The Silver Xpress OPX and QWK Off-line Mail, Fax And Data Entry System

Version 5.00

(c) copyright 1993 by Santronics Software

Santronics Software

30034 SW 153 Court

Leisure City, Florida

33033

(305) 248-3204 voice support
(305)-248-7815 bbs support

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction to Silver Xpress.
Welcome to the powerful off-line electronic mail system, the
Silver Xpress Off-line Mail System!

Silver Xpress is a sophisticated electronic mail product designed
for many of today's popular electronic bulletin board systems
(BBS). In BBS terminology, Silver Xpress is an "off-line mail
door" supporting the OPX and QWK mail packet formats.

If you are a veteran Xpress sysop, or sysop with mail door
experience, you may skip this section and go directly to the
installation section.

The Silver Xpress off-line mail door will allow you to set up a
capability on your BBS guaranteed to make your BBS popular and
efficient, while increasing the number of users on your BBS. With
Silver Xpress your users will be able to download mail from their
preferred mail forums and read the mail, Off-line, on their PC. By
off-line, it meant that the user is not connected to your PC and
is reading and creating mail using his own computer!

This off-line processing technology has revolutionized the BBS
industry. Today, BBSs and users are more efficient, and users are
saving lots of money by processing mail in an off-line fashion.
Sysops save money in many ways as well. By using Silver Xpress,
you reduce the need to acquire more computer lines. Users quickly
log onto the BBS, use Silver Xpress to collect the new mail and
quickly log off. This opens the lines for other users, and if you
having a subscription system, that spells addition income! But
more importantly, Silver Xpress will make your BBS popular. Today
users demand off-line processing capabilities! By installing
Silver Xpress, you are catering to the users' demands and,
thereby, making your BBS that much more attractive.

There are many BBS packages in the world and there is a version of
Silver Xpress, all working the same, for most popular BBS
packages.

The suite of Silver Xpress Mail Doors directly supports the
following bulletin boards:
    o All versions of Opus CBCS
    o All versions of QuickBBS
    o RBBS version 17.3, 17.4 including MABLE version
    o All versions of Remote Access including V2.0x JAM support
    o All versions of PCBoard including 15.00 Support
    o SuperBBS
    o RoboBoard 1.08
    o TAG 2.6
    o PROBoard 1.3x
    o Maximus 2.00x

And indirectly supports, with conversion tools, the following BBS
packages:
     o Fido version 11.0 12.x
     o Maximus 1.02
     o SearchLight (for FIDO interfacing)
     o WildCat (for FIDO interfacing)

As you can see, Silver Xpress is, by far, the only off-line mail
door system supporting most bulletin boards, making it truly **the
universal mail door!**

Why Silver Xpress?

BBS usage has been growing at an incredible pace, and Silver
Xpress was designed to address the growing needs of both system
operators and users in their quest to viably handle electronic
mail.

Reading and replying to bulletin board mail is time consuming for
both the user and the BBS. If you find your users are reading a
lot of mail and spending a great deal of time on-line replying to
and entering new mail, Silver Xpress is a great utility to offer
your users! Since its inception, Silver Xpress sysops and users
have realized considerable reductions in their phone bills and on-
line charges.

With Silver Xpress, your users can capture mail in an organized
manner, for off-line reading and replying. Users do this with any
BBS offering Silver Xpress in the same consistent manner. By
offering Silver Xpress to your users, your BBS operations will be
improved by increasing user turnaround time, and by enhancing the
image of your BBS. If your BBS is subscription based, there is no
doubt your users and your BBS operation will benefit by
implementing Silver Xpress.

Silver Xpress operates by offering users the ability to select
desirable mail conferences or forums for the purpose of scanning
new mail. When Silver Xpress scans mail from the user's pre-
selected message conferences, it will check for all new messages,
and present a table summary of all new messages in each selected
mail conference. The table summary will present not only all new
messages, but will indicate if there are any direct messages or
messages found using keywords pre-defined by the user. The user
can determine how much mail he or she wants, or simply type "GO"
to take all the new messages available.

This user "flexible" ability, to examine the amount of mail prior
to packing, is one of the unique features of Silver Xpress. We
call it the "Flex Select" Mail Bundling system! An Xpress first!

Silver Xpress packs the new mail into a compressed format for
downloading to the user's PC. The new compressed file is called

an Xpress mail packet and will have the extension OPX or QWK, depending on the mail format selected by the Xpress user.

Once the user downloads the Xpress mail packet to his PC, he can log off the BBS and use the powerful and interactive Silver Xpress Mail Reader to read and reply to mail.

Imagine the time savings offered to the user by providing the ability to read his mail on his own PC, thereby leaving an open line for other users.

Silver Xpress is a wonderful product and is guaranteed to give your BBS benefits never imagined before!

But Silver Xpress is not just a mail door!

Silver Xpress was the first off-line mail system truly dedicated to provided intelligent off-line client/server technology to bulletin board systems. Our dedication to customer support and needs allowed us to provide not just a mail door, but a true data gateway system! No other mail door in the market has the power of Silver Xpress.

Silver Xpress offers:
     o High Speed Internal Protocol,
     o RIP terminal graphical support,
     o Faxing capabilities,
     o Off-line data entry capabilities (Forms)
     o Door and Reader menu customization capabilities,
     o Mail event driven processes,
     o Built-in file scanner,
     o File requesting and attaching capabilities,

And much more!

With Silver Xpress, you can customize your application for any of your "groupware" communication needs.

This documentation will discuss the installation and configuration for the Silver Xpress Mail System. It is the single source document for all models of Silver Xpress. A model is defined as a version of Silver Xpress for your particular BBS package.

Information pertaining to a particular bulletin board system is clearly defined and highlighted throughout the manual. All other topics of discussion are of a general nature.

2.   Installation

The Silver Xpress Mail System has been packaged and compressed using the ZIP (version 2.04G) format. The ZIP files are verified, authenticated, and virus checked.

The INSTALL.EXE program is designed to unzip the files into their appropriate sub-directory. You must have PKUNZIP available on your system.

Silver Xpress is distributed under the file name SX500xx.ZIP.

where XX is the Xpress model number for your BBS.

XPRESS MODEL	BBS TYPE
F1	OPUS 1.03 and FIDO
F2	OPUS 1.1x+
F3	OPUS 1.7x+
M1	MAXIMUS
P1	PCBOARD
R1	RBBS
H1	QBBS, RA, SBBS, ROBO, PROBOARD, TAG

For example, if you are interested in installing the Silver Xpress Mail System for your PCBOARD BBS, you will need SX500P1.ZIP.

The H1 model is considered the generic HMS (Hudson Message Structure) model. HMS is a mail format used by many BBS packages following the technical details of the original HMS system called QBBS. Version 5.00 of HMS Xpress will directly support all packages currently in the market supporting HMS, including any other mail format an HMS package supports, such as PROBOARD, which supports HMS, SQUISH and FIDO mail formats or Remote Access 2.0x, which supports HMS and the new JAM mail format. If you have an HMS package not directly supported by Silver Xpress, it is quite possible to use the original QBBS 2.64 model to support the package.

The first thing you should do is unzip the SX500xx.ZIP file into a high density diskette to make a backup copy.

If you don't have a high density drive, skip the backup suggestion and proceed to unzip the package into a temporary directory.

Customers who have already received a diskette from Santronics Software do not need to make a backup.

2.1. Running Install

Run the Xpress INSTALL.EXE installation program.

The install program is designed to present, in a menu, the key reading material and the option to begin the install process.

When the "begin install option" is selected, INSTALL will search the hard disk for all possible hard drive partitions and display the drives with the minimum required disk space.

The minimum required space is 2 megabytes. Any hard drive partition below this amount will not be shown.

For example:
```
    +---------------------------------------------------+
    ¦   Drive C: 32 megabytes with  6 megabytes remaining   ¦
    ¦   Drive F: 32 megabytes with  3 megabytes remaining   ¦
    ¦   Drive G: 32 megabytes with 10 megabytes remaining   ¦
    +---------------------------------------------------+
```

In the above example, notice how INSTALL did not show drive D and
E. This is probably because drive D and E do not have the 2
megabytes disk space requirement. Two megabytes is a very
conservative number. INSTALL will decompress the Xpress files to
about 600K, but checking for 2 megabytes insures proper operations
in production mode. Ideally, you should not be running a BBS with
anything less.
NOTE: If you want to change this hard disk space requirement,
       modify the INSTALL.DAT file and change the keyword MINIMUM
       2000. This amount is in kilobytes.

Select the drive on which to install Silver Xpress.

Next, INSTALL will ask for the source and target drives.

```
+------------------------------------------------------+
¦   SOURCE DRIVE\DIRECTORY: A:\     ¦
¦   TARGET DRIVE\DIRECTORY: C:\XPRESS   ¦
¦   ¦
¦   ¦
¦Press F10 to Accept, ESCape to Abort ¦
+------------------------------------------------------+
```

The source path will default to the drive and directory the
INSTALL.EXE is located. If the paths are OK, hit the F10 key.

VERY IMPORTANT! DO NOT INSTALL XPRESS INTO YOUR BBS DIRECTORY!
DEFINE A DIRECTORY FOR XPRESS.

INSTALL will now begin decompressing the *.ZIP files into their
respective sub-directories below the target directory.

INSTALL will create the following sub-directories:


```
              \XPRESS ---    HELP
                      ---    MISC
                      ---    BULL
                      ---    DOCS
```

INSTALL will then run XPADM.EXE automatically.
NOTE: PCBOARD and RBBS sysops should see the discussion at the
       end of this section.

Consider XPADM.EXE as your partner. It is your Silver Xpress
administration and configuration program. You will use this
program to maintain Silver Xpress.

When XPADM starts to run, XPADM will always look for the XPMAIL.
PRM control file. If it is missing, it will assume you are a
first time configuration and run the "QUICK CONFIGURATION" option.
NOTE: If you ever feel like you want to start fresh, delete the
       XPMAIL.PRM and any *.RAW files and run XPADM again. It
       will initiate the QUICK CONFIGURATION option.

Except for RBBS Xpress (the R1 model), the QUICK configuration of
XPADM will go directly to your BBS configuration files and read as
much as it can to quickly setup up Silver Xpress. The RBBS
version of Silver Xpress does not have this luxury. However,
during the INSTALL process RBBS Xpress will run a utility called
MAKEDEF.EXE to read the RBBS CONFMAIL.DEF file.

After XPADM gets as much as it can from the BBS, it will present
questions for you to answer. Each BBS is different so some
questions will not be necessary or asked. If XPADM can not get it
from the BBS configuration files, you will be asked for the
information. For some BBS's, it may only be 1 or 2 questions. For
others, it may be 5 or 6 questions.

The key questions to understand (if asked by XPADM):

ENTER BOARD ID:
       Silver Xpress scans and packs mail into a file called
       XXXXXXX.OPX or XXXXXXXX.QWK where XXXXXXX is your board ID.
       This board ID is used as an identifier for your BBS. If
       users use more than one BBS for Xpress Mail, this will help
       them distinguish mail packets. Normally, the board ID
       closely resembles the name of your BBS within 8 letters. For
       example, for Emerald City BBS, a board ID such as EMERALD
       would be a good choice.
       NOTE: This BOARD ID is used for registration. Make sure it
              is unique for your BBS.

FIDONET ADDRESS:

DO YOU HAVE A FIDONET ADDRESS? [N]
       If you belong to the FIDONET Network, and you have an
       address, answer Y. If you do not have an address, or do not
       belong to the FIDONET Network, answer N.
       NOTE: The address, whether you have one or not, is required
              for registration. If you do not have one, make sure
              you indicate on your registration form you do not have
              a FIDONET address. If you do not have one, Xpress and
              our registration department will use 999:999/999 for
              registration purposes.

ENTER YOUR BBS TELEPHONE NUMBER:
       Future Xpress communication products will make use of your
       telephone number. Provide one now so that users will be able
       to take advantage of this information for dialing purposes.

ENTER THE READER DIRECTORY:

This version of Xpress has a powerful script language. One
default script, accessible from the main menu, will allow
users to download the Silver Xpress Reader. In order for
this to work, you must tell Silver Xpress the directory the
default script is located.

WOULD YOU LIKE A MULTI-NODE SETUP FOR XPRESS [N]

If you answer yes to this question, Xpress will place the #
characters in various file path definitions for Xpress,
particularly the UPLOAD, DOWNLOAD and WORK directories.
The # character is used as a substitution character for the
task number or node number.
If you answer YES to this question, you will need to use the
-T# task switch when running XPMAIL (except for OPUS,
PCBOARD, and RBBS). See the section on Multi-node or Multi-
line setups.

After XPADM's QUICK CONFIGURATION, it will create all the files
necessary for XPMAIL.EXE to run (XPMAIL.EXE is the main Xpress
mail door).

If all is successful, you are ready to run XPMAIL.EXE.

PCBOARD AND RBBS SYSOPS OR ANYONE USING THE P1 or R1 MODELS

Silver Xpress for PCBOARD and RBBS uses an ASCII file called
XPAREAS.CTL for defining mail conferences, and an ASCII file,
called XPFIDO.CTL, for defining FidoNet *.MSG message areas. This
makes for a very powerful system, which allows you to define two
mail formats for Silver Xpress.

XPADM for PCBOARD will only understand PCBOARD mail areas when it
does its QUICK CONFIGURATION. It will read the PCBOARD.DAT and
the CNAMES files. So if you are not concerned about FIDONET
areas, you may stop right here and ignore the rest of this
section.

For RBBS, XPADM will not read any RBBS configuration files at all.
We apologize for this, but RBBS has a history of changing its
configuration file formats overnight and, thus, we cannot reliably
create a super duper install and quick configuration system.

Running INSTALL will not automatically run XPADM.EXE for RBBS like
it will for the others. It will stop and allow you the
opportunity to first run a program called MAKEDEF which is
designed to read the RBBS CONFMAIL.DEF file in the RBBS system
directory. MAKEDEF will create the XPAREAS.CTL and XPFIDO.CTL.

Once you have the XPAREAS.CTL file, you can use XPADM to maintain
the file from then on.

To define FidoNet mail areas, XPADM will look for the XPFIDO.CTL
file. It is equivalent in structure to the XPAREAS.CTL, however,

it is used to keep FidoNet mail areas separate from normal BBS mail areas.

The best way to initially create XPFIDO.CTL is by using XPADM's MAIL CONFERENCE DEFINITION option. Once you have defined XPAREAS. CTL, run XPADM and select the MAIL CONFERENCE DEFINITION option. A list of areas will be shown. At this point, hit the Insert key, and XPADM will append a new area using FIDO as the default mail area type.

3.   Testing XPMAIL.EXE the first time.

You may test Silver Xpress immediately by typing XPMAIL -J.

The -Jxxx switch is a LOCAL MODE switch only. It will grab record xxxx (default 0 or 1 for TAG and RoboBoard) from the BBS user file and use it to start Xpress. By doing this, you get your name as the first name into the Xpress User File.

NOTE: PCBOARD SYSOPS CANNOT TEST FROM DOS. YOU MUST RUN PCBOARD
        FIRST AND CALL XPRESS FROM THERE. In general, PCBOARD
        Xpress cannot be run locally outside of the BBS unless a
        USERS.SYS and PCBOARD.SYS are present.

        RBBS SYSOPS CANNOT TEST FROM DOS UNLESS YOU HAVE A
        DORINFOx.DEF created for your SYSOP NAME. If you want to
        create a DORINFOx.DEF, run RBBS and shell to DOS, and then
        log off. In the RBBS directory, you should see your
        personal DORINFOx.DEF file where X is the node number
        (default is 1).

If you wish to test a multi-node setup, use the -T# switch as well, where # is the task or node number.

4.   Silver Xpress Security System

In the past, Silver Xpress had a security concept where the Xpress user could be designated as a special user called the "Xpress Sysop". The Xpress Sysop had the extra menus and options for sysop related operations. This is no longer used in Silver Xpress.

Since version 4.00, Xpress now relies on a security value system for the menu system. This is an Xpress security value between 0 to 64K. This security has no relationship with the BBS security system. If you are a new sysop installing Silver Xpress, you might see some old references to the phrase "Xpress Sysop" lingering around. Ignore it.

In Version 5.00, all menus and menu action commands have security values. Like a BBS, you can assign an Xpress user a security value in relationship to the Xpress menu security values. This gives you complete control and flexibility over what the Xpress user can do in Silver Xpress. The security for all menu options are defined in the file XPMENU.CTL.

After you have installed Silver Xpress, and tested out the system
as yourself, the sysop, you should immediately use XPADM and edit
the USER record belonging to you and change the security value. We
recommend you give yourself a high Xpress security value of 32000.
By doing this, you will have complete access to all the Xpress
menus and options. See the section on the Xpress Menu System if
you wish to customize the menus and security values.

Keep in mind, Xpress is a very powerful package. It can be abused
if you are not careful with your customization efforts.

5.   Setting up the BBS to call XPMAIL

The Silver Xpress Mail System's main program is called XPMAIL.
EXE. You should call this program using a batch file.
NOTE: Current Xpress Sysops should not use their old XPRESS.BAT
        without first studying the changes. See the full list of
        command line switches in Appendix C.

The basic Xpress batch file is:
        cd \xpress
        XPMAIL %1 %2 %3 %4 %5 %6 %7 %8 %9
        cd \bbs

PCBOARD uses a different arrangement for a batch file. It
normally looks like this:
        @echo off
        CD \XPRESS
        SET XPA=%PCBDOOR%
        XPMAIL
        SET XPA=
        %PCBDRIVE%
        CD %PCBDIR%
        BOARD
NOTE: As of this writing, only PCBOARD 14.5 and Maximus 2.00 can
        be made to work with the Xpress XPA environment string
        used.

For each BBS model, a sample XPRESS.BAT (XPRESS for PCBOARD) is
provided.

Usually, the batch file is called from the BBS subdirectory. The
first step is to copy the batch file to your BBS directory, and
modify it to change directories to the Xpress directory and back
to the BBS directory. For PCBOARD, this is taken care of by using
PCBoard's environmental strings.

XPMAIL.EXE requires no switches to run in most cases. For some
BBS packages, you will need a few, particularly if you are running
a multi-line operation. Xpress was designed so that you can pass
most of the information it will need from the BBS itself.

In an ideal Xpress setup, you don't need any switches, except for
OPUS 1.03, Maximus 2.00 and TAG, because most of the information
is taken from the door interface files or set up during the quick
installation.

MINIMUM REQUIRED TO CALL XPMAIL.EXE

```
OPUS 1.03       XPMAIL        -P<comport>
OPUS 1.10       XPMAIL
OPUS 1.7x       XPMAIL
MAX 2.00        XPMAIL        -P<comport>
RBBS            XPMAIL        -B if MAIN MSG FILE undefined
PCBOARD         XPMAIL
REMOTE ACCESS   XPMAIL
QBBS            XPMAIL
TAG             XPMAIL        -B%7
PROBoard        XPMAIL
SuperBBS        XPMAIL
ROBO-BBS        XPMAIL
```

That's it! In an ideal setup, your BBS should be able to pass all
the information Xpress needs to get started from the BBS.

What is ideal?

Ideal is where Xpress can be set up with one configuration file to
fit a single line or a multiple line BBS without having multiple
setups or batch files all over the place.

In each BBS model (except PCBOARD), a file called BBSTOOLS.ZIP is
available, and contains sample files for your system for calling
Xpress, using a menu when possible.

For each BBS Model, BBSTOOLS.ZIP contains the following:

```
OPUS 1.03 SXMENU.OEC SXWHAT.OEC
OPUS 1.10 SXMENU.OEC SXWHAT.OEC
OPUS 1.7x SXMENU.OEC SXWHAT.OEC SXMENU.CTL SXHELP.OEC
MAX 2.00  SXMENU.MEC SXWHAT.MEC SXMENU.CTL SXHELP.MEC
MEC
RBBS      none required
PCBOARD   none required (built-in)
RA        SXMENU.MNU (NOTE: There is a RA.ZIP and RA2.ZIP
          which has a SXMENU.MNU)
QBBS      SXMENU.MNU
SUPERBBS  SXMENU.MNU
TAG       TAG.ZIP
ROBO-BBS  ROBO.ZIP
PROBOARD  SXMENU.MNU
```

These files will give your BBS the ability to perform Xpress
automatic operations, pass proper switches from the BBS to XPRESS.
BAT, as well as give a professional menu feel to your BBS.

We could not provide a menu for TAG because Tag Menus are in one big file, and providing one would overwrite your current menu system for non-Xpress related sessions. However, an explanation is given in TAG.ZIP.

For ROBO-BBS, we provided a complete graphical menu system for Silver Xpress. It includes RoboBoard bitmatp and icon files for your Silver Xpress setup. The ROBO.ZIP has Tony Mace's complete setup description.

In summary, each BBS sysop should perform the following:

OPUS 1.03/1.10
  1. Copy the XPRESS.BAT to the BBS directory. Edit it and make sure the directory switching is correct.
  2. Copy the SXMENU.OEC to your OPUS MISC \directory. Compile it.
  3. Copy the SXWHAT.OEC to your OPUS MISC \directory. Compile it.
  4. Set up your bulletin menu or OPUS main menu to display the compiled SXMENU.BBS.

OPUS 1.73

Method 1: Using OEC files
  1. Copy the XPRESS.BAT to the BBS directory. Edit it and make sure the directory switching is correct.
  2. Copy the SXMENU.OEC to your OPUS MISC \directory. Compile it.
  3. Copy the SXWHAT.OEC to your OPUS MISC \directory. Compile it.
  4. Set up your bulletin menu or OPUS main menu to display the compiled SXMENU.BBS.

Method 2 : Using Custom Menus
  1. Copy the XPRESS.BAT to the BBS directory. Edit it and make sure the directory switching is correct.
  2. Insert the following to the MAIN MENU in your MENUS.CTL.
  3. Insert the following as a CUSTOM menu in your MENUS.CTL.

MAX 2.00

Method 1 : Using MEC Files
  1. Copy the XPRESS.BAT to the BBS directory. Edit it and make sure the directory switching is correct.
  2. Copy the SXMENU.MEC to your OPUS MISC \directory. Compile it.
  3. Copy the SXHELP.MEC to your OPUS MISC \directory. Compile it.
  4. Copy the SXWHAT.MEC to your OPUS MISC \directory. Compile it.
  5. Set up your bulletin menu or OPUS main menu to display the compiled SXMENU.BBS.

Method 2 : Using Custom Menus
  1. Copy the XPRESS.BAT to the BBS directory. Edit it and make
      sure the directory switching is correct.
  2. Insert the following to the MAIN MENU in your MENUS.CTL.
  3. Place the following at the bottom of your MENUS.CTL file.

HMS - RA, QBBS, SUPERBBS, PROBOARD
  1. Copy the XPRESS.BAT to the BBS directory. Edit it and make
      sure the directory switching is correct.
  2. Copy the SXMENU.MNU file to your BBS menus directory.
      If you are running Remote Access, make sure you have the
      proper SXMENU.MNU. See RA.ZIP for RA 1.1x and RA2.ZIP for RA
      2.0x. These files are in BBSTOOLS.ZIP
  3. Modify your menu system to use SXMENU.MNU with a GOSUB Type
      command.

HMS - RoboBoard
  1. Copy the XPRESS.BAT to the BBS directory. Edit it and make
      sure the directory switching is correct. Also, add the
      following switch to it.
      XPMAIL ..... /RLR
      /RLR will tell Xpress to create a special file for Tony
      Mace's last read utility. Unfortunately, ROBO was not quite
      ready for mail doors. Consequently, this last read utility
      is required to maintain pointers correctly with Silver
      Xpress. The last read utility should be inserted in your
      LOGOFF section of your RUN BBS batch file.
  2. Copy the ROBO Xpress menu and icon files into your BBS menus
      directory.
  3. Modify your menu system to use Xpress ROBO graphic sub-menu.

HMS - TAG
  1. Read the XP4TAG.DOC file and follow the instructions for
      installing Xpress.

PCBOARD
  1. Edit the file XPRESS and make sure it is prepared with the
      proper drives and directories. Insert the CD drive for
      Xpress, if Xpress is installed on a different drive than
      PCBOARD.
  2. If you edit the DOORS.LST manually, add the following line:

          XPRESS,,10,-1,0,C:\XPRESS\,0,N

      If you are using PCBSETUP, edit DOORS.LST, and add the
      XPRESS door option. Make sure USER.SYS is set to Y to be
      created.

RBBS
  1. Copy the XPRESS.BAT file to your RBBS directory. Edit the
     file XPRESS.BAT and make sure it is prepared with the proper
     drives and directories.
  2. Add the following line to the RBBS DOORS.DEF file:

```
"XPRESS",O,,D,"XPRESS.BAT [BAUD] [PORT#] [NODE]",N,,60
```

Notice the order of the [BAUD] [PORT#] and [NODE]
parameters. The XPRESS.BAT provided is expecting this order
of parameters. If you change the above line, make sure to
make the proper changes to XPRESS.BAT.

6.   Multi-Node/Multi-Line Operations

For multiple lines or installations where one line is in
operation, and you are using a second node for local usage, use
the TASK switch (-T and -N are the same).

The ideal Xpress setup for multiple lines is to use the -T switch.

```
@ECHO OFF
CD \XPRESS
XPMAIL -T%1 -P%2
CD \BBS
```

Where %1 could be the node or task number for your system, and %2
could be the port number, depending on how your BBS passes such
information.

In some cases, like OPUS 1.7x, the -P switch is completely
ignored.

For PCBOARD 14.5, the PCBNODE environmental string is checked. If
it exists, it will be used as the task or node number. This is
equivalent (and redundant for PCBOARD Xpress) to use:

```
XPMAIL -T%PCBNODE%
```

Each BBS has its own way to pass the task number to XPMAIL.EXE.
Study the files in BBSTOOLS.ZIP to see the ideal way to set up and
use a multi-line Xpress. PCBOARD and RBBS sysops do not have a
BBSTOOLS.ZIP file, so they do not need to do this.

Within XPADM's SETUP NODAL FILES/DIRECTORIES menu option, use the
(pound) character for task number substitution on the files and
directories declared in that section.

When XPMAIL starts up, it will look for those specific files and
directories. This ideal situation allows for a single XPMAIL.PRM
setup, where there is no need for the -C option.

However, if you have a need to define different multi-line setups,
where Xpress configuration options will be different for each
node, use the -C switch to define the name of the configuration
file, and allow one for each setup and node. For Example:

```
XPADM -Cxpmail1
XPADM -Cxpmail2
```

```
        XPADM -Cxpmail3
```

This is usually the case if you opt to install separate copies of

Xpress in a multi-node setup, or you find some of the common
Xpress information is not so common after all in the XPADM program
for your particular multi-line setup or LAN topology.

If you do use the -C switch, change your XPRESS.BAT file to use
the -C as well.

For Example:
```
    @ECHO OFF
    CD \XPRESS
    XPMAIL -T%1 -CXPMAIL%1 -P%2
    CD \BBS
```

where %1 is the task number and %2 is the port number.

It would also be a good idea to create a batch file for XPADM to
work with each node.

For example:

XPNODE.BAT - Batch file to run XPADM for each node.
```
    @ECHO OFF
    IF %1. == . GOTO HELP
    XPADM -CXPMAIL%1 %2 %3 %4 %4 %5
    GOTO END
    :HELP
    ECHO SYNTAX: XPNODE node#
    :END
```

This makes it easy to type:

    XPNODE 1

or

    XPNODE 2

when you wish to edit a particular node configuration.
7.   Packers and Tossers - Post Mail Operations

If you do not belong to a FIDONET network, skip this section.

PCBOARD systems can also skip this section even if you are in a
PCBOARD related network like RIME or RelayNet. PCBOARD and RBBS
Sysops using FIDONET (*.MSG) message areas should read this
section. The following discussion is FIDONET related only.

Bulletin Board Systems belonging to "echo" mail networks such as
FIDONET must use programs which "package" and "toss" new messages

to and from the BBS message files. These programs are called MAIL
Packers & Tossers.

Silver Xpress itself has nothing to do with them. However, most
BBS systems, which work well in a mail network, can usually toggle
a flag of some sort to trigger the MAIL PACKERS AND TOSSERS when
mail is created on-line. Since Silver Xpress allows for the
creation of mail off-line, Silver Xpress needs to trigger the same
flag, so that there is a smooth integration and interface with the
MAIL TOSSERS and PACKERS.

MAIL TOSSING

Normally, when a BBS collects mail from its BOSS mail hub, it uses
a mail tosser to toss the newly received mail into the mail
sections.

If you use such a system and you are using FIDO-based system, you
must set up your MAIL TOSSER to use the "NEW STYLE OPUS DATES".
You may see this referred to as "USE OPUS DATES" in your mail
tosser configuration files.

This is very important to avoid the small possibility of users
seeing "BUG DATES" in the older Silver Xpress Readers.

If you see "BUG DATES" with the reader, add the /FBD switch to the
XPMAIL.EXE command line. This should clear up any bug dates you
may have, however, it does add a small overhead in mail bundling
time.
NOTE: The BUG DATES issue is a very old dilemma in FIDONET. If
       you're an old Mail Tosser, you will need the -FBD switch.

MAIL PACKING

Normally, when a user enters a new message directly into the BBS
message files, using the BBS on-line, the BBS will automatically
know when new mail is available. When the user logs off, a post
mail operation begins to "Pack" the mail for network mail
distribution.

Since Silver Xpress is an off-line mail system, mail is created
off-line, away from direct control of the BBS. When mail is
uploaded to the Xpress Door, Silver Xpress must somehow "trigger"
or "tell" the BBS there is NEW mail to be processed. This is only
true for NET MAIL and ECHO MAIL conferences.

How Xpress tells the BBS new mail is available depends on your
BBS:

OPUS 1.7x, MAX 2.00, QuickBBS, Remote Access
       Because of off-line readers like Silver Xpress, these
       bulletin board systems have evolved and include direct
       methods for Silver Xpress to tell the BBS new mail is
       available. Nothing has to be done by you.

OPUS 1.03/OPUS 1.1x or PCBOARD/RBBS
        There is no direct method to tell these bulletin board
        systems new mail (uploaded and tossed by XPMAIL) is
        available. In this case, turn on the "USE XPRESS SEMAPHORES"
        option under the Xpress Miscellaneous Options in XPADM.
        This option will tell XPMAIL to create "Flag Files" called
        file semaphores, which can be checked for existence by other
        programs. File semaphores are created during the following
        XPMAIL events:
                Event   **File Semaphore**
                GOODBYE $GOODBYE.SEM
                NORMAL EXIT $EXIT.SEM
                NETMAIL $NET.SEM
                ECHO MAIL $ECHO.SEM
                LOCAL $LOCAL.SEM
                NET+ECHO $ECHONET.SEM
        For POST MAIL operations, you will want to check the
        existence of the $NET.SEM, $ECHO.SEM, or the $ECHONET.SEM
        files.
        Normally, you will check for these flag files during the post
        logoff logic in your "RUNBBS.BAT" batch file.
        For example;
                ----RUNBBS.BAT----
                OPUS %1 %2 %3
                IF ERRORLEVEL 5 GOTO LOGOFF
                   .
                   .
                :LOGOFF
                IF EXIST \XPRESS\$ECHO.SEM GOTO PACKUP
                IF EXIST \XPRESS\$NET.SEMGOTO PACKUP
                IF EXIST \XPRESS\$ECHONET.SEM GOTO PACKUP
                GOTO END
                :PACKUP
                DEL \XPRESS*.SEM > NUL
                OMMM PACK
        For RBBS and PCBOARD, the logic is very similar. Your RBBS.
        BAT or BOARD.BAT should have some check for the file
        semaphores to perform a Mail Scan and Pack operation.
        There is one other way to check to see if XPMAIL has tossed
        the mail into the BBS mail system. Check for the existence
        of the ECHOTOSS.LOG file. If you told Xpress you have echo
        areas, Xpress will add or append the ECHO TAG LINE defined
        for this area into the ECHOTOSS.LOG. If this file exists,
        you can use this file as a "file semaphore" to perform a mail
        scan and pack. For example;
                OPUS %1 %2 %3
                IF ERRORLEVEL 5 GOTO LOGOFF
                   .
                   .
                :LOGOFF
                IF EXIST ECHOTOSS.LOG GOTO PACKUP
                GOTO END
                :PACKUP

```
        OMMM PACK
        GOTO RESTART
```
This allows you to turn off the XPRESS SEMAPHORE system, and
still have a simple method to pack mail.
If you are using a bare bone OPUS 1.7x system, you can use
the new OPUS command line switch -s to perform an immediate
mail scan. Your batch file may look like this for a bare
bone OPUS 1.7x setup:
```
        :LOGOFF
          IF EXIST ECHOTOSS.LOG GOTO PACKUP
          GOTO END
        :PACKUP
          OPUS -s
          GOTO RESTART
```

8.   Configuration

XPADM is your main administration program for Silver Xpress. Use
it to edit user information and to set up configuration
information.

XPADM will always reload its data files. It will check for the
mail XPMAIL.PRM (unless you change the name with the -C option).
If this file is missing, XPADM will perform a new quick
configuration.

If you use XPADM to edit Xpress user information, there is no need
to save and recompile when you quit XPADM.

If you edit any information in the REGISTRATION or the
CONFIGURATION section, you must save and recompile. XPADM will
recreate the XPMAIL.PRM, XPFILES.* and XPAREAS.* files.

This section will not cover every option in XPADM. XPADM has an
extensive HELP system. Hit F1 when there is a question about an
option.

This section will cover only the main topics deemed important
which require extra discussion or clarification outside of the
extensive interactive help system. Most other configuration
topics have their own sections, especially in the area of Xpress
Services.

Registration:

Silver Xpress Registration for a BBS requires three items of
information:

```
    SYSOP NAME
    FIDONET ADDRESS
    OPX BOARD ID
```

The Sysop Name should be the name of the person who owns and runs
the BBS. Is it also the name of the person who will register the

Silver Xpress Reader for his own personal usage on the BBS? It is
not the name "SYSOP" or some alias name.

The FIDONET ADDRESS is your netmail address for the BBS. If you
do not have one, enter the netmail address 9:999/999.

The OPX BOARD ID is an 8 letter file name to be used for Silver
Xpress mail packets. XPMAIL will automatically add the extension
OPX to this file name. Usually the board ID is made up from your
BBS name. It should be a unique name. For example, Emerald City
BBS, might use EMERALD as their Silver Xpress Board ID.

When you register Silver Xpress, please provide all three pieces
of information for each node. You will receive a serial number
and a registration code. You serial number will be proudly
displayed when you start the mail door.

8.1. Defining or changing Protocols

The Silver Xpress Mail Door has an incredible high speed internal
protocol system. There is no need to use a 3rd party product. All
XMODEM, YMODEM and ZMODEM protocols are supported.

Silver Xpress stores a list of protocols it uses in a file called
XPPROT.CTL. All internal protocols are defined in this file.

Use the Xpress Administrator (XPADM.EXE) or a text editor in DOS,
to edit the XPPROT.CTL file.

By default, XPPROT.CTL, has X, Y, Z modem file transfer protocols
defined as internal protocols. After installation is complete,
there should be 3 PROTOCOL files:

   XPPROT.CTL active protocol file XPMAIL.EXE will read

   XPPROT.XMT   backup file using XMT as the file transfer
system
   XPPROT.DSZ protocol file using DSZ as the file transfer system

If you plan on using the DSZ file transfer program, copy the file
XPPROT.DSZ over the main XPROTO.CTL. If you want to use GSZ
instead, edit all references to DSZ to GSZ in the appropriate
file. However, as incredible as it may seem, the internal file
transfer protocols in Xpress, is much more optimal than DSZ.

Below is an example of how an external protocol is defined.
```
  Protocol Z-Modem (DSZ)
   Basic Name ZMODEM
   HotKey    Z
   Download !DSZ port %p speed %lb hand both est 0 %b sz -m %f
   Download !DSZ port %p speed %lb hand both est 0 %b rz -m -y %f
   Batch     Yes
   TwoWay    No
  End Protocol
```

Everything after the word PROTOCOL, on the first line of the
definition, will be displayed to callers to describe the protocol.
You then define a letter (HotKey) the user will use for selecting
the protocol. Make sure there are no duplicate hot keys.

Next come the Download and Upload commands. These are the
commands used to download and upload mail (and files).

You must indicate if the protocol accepts BATCH file transfer
(this is currently ignored), and whether the protocol is a two way
(bi-directional) protocol like HSLINK or BIMODEM.

The download and upload commands take substitution parameters
passed by XPMAIL.
    %p - comm port
    %lb - Lock Baud Rate
    %b - user connect rate
    %f - full path name of file
    %ud - upload directory
    %dd - download directory

The %ud and %dd variables are normally used for bi-directional
file transfers with programs such as HSLINK or BIMODEM.

Bi-directional file transfers only make sense in Silver Xpress
when the user is downloading mail and wishes to upload mail at the
same time and NOT visa versa.

If the TwoWay option is enabled for the protocol, Silver Xpress
will check the upload directory after a download of mail is
finished. If reply packets are found in the upload directory, it
will begin to toss the new mail immediately.

Here is an example bi-directional protocol using HSLINK:
    Protocol HS-LINK (bi-directional)
     BasicName HS-LINK
     HotKey   H
     Download $HSLINK -B%lb -E%b -P%p %f -U%ud
     Download $HSLINK -B%lb -E%b -P%p -U%ud
     Batch   NO
     TwoWay   Yes
    End Protocol

8.2. Defining or changing Archivers

Silver Xpress stores a list of archivers it uses to compress and
expand mail in a file called XPARCH.CTL.

Use the Xpress Administrator (XPADM.EXE), or with a text editor in
DOS, to edit the XPARCH.CTL file.

The structure of each definition is defined below:
    Archiver Phil Katz's PKZIP 2.04G

```
      HotKeyZ
      Extension  ZIP
      Ident 0,504b0304
      Add    PKZIP -m %f %s
      Extract     PKUNZIP -o %f
      View  PKZIP -v %f
      DeletePKZIP -d %f
      EstCRatio  38
   End Archiver
```

The header and footer (Archiver & End Archiver statements) are
required for each archiver definition.

The HotKey is used as the selection character when XPMAIL presents
the list of archivers to the user. Make sure there are no
duplicate hot keys.

The extension is not used and not required at this time.

The Add, Extract, View, & Delete lines are the commands XPMAIL
will use to compress, expand, view and delete files respectively.
Currently, the view and delete options are not used for any
process in Xpress.

The commands can take the following substitution parameters:

    %f   full path name to the OPX (or REP) file.
    %s   source of files to compress.

The Ident is the offset location and set of bytes used to uniquely
identify a compressed file format. The Ident must be a unique
identifier for each archiver.

The Ident allows XPMAIL to check uploaded reply files, and
automatically detects the compression format in which the reply
file is. If it detects the Ident in the file at the specified
offset, it will use the corresponding EXPAND command to decompress
REP file.

This process is called "Archiver Detection" and it eliminates
mismatches; problems with what the user selected for compression
and what compression format was actually used by the reader.

If you add a new compression utility, and do not know the Ident
for the utility, contact Santronics Software or post a message in
the XPRESS_SYSOP support conference. We will assist you in
identifying a proper Ident for the new utility.

The EstCRatio is a percentage factor used by XPMAIL during a mail
download to approximate the size of the OPX mail packets. The
default, 38(38% compression), was found to be a very good
conservative number.
Note: PKZIP 2.04 Customers. As you know, there has been confusion
       in the market place over the old versus new PKZIP

compression system. In Xpress, we make an attempt to
identify both the new and the old and new ZIP systems. If
you look at the XPARCH.CTL definition file, you will see two
ZIP definitions; one for the old and one for the new. This
will allow the user to decide which compression system to
use. However, Xpress uses PKZIP and PKUNZIP as the new 2.
04 and OPKZIP and OPKUNZIP as the old 1.10 system. Please
keep this in mind.

Note: In the Xpress language file, XPLANG.CTL, if the statement
#73 is commented out (or blank), XPMAIL will not show the
approximate OPX file size to the user. Commenting this line
is not recommended because it really is a good piece of
information for the user to have, but if you prefer not to
use this approximation, you can shut it off by putting a
comment character in front of statement #73.

9.   Maintenance

Santronics Software has done as much as possible at this time to
make life easier with regard to maintaining Silver Xpress.

The most critical maintenance aspect of Silver Xpress and your BBS
is making sure Silver Xpress is up to date with the configuration
information on your BBS, such as mail areas and, more importantly,
security.

When you use XPADM, it creates the following Xpress System Files:

XPMAIL.PRM
    Basic information about your Xpress setup, BBS directories,
    etc.
XPAREAS.DAT, XPAREAS.RAW (XPAREAS.CTL, XPFIDO.CTL)
    XPAREAS.DAT is compiled mail conference information used by
    XPMAIL.EXE. XPAREAS.RAW is a local copy used by XPADM.EXE.
    PCBOARD and RBBS do not have the RAW file, so they use the
    XPAREAS.CTL and XPFIDO.CTL files.

XPFILES.DAT, XPFILES.RAW
    XPFILES.DAT is compiled file area information for XPMAIL.EXE.
    XPFILES.RAW is a local copy for XPADM.

If the XPMAIL.PRM is missing, and you run XPADM, Xpress will
automatically perform a new Quick Configuration.

Except for RBBS Xpress, if any of the RAW files are missing, XPADM
will attempt to reread the BBS mail (or file) area system files
and recompile new RAW files.

For PCBOARD, if you delete the XPAREAS.CTL file, or it is missing,
XPADM will reread the CNAMES file.

If you change your BBS configuration, you must always update the
Xpress data files by using XPADM. Otherwise, you risk the chance
of having mail area mismatches and security related issues.

9.1. Running XPADM Update Operations

To update the Xpress system files, use the XPADM -U switch to automatically tell Xpress to reread the BBS system files and recompile the Xpress system files.

For example:

    XPADM -U

If you run a relative, dynamic mail area system (always adding and deleting areas), you may put this command in one of you BBS batch files, and run it nightly just to make sure Xpress is up to par with the BBS.

But if you make occasional, minor changes, like adding, deleting or moving a new message area, manually running XPADM -U would be all that is required.

For RBBS, you will have to manually edit (with XPADM or a text editor) the XPAREAS.CTL or XPFIDO.CTL file to match your BBS mail areas and recompile.

For PCBOARD, you have two choices:
 1. You can delete XPAREAS.CTL and recompile, or
 2. You can manually edit XPAREAS.CTL and recompile.

When you perform an automatic update to Silver Xpress, you will probably lose all **override** information you have done in the XPADM Mail Area Definition section. This is probably the only admitted weakness in Silver Xpress. This will change. The main issue is direct BBS interface with BBS and Xpress system files, versus Xpress's "added value" of providing the opportunity to define "extra" information for the mail conferences. There is also the software engineering dilemma, "Single Source Development" versus "Multiple Source File Development". You will understand this better if you're developing and supporting 14 different models of Silver Xpress and, at the same time, reaching the goal of providing a consistent software design. This is why there is only 1 door documentation and not 14. Can you imagine trying to write and maintain 14 different manuals, one for each BBS?

PCBOARD and RBBS sysops have the luxury of the ASCII text file in XPAREAS.CTL and XPFIDO.CTL. These sysops can retain the Xpress extra mail conference information by manually editing these files (or by using XPADM). You can expect future versions of XPMAIL and XPADM to follow the ASCII control file concept for all models of Silver Xpress.

10. Advanced Xpress Services

This section is intended for System Integrators who wish to

migrate or develop an advanced professional application with
Silver Xpress.

There are 6 kinds of services Silver Xpress can offer to users.
        o   Optional Bulletins.
        o   Xpress Node List.
        o   Off-line Reader Services.
        o   Uploaded Mail Service.
        o   Xpress Master Service.
        o   Off-line Forms.

10.1.Optional Bulletins

The Silver Xpress Reader 3.0x has the ability to display optional
bulletins or screen displays to the user off-line.

If the file called BULLETIN.LST exists in the XPRESS directory,
XPMAIL will look for the bulletin files declared in this file, and
pass them to the user during a download session.

Optional Bulletins are passed to the user if, and only if, he has
not yet seen them. The criteria to pass them or not is based on
the user's last usage date of Xpress, and the date of the bulletin
file.

The format for the BULLETIN.LST file is as follows:

        [option] filename_1   description_1
        [option] filename_2   description_2
        .
        .

The option can consist of the following commands:

        QWK: Send file if the user is using QWK mode
        OPX: Send file if the user is using OPX mode
        >sec: Send file if the user security is greater than sec
        <sec: Send file if the user security is less than sec
        =sec: Send file if the user security is equal to sec
        UNREG: Send file if the user is NOT registered
        REG: Send file if the user is registered

If the file path portion of the bulletin filename is not provided,
Xpress will look in the bulletin (default is BULL) directory first
to see if the file exists. Please note, the user security
mentioned above is the Xpress User Security, not a BBS related
security.

You may edit the BULLETIN.LST file using an ASCII editor or use
the Xpress Administration program, XPADM, to edit this file.

Example:

c:\bbs\fidonews.024   FidoNews newsletter
c:\bbs\xphelp.txt   How to user Silver Xpress

```
c:\bbs\products.txt        New Product Listings for Month
>200:c:\xpress\BULL\NEWS.200cial User Group News
QWK:C:\XPRESS\BULL\QWK.TXT    Using QWK with Silver Xpress
UNREG: C:\bbs\registHowtko register Silver Xpress
```

In the above example, the first three files will be sent to the
user if the file date is less than the user's last Xpress usage
date. The last file will only be passed if he is an unregistered
user and follows the date criteria as well.

There are two methods by which to force bulletins to be sent to
the user:
    1. change the file date using a "touch" program.
    2. Pass the file as a reader bulletin instead of an optional
        bulletin.
10.2.Xpress Node List

If you offer FIDONET net mail support for your users, you can help
reduce incorrect net mail addresses by allowing your users to
download a reduced node list called the Xpress Node List.

The Xpress Node List is a set of special index files for fast
validation of net mail addresses.

Currently, only the node list compiler called XLAXNODE can create
these files. At this time, we do not have our own Xpress Node
List compiler.

To compile the Xpress Node List, set the XLAXNODE control items in
the XLAXNODE Control file:

            XPRESS1
            XPRESS2

Set the NODE LIST Path in XPADM to the directory where you keep
your node list files.

XPADM will be set to the directory defined in your BBS Control
File, so you will probably not need to change it, but check just
to be sure.

If you allow your users to have access to NETMAIL, you can set the
users to receive the Xpress node list in the EDIT USER, SYSOP
FLAGS section of XPADM.

These files will only be passed to them when they download mail.
Only new compilations of the node list will be passed.

The off-line reader will store it on the users defined NODELIST
directory, so that netmail entry is easy.

If you wish to allow all users with access to netmail to receive

the NODELIST, you can use the Edit User, Set Global flags option
or set it as a default user definition.
10.3.Off-line Reader Services

Off-line Reader Services offer the ability to define new menu
options at the reader.

The Silver Xpress Mail Reader has the menu option "Remote
Services". When selected, the reader will display the list of
services available on your system.

You can think of services as extended applications offered by your
BBS. The service applications you can create are unlimited.

Some example applications which can be created are:
1. Off-line questionnaires for order entry or product
   purchasing, BBS registration, Surveys, etc.
2. File Viewers.
3. Fax services.

The applications are only limited by your imagination.

To create an off-line reader service, edit the SERVICES.XP file
using a DOS text editor, or use the XPRESS SERVICES option in
XPADM.

This file defines the new remote service options the user will see
when he selects the REMOTE SERVICE option in the reader. If no
services are defined, the reader will not display any services.

SERVICES.XP uses the following format:

        [option] description | command

The option can be one of the following commands:

        QWK: Send service if user is in QWK mode
        OPX: Send service if user is in OPX mode
        <sec: Send service if user security is less than sec
        >sec: Send service if user security is greater than sec
        =sec: Send service if user security is equal to sec
        UNREG: Send service if user is NOT registered
        REG: Send service if user is registered

If no option is provided, the service application is sent to the
user with each download.

example:

UNREG: Purchase Silver Xpress. |*FORM SXORDER.FRM
Company X Purchase Order |*FORM COMPANYX.FRM

```
Special Access Questionnaire    |*FORM ACCESS.FRM
Send Mail To Sysop    |*NEW 1 /TO=SYSOP
OPX: Send Internet Mail    |*FORM INTERNET.FRM
Fax Mail to Sales Office   |*NEW 1 /TO=SALES /S=412-645-3486
FidoNews    |*VIEW FIDONEWS.TXT
```

The * commands are special reader commands. The following are the current * Commands available:

*EDIT <filename>
     Edit or view the filename passed. VERSION 3.02 Reader Only.

*FORM <form filename>
     Silver Xpress offers you the ability to have the user process order entry forms off-line. The output of the data entry can then be directed to a special conference, or sent to the EDI directory for later processing.
     The *FORM command will process the form for data entry. The section on Xpress Forms System will show you how to create the form files. You need to define form files and pass them to the user automatically using the forms system.

*VIEW <filename>
     Similar to *EDIT, you do not have any editing capabilities using this option. *VIEW is excellent for viewing new letters. VERSION 3.02 Only.

*NEW <area#> [/TO=] [/S=] [/I=] [/A=]
     *NEW allows you to create a new message in area#. The optional parameters are:
     /T= Name of recipient (fills in the ToWhom Field).
     /S= Subject Line (For FaXXpress, the subject line is the fax phone number).
     /I= Import File Name. This File will become the message.
     /A= Netmail Address.
     *NEW is a great feature for creating canned messages for your customized service.
     VERSION 3.02 reader Only.

*READ <area#>
     The *READ command will read message area #.
     VERSION 3.02 Reader Only.

*DOS <command>
     This command will execute the command at the remote user's PC.
     NOTE: Santronics Software will not be responsible for any malicious usage of this command. This command is available for customizing the application to process special programs that you provide to users.
     VERSION 3.02 Reader Only
SPECIAL NOTE:

Please note: Due to a bug in the 3.00 and 3.01 reader, most commands are not understood except for *FORM in the readers "REMOTE SERVICE" option. All others commands will be processed as DOS commands. Customers who wish to provide off-line services, other than the *FORM option to 3.00 and 3.01 reader users, can do so using a modified reader pull down menu.

The above commands can be executed within the 3.00 or 3.01 readers using modified pull down menus for the user. See the reader documentation on the Silver Xpress Dynamic Menu System for a full list of * commands and how to send a customized reader pull down menu to the user.

Silver Xpress has the power to create any type of customized application.

As an example service application, we provided the Silver Xpress off-line order entry forms (SXORDER.*):

        SXFORM.FRM   Form Definition File
        SXFORM.WIN   Form Outline (SCRNEDIT.EXE required)
        SXFORM.PL   Prolog File

SXFORM.WIN is similar to a BSV (binary save) file, but we used our simple screen designer called SCRNEDIT.EXE, which allows the creation of a window rather than a full screen outline.

Your users will get these forms if they have not registered the Silver Xpress Reader.

To turn off this application, remove the off-line reader service * FORM SXORDER.FRM using XPADM and remove the SXORDER.* forms from the XFORMS.DAT file.

10.4.Xpress Master Services

Xpress Master Services are special messages to the user "XPRESS MASTER".

When an Xpress user creates a message to XPRESS MASTER, depending on the subject line (the master service command), you can have an external program executed on your PC. This allows you to create "MAIL DRIVEN EVENTS".

There are two built-in Xpress Master Service commands:

        XAM   Create an answering machine message.
         XPRESS CONFIG Perform an off-line configuration.

All others master service commands will be checked against a list defined in the file XMASTER.DAT.

If this file is not available in the Xpress directory, Xpress

Master Services are disabled except for the two built-in master
commands.

The format for the XMASTER.DAT is:
        <MASTER TAG> | program [%f] [%u] [%s]
        %f Xpress Formatted Uploaded Message.
        %u User Name in Caps.
        %s Subject line.

i.e.,
        DATABASE |YOURDB.EXE %s
        TODAY LOG |TODAYLOG.BAT
        FAX MAIL |MYFAX.EXE /psubject %f
        PROCESS EDI |PROEDI.EXE %f %u

There is no limit to the number of Master services you can define.

All Xpress Formatted uploaded messages are in the Xpress FIDO-
like mail format. There are slight differences for Xpress
purposes. To get the exact format of an Xpress uploaded FIDO mail
format, contact us. We will be glad to give it to you.

The best method to gaining full usage of a master service is to
have your master service create a private mail response in the
name of the user who sent the master service command. This would
be great for a database inquiry system, where the response is the
output of the database inquiry, or in an order entry application,
where the response can be a validation or confirmation.

Example Applications:
1.   The DATABASE example above will call the YOURDB.EXE
      program. The subject can be database keywords. The YOURDB.
      EXE program will search your database for the keywords and
      produce a ASCII text report. In order to make the report
      automatically available for the user to download, the YOURDB
      program will create a Xpress FIDO message. Xpress will pick
      up after the YOURDB.EXE is finished executing and toss the
      message. The user can proceed to download, and his report
      will be available.
2.   The PROCESS EDI master service is coupled with an off-line
      forms application. The PROEDI.FRM file is set up to create a
      FIDO message with the TOWHOM Field set up at XPRESS MASTER,
      and the SUBJECT field setup as PROCESS EDI. When the form is
      processed off-line, the output will be saved as a FIDO
      message. When the user uploads his reply packet, XPMAIL will
      process the master service, PROCESS EDI, and execute the
      program PROEDI.EXE, passing to it the file name. PROEDI.EXE
      is designed to read a FIDO message and process the body of the
      text as EDI order data. PROEDI is also designed to create a
      response message to the person in the FROMWHOM field.

All Master Service Messages created by the user are killed (not
tossed) once the message has been serviced.

10.5.Upload Mail Services

UPLOADED MAIL SERVICES is somewhat similar in concept to master services, but is triggered by area number (or applied to all areas).

It is a very powerful system, and there is no limit in the Work Flow Application on the ways you may wish to use Silver Xpress. To create an uploaded mail service, use the XPADM program.

An example uploaded mail service is the default service provided by Xpress "SILVER XPRESS FaXXpress SYSTEM".

You can install a Fax Service for your users using the SXFAX.EXE program. SXFAX is designed for CAS-BASED Fax cards only, and it is a "Lite" version of our commercial version FAX XPRESS system.

The lite version does not do any accounting. All it does is FAX.

10.6.Sample Fax Application

To install FaXXpress Lite, create an Uploaded Mail Service Call option and install the following FaXXpress information:

```
      Service Log Tag          : FAXX
      Active Service           : YES
      Apply to all Areas       : NO
      When to Apply Service     : AFTER TOSS
      Mail Area Number         : 99
      ASCII Convert            : NO
      Add Header               : YES
      Erase Xpress Message      : NO
      Strip Kludge for text     : YES
      Text Storage Directory    : C:\FAXQ
      DOS command to Issue      : !C:\XPRESS\SXFAX.EXE %f C:\FAXQ
      Processing Message       : FAX REQUEST!
      Success Message          : FAX HAS BEEN QUEUED FOR SENDING!
      Error Message            : FAX ERROR. REPORT TO SYSOP!
```

The Mail Area Number is important. It must exist.

Xpress will create the TEXT Storage Directory if it does not exist.

Note: The BBS area must exist and it should be designated as a FAX area for OUTBOUND faxes only. You should make it PRIVATE ONLY so that people will not see other fax messages.

SXFAX.EXE will take the fax request and immediately fax it. No log.

For FaXXpress, you must run the XPMAIL program using the -XF switch. In this example, the call to XPMAIL should include -XF99 where 99 is the fax area number. This tells the READER which mail area is a fax area. The reader will change the prompt SUBJECT: to FAX NUMBER:

10.7.Xpress Forms System

Silver Xpress implements a powerful forms processing facility.

It is the only mail system in the BBS World to offer this new and exciting capability.

Forms Processing can be called Data Entry. Silver Xpress Forms Processing is the ability to ask users a series of questions or prompts in a pop-up window. All the forms in the configuration section are data entry windows. Silver Xpress now offers the ability to create forms for a specific application.

Normally, forms processing is defined by the BBS, where forms will be passed to the users to fill out and send back, XPMAIL.EXE.

You might have a need to offer products on your professional BBS system, and you may wish to allow users to order products off-line, or you may find a BBS wishing to ask a series of questions for a survey. You might be a company with a sales force and wish to provide a mail, fax, and order entry system to your sales people. The applications are endless.

Here are a set of applications defined by customers of Silver Xpress:
        o Off-line Order Entry Forms
        o Off-line Database Inquiry
        o Off-line Customer Surveys
        o Off-line UUCP Mailing
        o Off-line MHS Electronic Mail

Users of Silver Xpress may define their own forms for their own applications. However, users are limited with the types of forms output your BBS will accept. Generally, users can only create or define a form for creating a message for the BBS. A perfect example is to create a message form to send a canned message on a regular basis.

If you are using Silver Xpress with the Xpress MHS system, or you are using Xpress within a GROUP environment, the applications for Xpress Forms grow. For instance, you may want to create a "Conference Room Scheduling" form when using the Xpress MHS in a LAN environment.

If you are a professional Systems Integrator, and wish to investigate the possibilities Silver Xpress Forms may have for your organization, or simply need assistance, call Santronics Software. We will be glad to assist you with this new, powerful capability. We have a complete Xpress Forms documentation and testing utility available called FORMTOOL.ZIP. It is available to registered sysops of Silver Xpress.

10.8.Sample Order Entry Xpress Forms Application

Silver Xpress is the only system in the BBS market capable of
processing forms or data entry screens off-line. With this new
store and forward electronic order entry system, you can create
off-line store and forward solutions for your professional
organization.

As an example, the a SXORDER.* files are provided. To make this
work, edit the file SXORDER.FRM and edit the keyword AREA to point
to your netmail area.

Here is how this works:
1. The SXORDER.* files are forms created by Santronics. They
    are real order entry forms.
2. When users download mail, these forms are sent over with
    the packet if the user is not registered with the reader.
3. If the user wishes to purchase the Silver Xpress reader
    using this form, he can simply fill it out and upload the
    reply packet back to the XPRESS system on the BBS.
4. The Xpress door will create a netmail message with the
    order information in the body of the message to Santronics
    at FIDONET 1:135/382. This means you must be on the
    FIDONET network.
5. When Santronics receives the order, it will be processed
    immediately and a verification of the order will be sent
    back to your BBS. This process takes about 5-10 minutes.
6. It is your responsibility to post the verification as a
    private message to the user. This is done either by giving
    your users netmail privileges, or by you forwarding the
    netmail message.

This is a REAL working example of an electronic order entry
system, the first of its kind for the BBS market.

We call it the Silver Xpress EDI system which is short for
Electronic Data Interchange system.

In the commercial industry, EDI is often referred to as the X.12
protocol. If you are a professional organization with electronic
order entry needs, the Silver Xpress off-line forms system and
automatic work flow solution is a very cost effective system to
provide an EDI system within your organization. If your company
requires consultation to set up an EDI system, please don't
hesitate to call us.

10.9.Xpress Vacation Saver

Silver Xpress has a built-in feature to run the XPMAIL program
automatically to pack up user packets, and save them in the user's
mailbox directory for later pickups. This process is called
Vacation Saver because it was designed for users who go on
vacation, but wish to have the BBS save mail for them before the
BBS renumbering process would delete mail.

To set up vacation saver:

First, determine that you have enough disk space for saving user packets. You may decide that it should not be a general option but one on request only. If you decide to turn off the vacation saver, you should delete the menu option from XPMENU.CTL.

Set up a BBS event for the best time to run the vacation saver event. This event time should be prior to your renumbering process.

The event should call the following commands in your BBS batch file:
```
  :EVENT
        CD \XPRESS
        XPVAC -DF -NLW -VS
        CALL XVS
        GOTO RESTART
```

XPVAC is a utility to read the Xpress user database file, and check for users who have turned on the vacation saver option. XPVAC will create the batch file XVS.BAT with XPMAIL commands for each user. XPMAIL will use the -J switch, which means PCBOARD and RBBS cannot utilize this feature at this time.

Once XVS is executed, it will create mail packets for each user requesting vacation mail, and store it in their personal mailbox.

The user will have the ultimate responsibility for picking up the mail. When the user returns from vacation, he can start a download, and Xpress will tell him he has vacation mail. The user can also use the "Check Vacation Mail" option to see if any mail packets are available.

Once the user downloads the vacation mail, it is deleted from his mailbox.

You should modify the XPVSAVER.VCC file if you intend to provide VACATION SAVER service to your users. Tell them when your events occur and when to pick up the mail.

11. Changing the Xpress Menus and Display Files

Silver Xpress now has a powerful and dynamic menu system to better suit your customization needs for off-line mail applications. The menu system has security values, making it possible to set up the Xpress menus for individual users based on Xpress user security.

Keep in mind the security values used for the menus in Xpress are completely independent of the BBS user security system.

Silver Xpress offers sysops the ability to customize menus on the door side and on the reader side.

Silver Xpress also supports RIP (Remote Imaging Protocol) terminal packages. Xpress has built-in RIP menu commands which eliminates the need for you to spend lots of time designing RIP scenes or menus. See the separate document on Xpress RIP Graphics (XPRIP. DOC) for more information on RIP graphics in Silver Xpress.

11.1.Changing the default Xpress Door menus

The Xpress mail door menus are defined in the XPMENU.CTL control file stored in your Xpress directory.

If you make any changes to the control file, recompile it by using the XPCOMP.EXE program provided. This program will compile the XPMENU.CTL and XPLANG.CTL (language file) and create the a XPMENU. PRM and XPLANG.PRM. This allows Xpress to load and read the menu and language files faster.

In the past, Santronics Software resisted providing menu customization because users might have to learn multiple menus from different Silver Xpress installations. This is especially true for script users who would have to change their communication scripts for each customized Xpress setup.

However, we think we have achieved a compromise between allowing Silver Xpress to grow and the need to keep a consistent dialog for users. This is done using Xpress Menu Action Codes (XMAC). Xpress Menu Actions codes and the Xpress Macro system which allow users, utilizing telecommunication scripts or interactive video text telecommunication programs, to keep a dialog with XPMAIL.

Each menu option in XPMAIL.CTL has a unique XMAC. (Xpress Menu Action Code). If the user types in a XMAC value, the option will be activated regardless of which menu is currently being displayed. XMAC is discussed in more detail at this end of this section. In addition, you can combine multiple XMACs into one command called an Xpress Macro.

The control file XPMENU.CTL defines the visual interface for the menus remote users will see. XPMAIL will read this file directly. No compiler is necessary.

You can define up to 20 different menus. Each menu begins with the keyword MENU and terminates with keyword ENDMENU.

For each menu, there are menu items (MENUITEM). A menu item is the menu option the user will see if he is given access.

The entire menu system is structured around XMAC and XSEC (Xpress security values). The following table shows the current XMAC and XSEC values. To change the security of each XMAC, edit the XPMENU.CTL file and recompile with XPCOMP.EXE.

MENUITEM NAME	XMAC	XSEC	DESCRIPTION