists here. Wildcards are allowed.

1.12 Tick files

[tick.adopt] BTICK will generate TICK file for the files listed in this entry. There are three lines per one file and there may be more than one file to adopt by writing multiple three line entries.

```

        areaname      TICK areaname used with this file.
        filename      Filename, wildcards are allowed.
        description    Description for the file.

```

Please be carefully with this, as there is no way to check who originally sent the file for you!

[ticks] TICK areas areas are defined here. The setup is divided into several different parts on one line. Here is some information about the different parts:

```

gr      Group ID for tick area. Any character can be used
        as a group ID. You can put different areas under
        different group IDs. If you are a host or hub you
        give accesses to echomail areas to your downlinks
        by using these group IDs, so define them clearly.

```

```

tag      Name of this file echo area.
path     Directory where to move incoming files.
aka      Nodenummer for this area.
afl      Area flags. See below.
export   Where to export this area. See flags below.
desc     Description of this area. Must start with '/'.

```

Area flags, you can also use export flags here:

```

V  Visible for all nodes
Z  Don't use file_id.diz
R  Don't check CRC of incoming file
!  Passthrough, don't update description
A  Append info to announce message (temp/tickinfo.txt)

```

Export flags:

```

@  Node is unlinked
+  Do not send tick to this node, just forward the file
<  Accept files from this node, but don't send
>  Send files to this node
H  Mark files as 'hold' (node must pickup them)
C  Mark files as 'crash' (you will poll them)
N  Mark files as 'normal'

```

EXAMPLE

```

; gr tag   path          aka          afl export          desc
; -----
A BBBS    d:/pub/bbbs/  2:222/151  AH  >2:222/222 @42  /BBBS and utilities
V LUKKI   d:/pub/txt/   40:765/151 HS  40:765/765      /LukkiVerkko

```

1.13 BOGUS Mail Tosser and BackDoor Mailer

[echomail] Echomail areas are defined here. The setup is divided into several different parts on one line. Here is some information about the different parts:

```

gr          Group ID for echomail area. Any character can be used
           as a group ID. You can put different areas under
           different group IDs. If you are a host or hub you
           give accesses to echomail areas to your downlinks
           by using these group IDs, so define them clearly.

areatag     Echomail area areatag. Echomail is distributed between
           nodes using this area name.

bbbs name   Conference name in BBBS, write - if
           it is the same as the areatag name. Conference
           name with spaces can be enclosed to quotes.
           Areaname "!" is a passthrough area.

add akas    List of akas to be added for this area. BOGUS also
           adds your default aka for this conference.

flags       S Secure: accept incoming mail only from the
           nodes listed in the export list.
           Whenever possible, use this flag.
           V Visible: area is visible (areafix) to nodes
           who don't have access to it.
           D Don't perform dupe check for this area.
           - None

export      Export this conference to these nodes.
           You can list only net/node if the node is in the
           same zone than the last one, or only node if
           net:zone is the same.
           Write > in front of node for export only
           Write < in front of node for import only

```

EXAMPLE:

```

; gr areatag      bbbs name      add akas      flags export
; -----
B BBBS.ENGLISH   -                -                S      47:1000/101
G GENERAL        "MAIN BOARD"    40:765/151      S      40:765/765 49
P TESTAREA      !                -                S      40:765/765 49

```

[nodes] Node setup.

```

node        The FidoNet address of remote node

spass       Mail session password used with BackDoor. If
           you want run secure system, you must specify both
           mail session password and packet password for all
           nodes.

apass       BRoboCop requests from this node must have this
           password in the subject of the message.

ppass       Password to be stored with outbound packets
           for this node. This will also be required for
           incoming packets from this node to ensure that
           packets are really from this node.

```

tpass TICK password.
 gr Groups of echomail areas available to this node for reading and writing. Group listed after '!' character (including group '!') can only be connected, not disconnected.
 st Specifies the flags for this node and status for outbound mailfiles.
 Crash
 Hold
 - normal
 ! don't route netmails directly
 B don't use HYDRA protocol

 pa Specifies the type of packer to be used for packing mail packets for this node. Numbers are:
 1 arc 4 arj
 2 zip 5 zoo
 3 lzh 6 hpk
 More packers can be defined in packer section of external.bbb.
 route Routings for this node. By default BOGUS routes all netmail to this node directly to it, here you can specify more. Addresses can be "zone:/*" (all in that zone), "zone:net/*" (all in that net) or "zone:net/node(.point)". You can also use "*zone:net/node", when BOGUS will scan your nodelists for all downlinks of this hub and route their mails too via this node.

EXAMPLE:

```

; node      spass  apass  ppass  tpass gr  st pa route
; -----
2:222/151  session foopass pktpass tick B C 3 *2:222/151
47:1000/101 privat passw - fub BCD H 3 47:* 27:47/* 2:20/0
2:222/222  sesonly - - - - ! 3
2:222/0    boot  boot  boot  boot BD ! 3
2:222/70  boot  boot  boot  boot C - 3 1:* 2:* 3:* 4:* 5:* 6:*
2:222/71  boot  -    boot  -    - ! 3
2:222/72  boot  -    boot  -    - ! 3
  
```

1.14 Meta strings

Following meta-strings are available when configuring packers and protocols. They are replaced with corresponding string or number.

```

%e Character 27, ESC, ^[.
%r Character 13, CR, ^M.
%% Character 37, '%'.
%p Packet name to (un)pack.
%f File to be send/received or file to (un)packed into/from
  packet.
%F Filename (%f), but "*.*" will be converted to "*".
%d Filename (%f) without dir.
%D Filename (%d), but "*.*" will be converted to "*".
%c The value of 'COMSPEC' environment variable.
  
```

```

%n      The value of `cfg.newdir' (internal) variable.
%o      Comport number.
%b      Comport baseaddr (hex).
%i      Comport IRQ.
%a      Comport handle (OS/2 version only).
%s      Comport real baud.
%l      Comport baud (line speed).
%h"text"
        If RTS/CTS handshake is enabled, text `text', otherwise
        nothing.

```

1.15 ALIAS.BBB File

The ALIAS.BBB file has three purposes. First, you can create short aliases for usernames and their home FidoNet addresses, second, you can create mailinglists for sending messages to and third, you can create alternative receivers for comments to sysop.

alias names

An alias name line has this syntax:

```
alias:fidonet_number, user_name
```

mailinglists

A mailinglist line has this syntax (in same line):

```
alias:fidonet_number1, user_name1,
      fidonet_number2, user_name2,
      fidonet_number3, user_name3
```

...

comment receivers

comment receivers can be two thing; other users or just showing a file to the user. Syntax is COM_x where x is a option letter to choose from. See also the file precom for where to list options:

```
COM_x:user_name
COM_x:mailing_list
COM_x:<path and filename of file to show
```

(x is a letter/number of your choice.)

EXAMPLES:

```

--- cut ---
B: 2:222/151, Kim Heino
Z: 2:222/151, Tapani Salmi
BZ: 2:222/151, Kim Heino, 2:222/151, Tapani Salmi
COM_B:Kim Heino
COM_Z:bz
COM_F:<c:/bbs/menus/access
--- cut ---

```

1.16 Directories and files in BBBS

Here you will find information about all the different directories ←
and

files that BBBS creates and uses.

Directories:

Directories

Files:

/BBS dir

/BBS/MAIN dir

/BBS/MENUS dir

A star (*) after the filename indicates that you may or ←
should

edit this file before you opens your system to the public.

1.17 Directories

The names of the directories may be changed, but it's recommended to have them as is, it will make it easier to refer to them in case of difficulty.

MAIN	The main directory where messages and logfiles are stored.
MENUS	All the menus for BBBS are kept here. The menus can be changed to look like whatever you want to.
FILES	Uploads will appear in this directory.
TEMP	This is where all temporary files are stored. RAMdisk is recommended. All the files here are created by BBBS.

The following directories are specific to each node and must be empty!

MSG1	Hippo/QWK/OMEN reply directory.
GRAB1	ASCII/Hippo/QWK/OMEN grab directory.
UP1	Temporary upload directory.
HOLD1	Hold directory.

1.18 /BBS dir

alias.bbb	*	You can specify alias names for users here.
areatoss.1		Areatoss infofile for node one, created by BBBS after user logs off. If he/she wrote messages to FidoNet areas, the number(s) of the conference(s) will be written into this file. For node two it has extension 2.
bbbs.001		Library file.
bbbs.002		Library file.
bbbs.exe		The main program.

bbbs.key	Your personal registration key.
bbbs.telnetd.exe	Telnet daemon for login into BBBS/2 through TCP/IP network. IBM TCP/IP 2.0+, Warp IAK or Warp Connect is also needed for this.
bbbscfg4.000	General configuration, used by all nodes (global).
bbbscfg4.001	Configuration file for node one (local in BCFG4).
bzc.exe	Script file compiler.
bcfg4.exe	Configuration program.
bbbsdef.h	If you want to do some programming for BBBS you can look here for variables and record declarations.
bbbsrun.1	Flagfile for node one, BBBS is now running on that node.
bbbstxt	Most of the text that BBBS will write to screen are stored here.
bbbstxt1	Language file for language number one.
external.bbb *	External program configuration file (packers, transfer protocols). Nodelists are also defined here.
filedirg.000 *	Global filedirs. See BBBSSYS.GUI for more info.
filedirn.001 *	Local filedirs for node 1.
groups *	Group definition file.
bterm.log	Logfile for BTerm.
bterm.pho *	Phonebook file for BTerm.
hippo.wht	The messages that Hippo uses for communicating with the users.
jargon.txt	Optional online hacker's dictionary.
up_scan.bat	Can be used to process files uploaded. BBBS will run this file automatically for all uploads. PC-DOS version.
up_scan.cmd	Same as above, but for OS/2 version.
_mg	MG startup file. See MG.TEX for more information.
.bz	See SCRIPT.GUI for specification on the scripts.

1.19 /BBS/MAIN dir

00000000.dat	Headers for the messages in conference 0.
00000000.txt	Message texts for conference 0.
bbbsdown.dat	Records kept about up/downloaded files. If missing, BBBS creates it again.
bbbshi.dat	Hippo messages for the users. Can be deleted.
bbbsset.dat	Aliases and sets created by users. Can be deleted.
bbbsstat.dat	Statistics file. Can be deleted.
bbbsusr.dat	The main userfile. Backup this often!
bbbsusr.idx	Index for bbbsfil.dat. Can be recreated with 'BBBS BPUS'.
btickube.dup	Duplicate file database for BTICK.
confcfg4.dat	Conference setup.
confh2o4.dat	Highwater marks. Can be recreated with logging in to the system.
confusr4.dat	User accesses to conferences.
log1	The log that is kept for each node. The name can be changed in config.
okfiles	Only files listed in this file may be uploaded.
okuser	Only users listed in this file may register as a new user.
nodelist.idx	Nodelist index for, created by BNC.
sysnote	Notes that BBBS writes to the sysop (newusers, changed names, uploaded files, etc)
trashcan	Opposite of okuser, users listed in this file may not

register.
 trashfil Opposite of okfiles, files listed in this file may not be
 uploaded.

1.20 /BBS/MENUS dir

The files in /BBS/MENUS directory can be recognized by their extension.

Extension	When user sees this file
=====	
<none>	Language 0, no ANSI, novice
.1	Language 1, no ANSI, novice
.GR	Language 0, ANSI, novice
.GR1	Language 1, ANSI, novice
.X	Language 0, no ANSI, expert
.X1	Language 1, no ANSI, expert
.XG	Language 0, ANSI, expert
.XG1	Language 1, ANSI, expert

areainfo.000	* Displayed by `r ai` command on the conference zero.
bang	Russian roulette bang-file.
bbbshelp	File with the help displayed with `h`.
birthday	The list of those who celebrating their birthday.
brobo_af	Header for BAllFix replies.
brobo_ff	Header for FileFix (BTICK) message.
brobo_fr	Header for file request replies.
brobo_nf	* Header for NameFix replies.
bull	* The bulletin menu.
bull0	* Welcome-bulletin.
bull1	Bulletin number one.
c019b	Bulletin menu for conference 19.
c019b0	First-join-bulletin for conference 19.
c019b1	Bulletin one for conference 19.
c019j	Always-join-bulletin for conference 19.
charmenu	Menu used for character choice command.
chathelp	The help screen for groupchat.
chatmenu	Menu used for chat command.
confer	* The list of the conferences. Delete it to use BBBS internal comments
doormenu	* Menu used for door command.
edithelp	The help screen showed in the editor.
fil4mens	Menu used for file command, SysOp only.
fil4menu	Menu used for file command.
flaghelp	Help file for file flagging.
formmenu	Menu used for choosing archiving method.
getlost	* This file will be shown to user with "getlost" status.
globmenu	Menu used for global commands, will be shown after the listing of a main, read, file, utility or sysop menu.
hello	* Hello-message for the new user.
helplink	Index file for bbbshelp.
huntmenu	Menu used for search command.
joinhelp	Help file for joining.
langmenu	Menu used for language choice.
lostpass	This file will be shown to user who has lost password.

mainmens	Menu used for main command, SysOp only.
mainmenu	Menu used for main command.
markmenu	Menu used for mark command.
postlog	The file will shown after the 'g y' command.
postreg	The file will be listed after a user has registered.
prechat	* The file will be shown before reason for SysOp chat is asked.
precom	* The file will be shown before 'comment' command.
precreg	* The file will be shown before closed system password question.
predesc	* Will be shown to user before asking descriptions for files.
predown	* The file will be shown before a user downloads a file.
pregrab	* This file will be shown before the scratchpad is sent to the user using the grab command.
prelog	* The file that is listed before the user logs in.
prepreup	The file shown before asking the filename in upload command.
prereg	The file is shown before a user is registered.
preup	The file will be shown prior to an upload.
protmenu	Menu used for protocol choice.
readmens	Menu used for read command, SysOp only.
readmenu	Menu used for read command.
utilmens	Menu used for utility command, SysOp only.
utilmenu	Menu used for utility command.

1.21 Local screen

The local screen is the screen on your local monitor when a BBBS node is up and running and waiting for a caller. ↔

KEYS:

space	Rescan now.
alt-A	SysOp available. The whotext in BBBS will show a line that says that the sysop is available. Same as alt-a in sysop keys when users are logged in.
alt-B	Exit to OS, leave the line busy
alt-D	Drop to OS
alt-F	Answer now - Manually answer an incoming call.
alt-G	FREQ files from remote system
alt-J	BTerm
	alt-L Local login
alt-N	SysOp not available. Oposite as SysOp available above.
alt-O	Outbound Manager
	alt-P Poll a node. If the node you want to poll is within the same net as you are, you need only to type the last part of the nodenumber. I.e. you are 47:1000/101 and want to call 47:1000/110, you need only to type 101.
alt-Q	Exit to OS, leave the line open
alt-S	Send files to remote system
alt-X	Reset modem
ctrl-L	Refresh screen

1.22 BTerm Terminal Emulator

BTerm is a small Terminal Emulator that can be accessed from a ←
running
BBBS system through Alt-J. The purpose of this emulator is just to give
SysOps a small utility to call out without having to close down the BBBS
and start another program.

The correct settings for BTerm are:

- ISO Latin-1 charset
- VT320 emulation
- "real" VT100 keyboard

BBBS command: u s iso te vt320 key -yes

AVAILABLE KEYS

Alt-Q Quit	Alt-H Hangup	Alt-D Download
Alt-Z Shell	Alt-P Phonebook	Alt-U Upload
Alt-X Quit BBBS	Alt-L Log	Alt-J Clear screen
F1 help	Alt-B Send break	Alt-T Backscroll
Alt-O Play voice	Alt-A Toggle audio	Alt-I Send fax
Alt-C Charset	Alt-E Elapsed time	

SUBTOPICS

Alt-A
Toggle audio

Alt-B
Send break

Alt-C
Charset

Alt-D
Download

Alt-E
Elapsed time

Alt-H
Hangup

Alt-I
Send fax

Alt-J
Clear screen

Alt-L
Log

Alt-O
Play voice

Alt-P

Phonebook
Alt-Q
Quit
Alt-T
Backscroll
Alt-U
Upload
Alt-X
Quit BBBS
Alt-Z
Shell
F1
help

1.23 Toggle audio

Alt-A will toggle audio on/off.

1.24 Send Break

Alt-B will cause BTerm to send break to remote system.

1.25 Charset

Alt-C will change used charset. Default is ISO Latin-1. Possible choices are:

<I>SO Latin-1
IBM <P>C
<F>innish
<N>orwegian
<U>K
<M>AC

1.26 Download

Alt-D BTerm supports the following protocols for download:

Hydra
ZModem
YModem
ZedZap

When you use Hydra you can also upload files at the same time. To add files after you have started a download session, press alt-c in Hydra download to enter the chat window. Then type the filename with full path if the file is not in your pre-defined BTerm directory. Then start the upload by pressing alt-u.

1.27 Elapsed time

Alt-E will show elapsed time on this call.

1.28 Hangup

Alt-H will cause BTerm to immediate hang up the line. Don't use this to log out of systems unless the system hangs!

1.29 Send fax

Alt-I will send a fax file.

1.30 Clear screen

Alt-J will just clear your screen

1.31 Toggle Logfile

Alt-L will toggle the logfile (BTerm.log) on or off. BTerm saves all codes, including ansi codes to the logfile.

1.32 Send voice

Alt-O will send a voice file over the modem

1.33 Phone book

Alt-P will open the phonebook.

Use arrow keys to move around.

You can select several entries for dialing by pressing space.

If a board has more than one line, you can skip to the next number when dialing by pressing <space> at the "dialing dialog".

If you press <E> BTerm show you a window allowing editing of the current board. To add more node's (phonenumbers) to a board just keep on entering the numbers one by one. Press enter on a empty node-line to return to the list of boards.

Remember to write phonenumbers in international format!

You can delete entries by pressing del and add new entries with the ins keys.

Phonebook file is BTerm.PHO and it's format is:

```
<system name>:<charset>:<phonenum>:[other number]:[etc.]
```

BBBS/2 only:

```
<system name>:<charset>:<domain.name[#port number]|ip address[#port]>:[etc.]
```

example:

```
BCG-Box 4:I:358-21-2404036:358-21-2407755  
ICON BBS:P:bbs.icon.fi#23
```

1.34 Quit BTerm

Alt-q will quit your BTerm session and return you to BBBS local login screen.

1.35 Backscroll

Alt-t will set BTerm in scrollback mode. Use arrow keys to scroll back and forth. Press <esc> to return to BTerm.

1.36 Upload

BTerm supports the following protocols for upload:

- Ascii
- Hydra
- ZModem
- YModem
- ZedZap

When you use Hydra you can add files after you have started a session. Press alt-c in Hydra to enter the chat window. Then type the filename with full path if the file is not in your pre-defined BTerm directory.

Then add the file to outgoing batch by pressing alt-u.

1.37 Exit BTerm and BBBS

Alt-X will exit BTerm AND BBBS in one go.

1.38 Shell to OS

Alt-Z will shell to you OS without dropping the line. Write exit at the command prompt to return to BTerm.

1.39 This help

F1 will give you this help text. Press Q to quit back to BTerm or H to get help about help.

1.40 Using BBBS as a SysOp

SysOp Commands:

Main Menu Commands

... Special commands

Read Menu Commands

... Message commands

File Menu Commands

... Filearea maintenance commands

Util Menu Commands

... Managing group/user settings

SEE ALSO:

menudir/bbbshelp

1.41 Main menu

Sysop command in main menu

blog

Show logfiles backwards

bshell

Shell to OS/2 prompt

bstat
Showt B Statistics

compu
Show free RAM and DISK

dell
Delete logfiles

dos
Do OS command

ej
Eject other nodes

hide
Hide yourself

hippo
Send Hippo message

log
Show logfiles

mg
Text editor

ou
Outbound manager

reset
Reset the periodical statistics

shell
Shell to OS

spy
Spy on a user

ul
User login

1.42 Backward Log

COMMAND

[q] blog

DESCRIPTION

Will show you the log in the opposite chronological order.

SEE ALSO

log

dell

1.43 B Statistics

COMMAND

[q] bstat

DESCRIPTION

Will show you a statistical screen on time usage, number of logins and number of messages written.

1.44 Show free memory & disk space

COMMAND

[q] compu

DESCRIPTION

Shows free memory & available disk space.

1.45 Delete log

COMMAND

[q] dell

DESCRIPTION

Deletes the log. If the BBS has several nodes you have to give a node number after DELL. The configuration can be made so that the log will be the same for all nodes, in that case the node number will probably be 1.

SEE ALSO

log

blog

1.46 Do OS Command

COMMAND

[q] dos

DESCRIPTION

Will let you issue a OS command from inside BBBS. If you are using BBBS via modem you can redirect the output from the command to the serial port like this:

```
DOS DIR >COMx
```

1.47 Eject other node

COMMAND

[q] ej

DESCRIPTION

EJ allows you to eject user on another node. After EJ you must enter the nodenumber you want to eject.

1.48 Hide yourself

COMMAND

[q] hide

DESCRIPTION

HIDE will make the W listing show the users that you're logged off. You can restore your presence with the chat a command.

1.49 Hippo command

COMMAND

[q] hippo

DESCRIPTION

Send hippo message. With this function you can send a node message to a specific user/group X number of times. When the user/group logs in he will receive the hippo message.

1.50 Show logfiles

COMMAND

[q] log

DESCRIPTION

Will list the log in chronological order, oldest login first newest last. If the BBS has several nodes you have to give a node number after the LOG. The configuration can be made so that the log will be the same for all nodes but this will get very confusing when trying to list and look at it.

SEE ALSO

blog

dell

1.51 Outbound manager

COMMAND
[q] ou

1.52 Reset the periodical statics

COMMAND
[q] reset

DESCRIPTION
Will reset the statistics for a new period. This command reflects statistics shown in MAIN/STAT command.

SEE ALSO
main/stat

1.53 Shell to OS

COMMAND
[q] shell

DESCRIPTION
SHELL will take you to a OS shell by running SHELLx -script (extension for the script will vary depending your OS).

SEE ALSO
[q] bshell [q]
dos

1.54 OS/2 prompt

COMMAND
[q] bshell

DESCRIPTION
BSHELL will let you into OS/2 prompt from BBBS/2. BShell is done with BBBS/2's internal redirection routines.

SEE ALSO
[q] dos [q]
shell

1.55 Text editor

COMMAND

[q] mg [filename]

DESCRIPTION

You can edit textfiles like external.bbb with MG text editor.

1.56 Spy on a user

COMMAND

[q] spy

DESCRIPTION

Lets you see what commands a user is issuing. The commands will be echoed to you as node messages.

SWITCHES

-d End spy-mode

1.57 User login

COMMAND

[q] ul

DESCRIPTION

Lets you enter the BBS without entering password. Use this command to enter BBS with some other users name.

1.58 Read menu

Sysop command in read menu

fix

Fix Resume links

fm

Mark as sent on fido type area

unfm

Mark as unsent on fido type area

user

User Editor

zap

Zap names

1.59 Fix resume links

COMMAND

[r] fix

DESCRIPTION

Used for fixing the links between user numbers and the messages in your user resume conference. Don't use it if you don't have problems with the user resume links since it takes some time to complete.

1.60 Mark as sent

COMMAND

[r] fm

DESCRIPTION

FM will mark all the messages in the current conference sent. Ie it will tell BOGUS or BMSG not to send the current messages forward. This has no effect if the BBS is not 'connected' to any message network. It is usually used if you 'connect' to a network and include one of the conferences in the network, then you would want to mark all prior messages not to be forwarded.

SEE ALSO

[r]
unfm

1.61 Mark as unsent

COMMAND

[r] unfm

DESCRIPTION

UNFM will mark all the messages in the current conference new. Ie it will tell BOGUS or BMSG to send the current messages forward. This has no effect if the BBS is not 'connected' to any message network. It is usually used if you want to resend messages in fido type area.

SEE ALSO

[r]
fm

1.62 User editor

COMMAND

[r] user

DESCRIPTION

Will take you to the util menu and automatically find the user-record of the author of the message you just read.

1.63 Zap names

COMMAND

[r] zap

DESCRIPTION

Will give you the possibility to change the header of the message you just read. You can change the FROM, TO and SUBJECT fields.

1.64 File menu

Sysop command in file menu

```
des
  Describe a file

free
  Make files free

in
  Install a file (hard)

lin
  Install a file (soft)

tou
  Touch a file

unfree
  Unfree free files
```

1.65 Describe a file

COMMAND

[f] describe

DESCRIPTION

Is used to enter the description for files. You must have write access to the directory to use this command.

1.66 Free a file

COMMAND

[f] free

DESCRIPTION

FREE will make a file public, free to download. The user must not have download rights to download a file FREEd file. You must have SysOp access for this command.

SEE ALSO

unfree

1.67 Install files (hard)

COMMAND

[f] install

DESCRIPTION

Install a file into BBBS (hard). This command will physically copy the file to your destination. You must have SysOp access for this.

SEE ALSO

lin

1.68 Install files (soft)

COMMAND

[f] linstall

DESCRIPTION

Install a file into BBBS (soft). This command will not physically copy the file, but just creates a link to the physical path in your destinations descript.ion file. Requires SysOp access.

SEE ALSO

in

1.69 Touch files

COMMAND

[f] touch

DESCRIPTION

Will touch the file with today's date, ie. sets the file's date to today. You must have write access to the directory.

1.70 Unfree a file

COMMAND
[f] unfree

DESCRIPTION

UNFREE will remove the FREE flag from a file FREEd earlier. You must have SysOp access for this command.

SEE ALSO

free

1.71 File menu

Sysop command in util menu

aad
Account add

aas
Account assing

ac
Account change

am
Account members

av
Account view

ba
Banktime

facc
File Access

find
Find a user/group by name

+
Next user

-
Previous user

inv
Invite a user/group to conference

kill
Kill user

limit

Limits

sys
SysOp Access

sta
Status change

tli
Timelimit

uninv
Un-invite user/group

wotu
WandOfTurnUndead

1.72 Account add

COMMAND
[u] aad

DESCRIPTION
Adds money to selected user's account.

1.73 Account assing

COMMAND
[u] aas

DESCRIPTION
Assing user to account. Gives user access to account. Account can be new or existing.

1.74 Account change

COMMAND
[u] ac

DESCRIPTION
Changes account state of selected user. Account can be with or without credit.

1.75 Account members

COMMAND

[u] am

DESCRIPTION

Shows members of account.

1.76 Account view

COMMAND

[u] av

DESCRIPTION

View account.

1.77 Bank Time for user

COMMAND

[u] ba

DESCRIPTION

With this you can change the amount of time a user has stored in his timebank.

1.78 User File access change

COMMAND

[u] facc

DESCRIPTION

lets you change the users fileaccess rights. First use the find
These are the different access types:

0 - for no access at all

1 - for download only

2 - for upload only

3 - for both up and down

The file access will be change globally for the user.

1.79 Find user or group by name

COMMAND

[u] find

DESCRIPTION

FIND will search the user database and the groups file for any match of the expression you enter. This is used to change and review users settings. Entering a group name here will list all users that are a member of the specified group.

If the result you get on the screen is only on line and written in green color, the search did not come up with any match. If the color is cyan, BBBS has set it's record pointer at that user.

SEE ALSO

[u] wotu

1.80 WandOfTurnUndead

COMMAND

[u] wotu

DESCRIPTION

WOTU works like
FIND
but looks
killed
users from
userbase.

1.81 Next user

COMMAND

[u] +

DESCRIPTION

set pointer to the next user. (accending by usernumber.)

1.82 Previous user

COMMAND

[u] +

DESCRIPTION

set pointer to the previous user. (decending by usernumber.)

1.83 Invite a user to conference

COMMAND

[u] inv

DESCRIPTION

Invites a user or a group to the current conference, if he has the sufficient access rights, if he hasn't you can change them by editing the GROUPS file.

1.84 Kill user

COMMAND

```
[u] kill
```

DESCRIPTION

KILL will delete the user name from the BBBS. New user can use the name again to log in. If you don't want that name to log in ever again, add the name to your trashfile.

1.85 Limits for users

COMMAND

```
[u] limit
```

DESCRIPTION

Put a user or a group in a limit class. See bcfg4.gui for further information about limits.

1.86 Sysop Access

COMMAND

```
[u] sys
```

DESCRIPTION

Change the SysOp level for the current user. SysOp's access is a bitfield integer. You can use values from 0 to 255, as following:

- 1: Can shell to OS and execute OS commands
- 2: Full access to all conferences
- 4: Full access to all files
- 8: May read private messages from all conferences
- 16: May change passwords
- 32: May edit user's status (kill, status)

To give a certain access just add the numbers. For example, if you want a user to have access to all conferences and private messages, the value is 10 (2+8).

1.87 Status Change for user

COMMAND

```
[u] sta
```

DESCRIPTION

Change current users status. Available statuses are:

Active: normal status

Booted: user can not log in
Killed: user is killed

1.88 Time Limit for user

COMMAND

[u] tli

DESCRIPTION

Changes the maximum amount of time the user may using during one day.

1.89 Un-invite

COMMAND

[u] uniniv

DESCRIPTION

Will resign the user or group from the current conference, but his rights will be unchanged, i.e. the user will be able to join the conference again.

SEE ALSO

inv

1.90 Outbound manager

DESCRIPTION

With outbound manager you can manage your outbound mail.

When you enter into your outbound manager window, you will get list of our outbound mail. List format is following:

Nodenumber	Age	Flags	Bad	Busy	ArcMail	Files
2:222/222.0	0	IC RFDE	0	0	45kB	1994kB
2:220/666.0	0	H FDE	0	12	3kB	10kB

Age tells you how old is oldest outgoin netmail Ie how long time ago did that node poll you.

Flags are:

- Immidiata
- Crash
- Hold
- File Request
- File attach
- Direct
- Erase file when sent

Bad tells you number of many unsuccessful mailsessions there is. You can limit number of these from BCFG4.

Busy tells you number of busy calls. Busycalls area cleared every night.

ArcMail tells you amount of outbound ArcMail.

Files tells you amount of outbound Files.

SUBTOPICS

b
Change number of busy polls for node

ba
Change number of bad polls for node

c
Create message for node

ch
Change message number/all messages for node

cl
Clear tickdir and attach messages

d
Delete message

l
List messages (for node)

q
Quit back to main menu

1.91 Change number of busy polls for node

DESCRIPTION

With B command you can change number off busy polls for node.

Following command will set busypolls for node 2:222/222 into 10.

```
b 2:222/222 10
```

SEE ALSO

ba

1.92 Change number of bad polls for node

DESCRIPTION

BA command is used to clear/set bad polls. With BA command you can clear bad polls which prevents polls to node. You can of course prevent polls to a node with it!

SEE ALSO

b

1.93 Create message for node

DESCRIPTION

With C you can create a message for a node.

SYNTAX

```
c [node#] +Immediate +Crash +Hold +Request +File +Direct +Erase
+Trunc +Lock Subject_of_the_message
```

SEE ALSO

ch

d

1.94 Change message number/all messages for node

DESCRIPTION

With CH command you can change flags and subject of a message, or flags of all messages for node.

SYNTAX

```
ch [message#|node#] {New_to_Node#} {+|-}Immediate {+|-}Crash
{+|-}Hold {+|-}Request {+|-}File {+|-}Direct {+|-}Erase
{+|-}Trunc {+|-}Lock {New_Subject}
```

EXAMPLE

```
ch 2:222/151 2:222/222 +c +i
```

Will redirect messages to 2:222/151 via 2:222/222 and add Crash and Immediate flags.

SEE ALSO

c

d

1.95 Clear tickdir and attach messages

DESCRIPTION

CL will clear tickdir and maildir. All tickfiles without attach messages and attach messages without attach files are delted.

SEE ALSO

d

1.96 Delete message

DESCRIPTION

D command is used for erasing messages. Syntax is:

SYNTAX

D [message#]

SEE ALSO

l

1.97 List messages (for node)

DESCRIPTION

With L command you can list messages for all your links or specified node.

SYNTAX

L {node#}

EXAMPLE

```
(17:22) outb:/NEWS> l 2:222/222
```

Nodenumber	Age	Flags	Bad	Busy	ArcMail	Files
2:222/222.0	0	C FDE	0	25	3kB	10kB

Number	Age	Flags	Type	Size	Subject
9161	0	FDE	ArcM	3kB	c:\bbs\outbound\85100805.su1
9165	0	FD	File	9kB	c:\pub\os2\info\foo.bar
9166	0	FDE	File	1kB	c:\bbs\ticks\bb18b190.tic
9184	0	C	Mail	0kB	FOO BAR!

```
(17:23) outb:/NEWS>
```

SEE ALSO

ch

d

1.98 Quit back to main menu

DESCRIPTION

Q will quit back to main menu from Outbound Manager

1.99 Operational System

BBBS should work on all IBM PC compatible computers running IBM DOS v3.1 (or compatible) or IBM OS/2 v2+. BBBS for DOS can be run under DESQview or other similar multitasking environment, but not under Microsoft Windows or Microsoft Windows NT. BBBS/D requires about 350kB of free memory. It can use your EMS/XMS memory for swapping in DOS shells (where it uses only 3.5kB of your conventional memory). You may not load any memory resident (TSR) programs when you are in DOS shell. You can run BBBS on Local Area Networks, except on Microsoft Windows for Workgroups. Using a disk caching program (not SmartDrive) will speed things up dramatically. Optionally FOSSIL communications driver (revision level 5 or higher) can be used with BBBS/D, but is not required.

You can use following settings in DESQview with BBBS/D:

```
Memory Size (in K).....: 350
Writes text directly to screen....: [Y]
Displays graphics information.....: [N]
Virtualize text/graphics (Y,N,T)..: [T]
Maximum Program Memory Size (in K): 640
Maximum EMS/XMS/VCPI/DPMI (in K)..:
Uses its own colors.....: [Y]
Runs in background (Y,N,blank)....: [Y]
Uses math coprocessor.....: [N]
```

On multinode systems it is highly recommended to use OS/2, not DESQview, even with BBBS/D. The DOS-version of BBBS automatically detects OS/2 and DESQview, but some advanced timesliding options are only available under OS/2 (in dosbox with BBBS/D or native BBBS/2). Using HPFS instead of FAT speeds things up a lot, especially filescan and BMSG. With BBBS/D in dosbox you should use VX00 (look for a package called SIO*) or other similar OS/2 FOSSIL driver. If you are running BBBS/D in VDM, run remote nodes on full screen session, not in WPS window. With BBBS/2 there is no difference. BBBS/2 does work with FAT, but your file areas should be in HPFS partition.

1.100 Communication Setup

BBBS setup:

DOS environment communication

OS/2 communication environment

1.101 Communciation setup, BBBS/D

BBBS supports all standard FOSSIL driver (revision level 5 or higher).

However, if you don't want to use the FOSSIL driver, BBBS offers you reliable internal communication routines. On the startup BBBS will automatically detect whether or not you are using a FOSSIL driver and will use the correct routines. Using FOSSIL driver is recommended, though. Remember to load FOSSIL before DESQview.

If you are having some problems with the automatic FOSSIL detection you can force FOSSIL usage by putting "FOSSIL" into your BBBS environment variable. If you want to use internal routines even if the FOSSIL driver is loaded you can put "BCOM" into your BBBS environment variable.

Usually when loading the FOSSIL driver you can set up receive and transmit buffer sizes. Using 4kB buffers will give you good performance and will speed up your system. It will also give you more reliable file transfer with some internal and external protocols. Of course bigger buffers will allocate more memory so if you are very tight on memory you can use smaller transmit and receive buffers, like 512 bytes (usually FOSSIL driver's default settings).

See your FOSSIL user's guide for more information.

See Also:

Environment Variables

1.102 Communciation setup, BBBS/2

You can start BBBS/2 with command line "BBBS comport \{node} \{ device}

\{*} \{handle}", where device is the comport device name and handle is a filehandle number to already opened comport. You should specify device only if you use some special hardware, like DigiBoard. You must specify device if you want to specify handle, which is used with mailers and other such program. The asterisk must be used if you want BBBS to act as a named pipe client (default is server). To do named pipes, comport device must be a valid named pipe name, for example "\PIPE\BBBSpipe".

If you want to use BBBS/2 with COM5 device, you should start it:

```
bbbs.exe 1 5 COM5
```

SEE ALSO

Environment Variables

BBBS/2 in TCP/IP network

BBBS/2 with ISDN CAPI

1.103 BBBS/2 TCP/IP support

By starting BBBS with additional "TCPIP" device, you can "dial" out with standard telnet protocol (OS/2).

Starting Telnet poller node:

```
bbbs.exe 1 5 TCPIP          // port is ignored
```

Setup for TCPIP dialling:

```
Modem init string:          ATZ|
Dial string:                 ATD
Slow protocols in EMSI session: Yes
```

You can try this from BTerm with:

```
atdbbs.icon.fi#23          // port 23 (=default)
atd193.210.17.24           // no name server, default port
```

Nodelist format for telnet poller should be:

```
,1000,ICON,Helsinki,Kari_Tiihonen,bbs.icon.fi#666,300,CM,U,DN
,1000,ICON,Helsinki,Kari_Tiihonen,193.210.17.24#666,300,U,IP
,1000,ICON,Helsinki,Kari_Tiihonen,193.210.17.24,300,CM,U,TEL
```

Two first examples are same. Last example uses default telnet port, 23.

You can use BBBS.TELNETD.EXE for incoming Telnet communication. Both user login and polls are supported. Polling needs enabled BackDoor. It's parameters are:

```
bbbs.telnetd.exe <min_node> <max_node> <socket_number> [priority_class]
```

bbbs.telnetd.exe will spawn into dotbbbs.cmd (in current directory) and will start BBBS node for caller. Node numbers from telnet daemon command line are used. Telnet daemon configured nodes should have:

```
bcfg4://local/general/FD's DOBBS.BAT: telnet
```

Priority value you should type in can be calculated as following:

```
value = class * 64 + delta + 32,
```

where delta is a number between -31 .. 31 and class is one the followings:

```
0 = IDLETIME
1 = REGULAR
2 = TIMECRITICAL
3 = FOREGROUNDSERVER
```

EXAMPLES:

```
bbbs.telnetd.exe 5 7 23 224 // nodes 5, 6 and 7 are used. Telnet port
                          // 23 (standard telnet port) is used,
                          // daemon is running with
                          // Foregroundserver,0 priority.
```

Sample dotbbbs.cmd:

```
----- cut -----
c:
cd \bbs
bbbs.exe %1 %2 %3 %4 %5 %6 %7
----- cut -----
```

1.104 BBBS/2 ISDN CAPI support

By starting BBBS with additional "ISDN" device, you can dial out and have incoming calls with ISDN equipment supporting 32bit CAPI 1.1 under OS/2.

Starting ISDN node:

```
bbbs.exe 1 5 ISDN // port is adapter number, 1 is the first (#0)
```

Setup for ISDN dialling:

```
Modem init string:      ATZ|
Dial string:            ATD
Answer string:         ATA|
```

1.105 BBBS/D vs. BBBS/2

To make things simple: BBBS/2 is better than BBBS/D. BBBS/2 is ←
much more
friendlier to multitasking than BBBS/D (PC-DOS is not a multitasking
environment, or never will be).

Keep the following things in mind:

- BBBS/2 works in FAT-drive, but it is recommended to use HPFS.
- Unsetting DELDIR-environment makes BBBS to run faster (especially when using BBBS BMSG).

Following features are already known:

- If you run BBBS under CMD.EXE (not 4OS2 or start or icon or...) you must give full name when starting it! Ie. "C:\BBS> C:\BBS\BBBS.EXE"
This is a feature of CMD.EXE.

See Also:

Communication Setup

Operational System

EXTERNAL.BBB File

1.106 Environment Variables

You can set BBBS-environment variable from DOS. Available values are:

```

BBBS=
  FOSSIL      Always use FOSSIL (BBBS/D only)
  BCOM        Use internal async routines (BBBS/D only)
  DEBUG       Gives you some statistics and other stuff.
TZ=
  GMT[+|-]{n} TimeZone. Use this to set correct timezone where you are.
  EET-2       Eastern European Time
  EET-2DST    Eastern European Time with Daylight Saving Time
  CET         Central European Time
TZUTC=
  [+|-]diff   Difference of your local time and GMT (UTC) time.
  +0200       Add two hours to GMT to get EET

```

EXAMPLES:

```

C:/BBS> SET BBBS=BCOM,DEBUG
C:/BBS> SET TZ=EET-2           Set TimeZone for Finland
C:/BBS> SET TZ=CET-1DST       Set TimeZone for Norway

```

1.107 Parameters

Parameters:

X [node]
Start BBBS node for COMx (0=local)

BCONF
Show conference status

BDATE
Update birthday list

BFILEIDX
Make index file for filedirs

BFILSORT
Sort filedirs

BHATCH
Send TICK file

BLINKFIX

Update link's datestamps

BLIST
Make ASCII-version of filelist

BMSG
Import/export FidoNet mail

BMT
Message track

BNC
Compile nodelist(s)

BNDIFF
Update NODELIST from NODEDIFF

BNEWF
Make ASCII-version of new files

BNMSG
BNMSG Send node message

BOGUS
Import/export FidoNet mail

BOK
Make OKFILE.TXT for FrontDoor

BOM
Outbound Manager

BPC
Pack conference

BPUS
Pack users

BSETPACK
Pack set file

BSTAT
Show statistics list

BTICK
Process incoming TICK files

BTXT2BBS
Convert text file to message

BUUCP
Import UUCP mail

1.108 X [node]

BBBS X [node] will run BBBS and use comport X. To run a local node use '0' for the comport. Node is the nodenumber you wish to run, default is node 1.

In OS/2 version you can add three more parameters. Third parameter is the comport device name, usually COM2 or such. Fourth optional parameter must be "*" if you want BBBS to work as a named pipe client (default is server). To do named pipes, comport device must be a valid named pipe name, for example "\PIPE\BBBSpipe". Last parameter is the comport handle to already opened port (use only with front ends!).

1.109 BCONF

This command generates short report about all of your conferences. It will produce an output something like follows:

A#	Name	First	Last	kB	MIFPN
0000	News	1	9	3	MI
0001	Flame	19	138	36	I
0002	NetMail	32	139	43	MIFP

A# is the area number
 Name is the area name
 First is the number of the first message
 Last is the number of the last message
 kB reports how many kilobytes of messages there are

In MIFPN the letters mean as follows:
 M Must be a member of this conference
 I Invited to area with first login
 F The area is a FidoNet area
 P The area is for private messages
 N No-reply area

1.110 BDATE

Updates "Happy Birthday" file in your global menu directory. Run this command every day.

1.111 BFILEIDX

This command creates an index file of all your file directories based up on your filedirg.xxx files. Using BFILEIDX will increase the speed on file searching. Run this command every day.

1.112 BFILSORT

This command sorts the file entries in your `descript.ion` files.

1.113 BHATCH

You can use this command to hatch new file to TICK file echo. You should write full pathname to the file, areaname and optionally a description for the file. Remember that some old systems are limited to small descriptions.

If no description given, BHATCH tries to read it from your file area.

See `sysop.gui` for more information about TICK.

1.114 BLINKFIX

Updates filelinks' dates to match real file's date. You should run this command every day if you are using links.

1.115 BLIST

Makes an ascii list of all the files in your BBS. The file will be ←
in
the same format than seen with `'F S *'` command. Requires the name of the output file as a parameter. Second, optional parameter is group, which defaults to all. With this parameter, you can make different filelists for different groups, etc. Third parameter is starting directory. Default starting directory is `/`.

EXAMPLES:

```
bbbs.exe blist e:/pub/fubba.lst fubba /fubba/
```

SEE ALSO

BNEWF

1.116 BMSG

Converts messages from BBBS to FTSC-001 (*.msg) format and vice versa. Used with FidoNet. There are three options:

BBBS BMSG R

Collects all the new messages from BBBS to be send to other systems.

BBBS BMSG W

Write *.MSG format messages back to BBBS.

BBBS BMSG F [filename]

Almost the same than R, but does not check all of the conferences, just areas numbered in filename. BBBS automatically generates areatoss.[nodenumber] files for this usage.

1.117 BNC

Compiles nodelist(s) defined external.bbb to be used with BBBS. If no parameter given, it does not compile nodelist if index is already up to date.

1.118 BMT

BMT will scan your netmail directory for messages with unlisted destination address. It also logs sender, receiver and subject.

1.119 BNDIFF

Updates nodelist file using nodediff file. Both files have to be in unpacked format in the directory you specify. No files will be deleted.

1.120 BNEWF

Like
BLIST
, but takes only files dated in last two weeks.

1.121 BNMSG from to message

Sends nodemessage to BBBS.

1.122 BOGUS Fidonet mail processor

BOGUS is BBBS's internal Fidonet mail processor. Because BOGUS has \leftrightarrow a direct support for BBBS message base, it works faster with BBBS than most other mail processors.

BOGUS configuration is in external.bbb, section names are [echomail] and [netmail]. BOGUS (OS cmd: 'BBBS BOGUS') has three different parameters to run with:

```
BBBS BOGUS R          scan/pack, BOGUS scans BBBS message base for mail
                      to export.

BBBS BOGUS W          toss/pack, BOGUS tosses incoming mail packets found
                      from your FidoNet inbound directory, forwards mail to
                      your downlinks and imports mail to BBBS message base.

BBBS BOGUS F [filename] scan/pack areas found in areatoss file.
                      See
                      BMSG F
                      for more information about
                      areatoss files.
```

If BBBS reports BOGUS ALLREADY RUNNING when you try to execute BOGUS, check first that you really aren't running BOGUS in another window, and if you don't, delete the file BOGUS.RUN from your temp directory.

1.123 BOK

BBBS BOK makes a list of the files for FrontDoor.

Usage is "BBBS BOK FD_path", where FD_path is directory where your FrontDoor is installed. The users may then make a file request directly to FD using another FD or similar program. To install files to FD you have to configure it in FDSETUP in section Mailer - Miscellaneous - File Requests menu.

Two files will be created, reqlist.txt (directories) and okfile.txt (links).

```
File   Global   Mailer   Editor   Terminal   Modem   Pri
=====+=====+=====
#####| Miscellaneous |#####
+=====+=====+=====
|
| Mode       Anyone can request
| List       C:\FD\REQLIST.TXT
| SecList
| Alias      C:\FD\OKFILE.TXT
| SecAlias
```

If you are not using FD, you should not bother.

1.124 BPC

BBBS BPC packs message conference(s). There are four different syntaxes for this command:

BBBS BPC A areaname min# max#

Deletes messages in a way that there will be at least min# messages available but not more than max#.

BBBS BPC B

Like A, but reads min and max from the conference config file. Packs all the conferences.

BBBS BPC S areaname num#

Deletes all the messages below number num#.

BBBS BPC R areaname

Renumber messages in the message area to start from number 1.

WARNING! Do not run this command where there is another BBBS node running!

1.125 BPUS

Cleans your userfile by removing killed users.

1.126 BSETPACK

Packs set-file. You should run this command every day!

1.127 BSTAT

Generates general usage of the system for last week.

1.128 BTICK

Processes incoming TICK files. See
BTick
for more information.

1.129 BTXT2BBS

BBBS BTXT2BBS converts textfile to message.

```
Syntax  BBBS BTXT2BBS area txtfile \{/F from_firstname from_lastname}
        \{/T to_firstname to_lastname} \{/S topic}
```

Area is the name of the conference, txtfile is the name of the file to be written. Other parameters are optional, defaults are from SysOp to all with subject filename.

1.130 BUUCP

Converts UUCP-files produced by pgnews (modified by Kim Heino) to FTSC-001 format.

1.131 Errorlevels

BBBS returns following errorlevels:

```
00      No error
01      main(): BBBSCFG not found
02      Bogo Meditation
03      seek4user(): Out of memory
04      gettxt(): BBBSTXT not found
05      gettxt(): Out of memory
06      gettxt(): Old version
07      No command line parameters
10      btxt2bbs(): Invalid command line
11      btxt2bbs(): Invalid command line
12      btxt2bbs(): Invalid command line
13      btxt2bbs(): File not found
14      bpc(): Invalid command line
15      bpc(): Invalid command line
16      bpc(): Invalid number
17      bpc(): No messages
18      bpc(): No packing needed
19      bpc(): Invalid number
20      bpc(): Invalid command line
21      read_water(): Out of memory
22      read_confs(): Out of memory
23      read_lastread(): Out of memory
24      bndiff(): Invalid command line
25      bfilsort(): Out of memory
26      bpus(): Too many users
27      bpus(): No users
28      bndiff(): Nodelist not found
29      bndiff(): Nodediff not found
30      bndiff(): Invalid diff version
31      bndiff(): Short nodediff (A)
32      bndiff(): Short nodelist (C)
33      bndiff(): Short nodelist (D)
```

```

34     bndiff(): Invalid diff command
35     bndiff(): Wrong CRC
36     bnmsg(): Invalid command line
37     bnmsg(): Invalid command line
38     bsetpack(): Out of memory
47     bmsg_write(): Out of memory
48     bmsg(): Invalid command line
49     bmsg(): Invalid command line
50     mainmenu(): Out of memory
51     bmsg_read(): Invalid areatoss file
52     readgroup(): Out of memory
53     file4(): Out of memory
54     ioctl() call fails (SPARC version only)
55     bnc(): Out of memory
56     bhatch(): Invalid command line
57     bhatch(): File not found
58     Invalid operating system
59     Invalid network driver

```

1.132 OS Errors

Swap Error	OS-Error	Description
0	???	SWAP OK, OS returned errorlevel
1		Could not shrink OS memory size
2		Could not save program to XMS/EMS/disk
3	1	Bad OS function number
3	2	File not found
3	5	Access denied
3	8	Insufficient memory to run program
3	10	Invalid environment segment
3	11	Format invalid

1.133 Example BATch Files

The first BATch is perfect to one node operation, no FidoNet, only one event. In this example the event's errorlevel is 100. See also examples two and three below.

```

@echo off // Turn local echo off
cd \bbs // Go to BBS directory
x00 e r=4096 t=4096 // Load FOSSIL driver
xu port:0:on lock:0:38400:8n1 // Lock port 1 to 38400bps

:loop // Repeat this
bbbs 1 1 // Load BBBS, comport 1, node 1
if errorlevel 100 goto event // Got event errorlevel
if errorlevel 0 goto end // OK, keyboard quit
goto loop // Something wrong, try again

:event // Daily Event
bbbs bdate // Make birthday files

```

```

bbbs bsetpack           // Pack setfile
bbbs bpc b              // Pack message base
bbbs blinkfix          // Corrects link file's dates
bbbs bfilsort          // Sort filedirs
bbbs blist allfiles.txt // Make ASCII filelist
goto loop              // And start BBBS again

:end                   // Quit
xu port:0:off          // FOSSIL off
echo Have a nice day!  // End of Batch

```

Example two, in this example BBBS is used with BackDoor and BOGUS.

```

@echo off              // Turn local echo off
:loop                  // Repeat this
cd \bbs                // Go to BBS directory
bbbs 2 1              // Run BBBS for node 1 in comport 2
if errorlevel 255 goto domail // Got mailcall (bcfg4: mailerror)
if errorlevel 100 goto eventmail // Got event (bcfg4: events)
if errorlevel 1 goto okcont // User entered mail (bcfg4: usererror)
goto eof              // Keyboard quit

:okcont                // Read new messages from BBBS
bbbs bogus f e:\areatoss.1 // ...by using areatoss file
goto loop              // And start BBBS again

:domail                // Import/forward mail from remote
bbbs bogus w          // ...system just received.
goto loop              // And start BBBS again

:eventmail            // Daily event
bbbs bdate            // Make birthday files
bbbs bsetpack         // Pack setfile
bbbs bpc b            // Pack message base
bbbs blinkfix        // Corrects link file's dates
bbbs bfilsort        // Sort filedirs
bbbs blist allfiles.txt // Make ASCII filelist
bbbs bnc              // Compile BBBS's nodelist index
bbbs bfileidx        // Create new index for filearea
goto loop              // And start BBBS again

:eof                  // Quit

```

Example three, this is more complex with FidoNet. Uses FrontDoor to answer calls and transfer mail and GEcho to toss and pack messages. Using example two is preferred.

```

@echo off              // Turn local echo off
cd \bbs                // Go to BBS directory
x00 e r=4096 t=4096   // Load FOSSIL driver
xu port:0:on lock:0:38400:8n1 // Lock port 1 to 38400bps

:loop                  // Repeat this

```

```

cd \fd // Go to FrontDoor directory
fd // Execute FrontDoor
if errorlevel 60 goto event // Got daily event
if errorlevel 50 goto human // Got human call
if errorlevel 40 goto mail // Got mail call
if errorlevel 10 goto end // Keyboard quit
if errorlevel 1 goto loop // Error in FrontDoor
goto loop // Repeat

:human // Human caller
cd \bbs // Go to BBS directory
bbbs 1 1 // Load BBBS, comport 1, node 1
goto loop // Jump back to FrontDoor

:mail // Got some mail
cd \bbs // Go to BBS directory
bbbs bmsg r // Read mail from BBBS
gecho scan // Scan outgoing mail
gecho toss // Toss incoming mail
gecho pack // Handle NetMail
bbbs bmsg w // Write incoming mail to BBBS
bbbs btick // Handle incoming TICK files
goto loop // Jump back to FrontDoor

:event // Daily Event
bbbs bdate // Make birthday files
bbbs bsetpack // Pack setfile
bbbs bpc b // Pack message base
bbbs blinkfix // Corrects link file's dates
bbbs bfilsort // Sort filedirs
bbbs blist allfiles.txt // Make ASCII filelist
bbbs bnc // Compile BBBS's nodelist index
bbbs bok \fd\ // Make FD's file request files
cd \fd // FrontDoor's directory
fdnc /f // Compile FD's nodelist index
goto loop // And start BBBS again

:end // Quit
xu port:0:off // FOSSIL off
echo Have a nice day! // End of Batch

```

1.134 Top-17 Errors

- 1Q: BBBS reports "Directory not found." when I try to enter the file areas.
- 1A: Your "filedirg.000" file is missing root-directory, '\'.
- 2Q: BBBS does not find subdirectories in the file area.
- 2A: Write directories in lower case, not upper. Use '\' as directory separator, not '\\.
- 3Q: BBBS does not initialize modem.
- 3A: Your initialization string misses '|'. Also remember to use it in your busy and answer strings.

- 4Q: BBBS reports mysterious disk errors.
4A: You are using SmartDrive or some other non-working disk utility. Please remove them and try again. You should also specify big value for files-setting in your config.sys.
- 5Q: I get "Access denied." when I try to DEScribe or delete a file.
5A: Give yourself a write access to file directories with '@w' flag. Remember to edit "groups" file too.
- 6Q: BBBS reports "Hold not found." every time somebody logs in.
6A: You have not specified correct hold directory in filedirn.??? file(s). Remember to give all users a write access to the hold.
- 7Q: BBBS reports swap error when shelling to external program?
7A: You have wrong path in external.bbb file or the filename is missing extension.
- 8Q: What is question 8?
8A: We don't know yet.
- 9Q: BBBS does not work.
9A: Use a soft, lint-free cloth to clean your hard disk. The magnetic dust interferes with high-fidelity applications. Also delete your copy of Microsoft Windows.
- 10Q: When will the next version be available?
10A: Dunno.
- 11Q: "Download", "MOve" and "COpy" commands does not work in the file area.
11A: You have too long description for some file(s) in the current directory. Maximum length is about 750 characters.
- 12Q: When starting BBBS it just returns to OS. It works fine with FD.
12A: You have defined local/general/dobbs.bat in BCFG4. Clear it. You should also read help for that option.
- 13Q: BBBS does not find the phonenumber of system listed in nodelist.
13A: Remember to compile nodelists every day by running BNC.
- 14Q: Sometimes I see descriptions like "-Q81028001e000001c83acc0" for the files in my filearea.
14A: You've been running QPEG with "write descriptions" option on. That's a error/problem in QPEG. Turn the option off.
- 15Q: BackDoor doesn't poll to some system
15A: The system has been busy too many times or there has been too many errors while calling it (see: maindir/busypoll.dat and maindir/badpoll.dat). You should also check that node is CM or you have correct event running and your nodelist index is up to date. "Send crashmail" toggle must also be enabled.
- 16Q: BBBS reports "Can't open the program" when executing it.
16A: You must start BBBS/2 by using command "bbbs.exe", not "bbbs".
- 17Q: I have noticed that some messages are disappearing faster than others. Why is that and who decides?
-

17A: Its the size of the message. You see, the messages are stored on disk. A message is encoded in things known as 'bits' which are written on the disk. A disk is a rotating platter. As anyone knows centrifugal force will force anything off of a rotating surface.

As time goes on, the message moves closer and closer to the edge of the disk, and finally, it flies right off. Of course, the larger messages (more bits == more weight) tend to fly off faster.

1.135 References

See Also (if you want to know more about):

Byte, March 1991, page 309, Lossless Data Compression, by Steve Apiki
This article describes Huffman coding and LZW coding.

Davis, Stephen R.: DESQview
A Guide to Programming the DESQview Multitasking Environment.
ISBN 1-55851-028-1

fts-0001
A Basic FidoNet(r) Technical Standard.

fts-0005
The distribution nodelist.

fts-0006
YOOHOO and YOOHOO/2U2, The netmail handshake used by Opus-CBCS and other intelligent Fidonet mail handling packages.

fts-0009
Message identification and reply linkage.

fsc-0011
Some thoughts on fsc-0001.

fsc-0015
FOSSIL 5.0 Documentation.

fsc-0016
FidoNet Mail Session Startup.

fsc-0025
AVATAR Video Spec.

fsc-0028
A Collection of Notes on Moving Files in FidoNet.

fsc-0037
AVATAR 0+ Video Spec.

fsc-0039
A Type-2 Packet Extension Proposal.

- fsc-0045
A Proposed Type-2 Packet Extension.
- fsc-0048
A Proposed Type-2 Packet Extension.
- fsc-0050
A Character Set Identifier For FidoNet Message Editors.
- fsc-0053
Specifications for the ^aFLAGS field.
- fsc-0054
A System-Independent Way of Transferring Special Characters,
Character Sets and Style Information in FIDO Messages.
- fsc-0056
EMSI/IEMSI Protocol Definitions.
- fsc-0068
A Proposed Replacement For FTS-0004.
- fsc-0072
The HYDRA file transfer protocol.
- grep(1) manual page
Regular expression.
- Murphy's Law
Why BBBS does not work?
- National Semiconductor: Data Communications, Local Area Networks, UARTs
What the heck is this NS16550AFN anyway? Also describes other
NS's UARTs with great details.
- PC Magazine, May 26, 1992, page 361, Lab Notes, by Douglas Boling
Putting Serial-Port Technology in Perspective, Part 2. This
article describes serial port communication with normal and FIFO
UARTs and IBM Type 3 UART.
- rfc0822
Standard for the format of ARPA InterNet text messages.
- rfc0854
Telnet protocol specification
- rfc0855
Telnet option specifications
- rfc0856
Telnet binary transmission
- rfc0857
Telnet echo option
- rfc0858
-

Telnet suppress go ahead option

rfc0859

Telnet status option

rfc0860

Telnet timing mark option

rfc0861

Telnet extended options - list option

rfc1321

The MD5 Message-Digest Algorithm.

rfc1345

Character Mnemonics & Character Sets.

rfc1437

The Extension of MIME Content-Types to a New Medium. The matter-transport/sentient-life-form MIME type is intended to facilitate the wider interoperation of electronic mail messages that include entire sentient life forms, such as human beings.

rfc1521

MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) Part One: Mechanisms for Specifying and Describing the Format of Internet Message Bodies.

rfc1522

MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) Part Two: Message Header Extensions for Non-ASCII Text.

rfc1563

The text/enriched MIME Content-type.

RC96AC and RC144AC Modem Designer's Guide

All the possible info about modems based on Rockwell chip.

Tremblay, Sorenson: The Theory and Practice of Compiler Writing

How to write your own BZC replacement. ISBN 0-07-066616-4

Your Modem Reference Guide

How to set up your modem and initialization strings.

1.136 Addresses of the Authors

If you after trying about hundred times to get your system running but don't succeed, you have some improvment suggestions, you have found some bugs or just have some things to ask about you can contact the authors by the following means:

Kim Heino
Paavolankatu 3 D 34
FIN-20240 TURKU
Finland

Tapani Salmi
Munterinkatu 12 D 66
FIN-20360 TURKU
Finland

InterNet: Kim.Heino@utu.fi
BBS: +358 21 240 4036
+358 21 240 7755
FidoNet: 2:222/151

To registration information see license.txt.

[A small note from Kim:

I'm usually logged in to my BBBS, so don't worry if I do not answer to your node messages (I am not available for a chat). And sorry to say, but sometimes it takes a long time (week or so) to answer to the huge amount of mails I receive every day. Patience is a virtue.]

1.137 How to use the help system

The help system commands:

Contents - Shows the contents (the main help menu)
Index - Shows an alphabetical index
Help - Shows you this help
Retrace - Shows the last helpscreen you looked at
Browse < - Shows the previous helpscreen in the helpfile
Browse > - Shows the next helpscreen in the helpfile
Quit - Quits back to BBBS

When you are in the helpsystem you can move up and down with arrow keys. The keys Ctrl-R and Ctrl-C will scroll one page Up or Down.

Often you will see words or sentences that are marked with a different background color. These are links to other related information. Just press enter when you have selected a link to get more information about that subject.