

A new parent message with replies

Completely new threads that you've never seen before.

CompuServe Dialer

If you don't already have CompuServe's Dialer, you can download it for free via GO NETLAUNCHER.



Contents

Off-line Usenet Interface

OUI is Dvorak's new Windows and Windows 95 compatible Usenet Newsgroup off-line navigator. Like Dvorak's well known CompuServe product, NavCIS, OUI is a second generation navigation tool specifically designed to work with the Usenet portion of the Internet.

OUI makes working with Newsgroups simple. Subscribe to your favorite Newsgroups using OUI's built in Newsgroup index list (it even updates itself for you) with a simple point and click. Then go online. OUI supports SLIP, PPP and any valid TCP/IP Winsock compliant connection. That means you can use your favorite dialer.

Major features:

- € OUI supports e-mail.
- € Automatic UUencoding and decoding
- € Automatic "part finding"
- € Full MIME support.
- € Rot-13 support.
- € Informative online task interface.
- € Built in spell checker
- € Split Read / Reply window
- € True graphical thread support
- € Header activity organization
- € Twit filtration
- € Watch bin

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Show Me:

- The main interface
- How to subscribe to a newsgroup
- What do I see when I'm online?
- Alternative newsgroup formats

Current Reading List banner. Threads below this section are current and active meaning you have read all or part of them before.

Dialers

OUI works with:

CompuServe Dialer

Trumpet

Windows 95

Internet in a Box

Any Winsock compliant dialer or network
that supports SLIP, PPP or TCP/IP.

Disconnect from Internet

Downloading & decoding a file task
from alt.binaries.sounds.tv

E-mail

OUI supports POP-3 and SMTP compatible e-mail servers. Currently, OUI cannot handle CompuServe e-mail since CompuServe does not provide direct e-mail server access. It is rumored that they will in the future. But you can use OUI's e-mail with your Internet e-mail servers if you have such available to you.

Fetching headers from newsgroup
alt.test

Finding file parts

Ever wanted to download a file, only to find that locating all the message parts was practically impossible? OUI does it for you. Just click on any part of a multi-part message, and OUI will find the other parts. If the first part you find is 8 of 8, OUI will find parts 0/8, 1/8, 2/8... 7/8.

Graphical threading

OUI displays true graphical threading... even before you download any messages. This is very handy since you can see where in the life of a conversation a message is, *before* you download it. OUI's threading is very complex and will even show you "missing" messages in order to keep the completeness and "truthfulness" of the thread as high as possible. Messages may be missing from a thread because they have not yet arrived at a server, or because they have been erased by the poster or receiver. For a [screen shot of OUI's threading, click here](#).

Header activity

OUI organizes headers into three categories:

1. **New message threads**, completely new threads that have appeared in the Newsgroup since your last visit.
2. **Current reading list**, threads you have read before (either in part or whole), and new replies that have been posted since your last visit are boldened.
3. **Old threads you are ignoring**, you've seen these threads before and never downloaded any part of the thread.

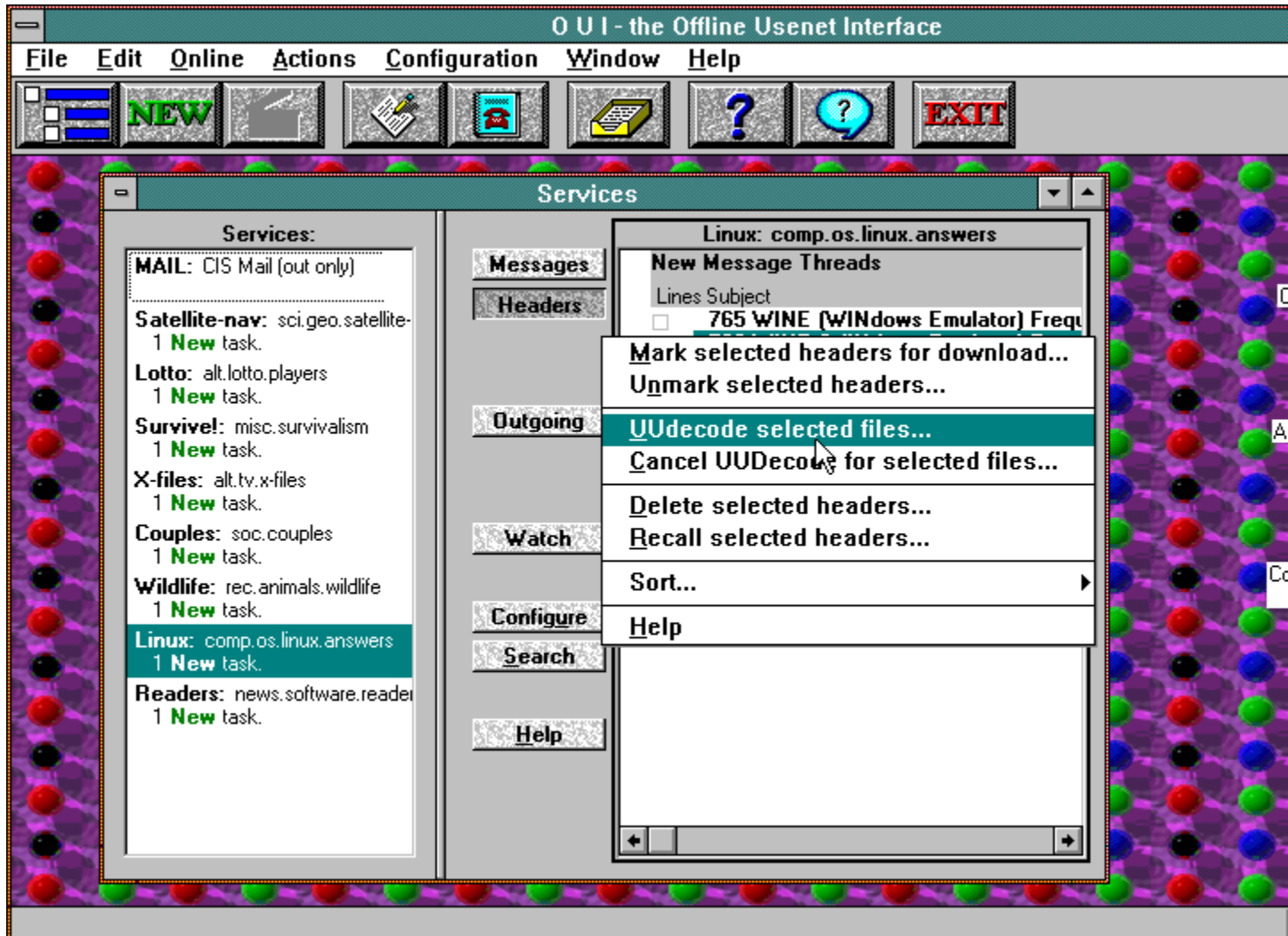
To see a [screen shot of this type of header organization, click here](#).

Headers downloaded

Ignored thread titles are listed here. Notice that some of them are bold. Even though you've never read any part of these threads previously, OUI still updates the threads as new replies are posted with them. The new replies appear as bold.

List look for newsgroups

Besides a list newsgroup as displayed here, OUI can be set to use small newsgroup icons, or large newsgroup icons.



MDI Interface

OUI uses an MDI Interface so you can have multiple windows open at the same time. For instance, you might have a Services window open with the **alt.wildlife.cougar** newsgroup, a Compose message window, the address book open, and another service window displaying a different newsgroup. This makes it very easy to compose a message that quotes message snippets from different newsgroups using OUI's automatic cut, paste & quote feature.

MIME support

MIME stands for Multi-purpose, Internet Mail Extensions. MIME is the current defacto standard for mail servers and provides advanced functionality such as multimedia extensions.

NavCIS

In case you haven't heard of NavCIS it's our second generation navigation tool for forums on CompuServe. NavCIS allows you to dramatically increase your information flow to and from forums, while substantially reducing your CompuServe charges. NavCIS is an off-line navigator for Windows and Windows 95 and this means you do most of your work off-line, while disconnected from CompuServe. Work like composing e-mail messages, forum messages, selecting which files to download, reading conversation threads, etc. NavCIS only goes online when you have given it some specific tasks to do: such as fetch this file, post my e-mail messages, check these 8 forums for any messages to me, and grab these forum conversations. To learn more about NavCIS download the file NAVLIT.EXE from LIB 1 of the DVORAK forum. Or you can try out a **free 30 day trial version** called NavCIS TE for Windows. It is in LIB 1, and the file name is WPROTE.EXE. NavCIS includes a built in spell checker, and support for fonts just like OUI. As a matter of fact, you can send fonted messages from NavCIS to OUI and back again.

All messages under this banner are new message threads that you've never seen before. They are completely new.

Newsgroup action buttons

These buttons work with the active newsgroup (in this example the active newsgroup is Satellite) to handle task actions... show me Messages, show me headers, show me Outgoing tasks, etc.

What is a Newsgroup?

A newsgroup is a special interest message group. In other words, a bunch of people who have a common interest about old cars might start a newsgroup called **alt.automobiles.antique**. Then, a subset of those folks might decide they need their own newsgroup, and so they create **alt.automobiles.antique.fords**. Because newsgroups are flexible in their naming structure, and because they are relatively easy to create, there are thousands of them... some estimates run as high as 18,000 newsgroups.

Old Threads You are Ignoring banner. All thread titles under this banner have been ignored previously. You have never read any part of any thread in this group.

OUI Order form

Dvorak Development, 385 S. Pierce Ave., Louisville, CO 80027
 Phone (303) 661-0345 **FAX (303) 661-0635**

Ship To:

Name: _____
 E-mail address: _____
 Company: _____
 Address: _____

 City/State/Zip: _____
 Phone: () _____
 FAX: () _____

	Quantity	Unit Price*	Total
OUI (Off-line Usenet Interface)		\$39.00*	

Colorado residents add 4% sales tax
 Boulder County residents also add 1.05% sales tax
 Shipping and Handling**
Total

48 States US First Class Mail, \$3.50
 Alaska, Hawaii US First Class Mail, \$3.50
 Canada, Mexico US Air Mail \$3.50
 International US Priority Air Mail, \$5.50

Method of Payment

Visa Full Name on Card: _____
 MasterCard Card Number: _____
 AmEx/Discover Expiration date: _____ mm / yy
 Check

OUI Upgrade policy

Upgrades are FREE within a version series. However we do not provide upgrades on diskette, only via download. Upgrades can be downloaded from our CompuServe forum (GO DVORAK), or from our soon to be enabled Web site and FTP site (<http://dvorak.com> and <ftp.dvorak.com>).

NavCIS Pro upgrade policy

If you already own NavCIS Pro, you can purchase OUI for a special price, just \$19.00 plus shipping. Enter your NavCIS serial number here _____.

Sending your order to Dvorak Development

Thank you for your order. Orders may be e-mailed to mikec@dvorak.com, or via CompuServe to 71333,12, or via Prodigy e-mail to NYBW87D. We do not recommend using mikec@dvorak.com since that routing goes through the Internet and may not be secure. If you are concerned about security, please use fax, US Snail Mail, CompuServe or Prodigy e-mail. Orders may also be placed over the **phone to 303-661-0345**.

We accept personal and company checks. All orders are shipped with an invoice enclosed.

Posting a message in alt.test newsgroup

Read / Reply window

OUI supports a powerful split screen capability. You can view up to 3 windows at once: the message window, the reply window, and the thread window. You can choose how you want the windows laid out: message on left, reply on right, thread on bottom, or thread on left, message center, and reply on right, or thread on top, message in the middle, and reply on bottom. Of course, all three windows do not need to all be open at the same time. You may not want the thread view window to show for instance, in which case the message and reply windows will follow the rules for the scheme you chose (side by side or top and bottom). Click here for a [screen shot sample](#).

Replies to the parent "How to answer how do you know". Notice the "x" in the checkbox... that indicates the messages indicated by these headers will be downloaded with the next New or Action pass.

Requirements

Windows: OUI is a 16-bit Windows application. It works with Windows 3.1, Windows NT, and Windows 95.

Hardware: we recommend a 386/33 or faster CPU with a minimum of 4mb of RAM. You should also have 6mb of available hard disk space. OUI requires VGA (640x480) or higher resolution monitor. A mouse is recommended but not required.

Connection: Must have a Winsock running and using a SLIP, PPP or TCP/IP direct connection.

13 Rot-13

Rot-13 is a simplistic encryption routine that rotates the English 26 character set by 13 places... so "A" becomes "M", "B" becomes "N", "Z" becomes "L" and so forth. Why is this done? Some jokes, stories, etc. are so lewd, bawdy, or otherwise offensive that authors of such material kept getting flamed every time they posted such stuff. Rot-13 was developed as a way to "hide" the offensive material. Anyone with a simple decoder or even a blank piece of paper could decode the message, but in so doing, the reader was acknowledging the he or she understood the potential offensiveness of the message. A sure way to get seriously flamed in Newsgroups is to flame someone for the content of a Rot-13 encoded message. The feeling is, if you pressed the button to decode it, you acknowledged that it may be offensive in nature.

Satellite newsgroup threads. Since "Satellite" is the active newsgroup, and because the "Headers" button is pressed, its headers are displayed in this window.

Screen shot of OUI's threading

To learn more about this rather busy screen, click on an item you wish to know more about:

The screenshot displays the OUI (Open User Interface) threading interface for the group "Humanism: talk.philosophy.humanism". It is divided into three main sections: "New Message Threads", "Current Reading List", and "Old Threads You are Ignoring".

- New Message Threads:** Lists several threads with their line counts and subjects. The thread "19 How to answer how do you know | (Jim beam)" is selected and highlighted in blue. A context menu is open over this thread, offering actions such as "Mark selected headers for download...", "Unmark selected headers...", "UUdecode selected files...", "Cancel UUdecode for selected files...", "Delete selected headers...", "Recall selected headers...", "Sort...", and "Help".
- Current Reading List:** Shows a list of threads currently being read, including "19 Is God needed for ethics? | (David Holmes) davidh@usa.net" and "89 (chris)".
- Old Threads You are Ignoring:** Lists threads that have been ignored, such as "19 What is Justice? | (David Holmes) davidh@usa.net" and "34 (Ransom)".

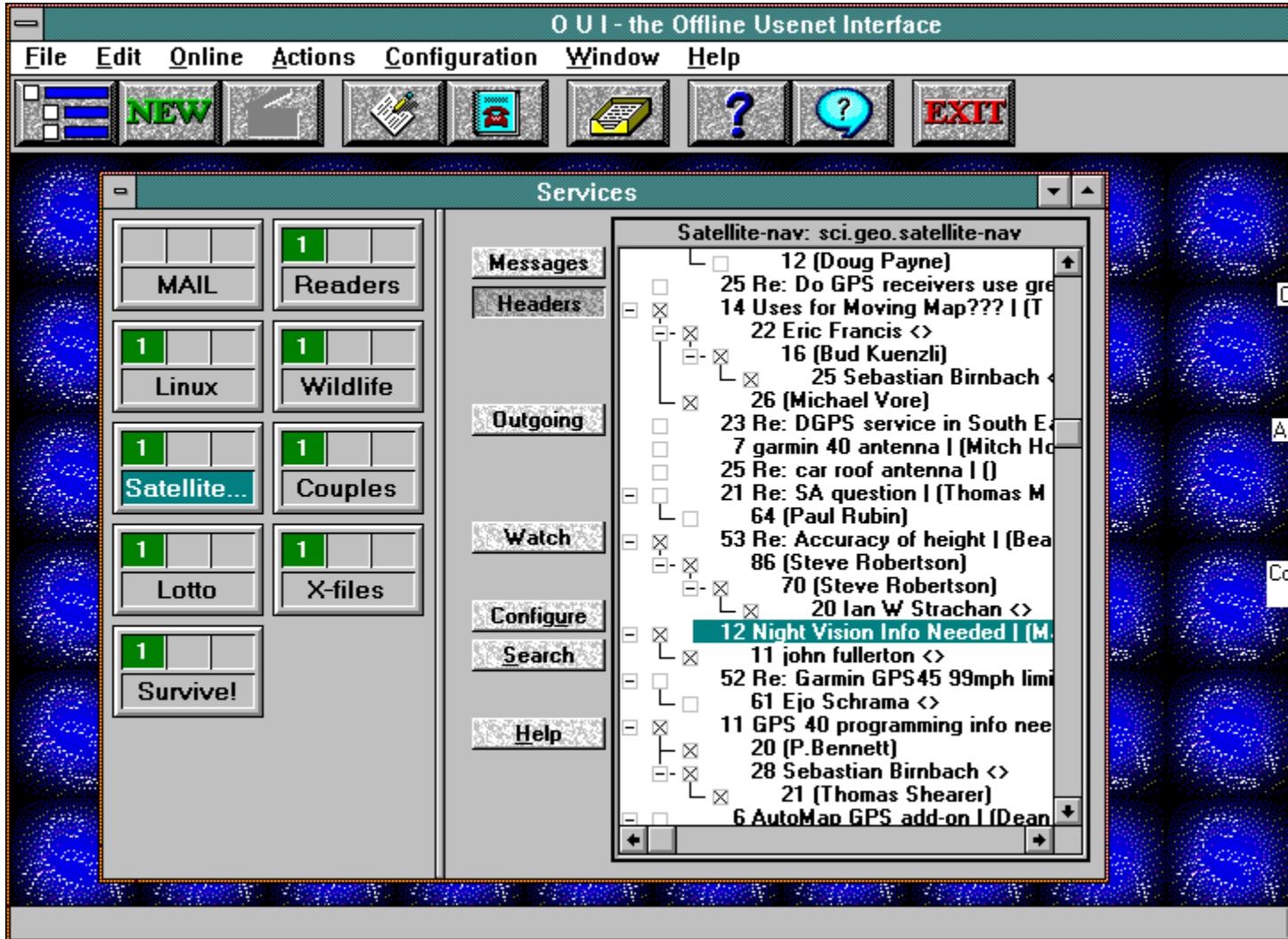
The interface uses a tree view to show the hierarchical structure of threads and their replies. Icons like checkboxes and expand/collapse symbols are used to manage the view of each thread.

Sending (uploading) a file via e-mail task

Sending message via e-mail task

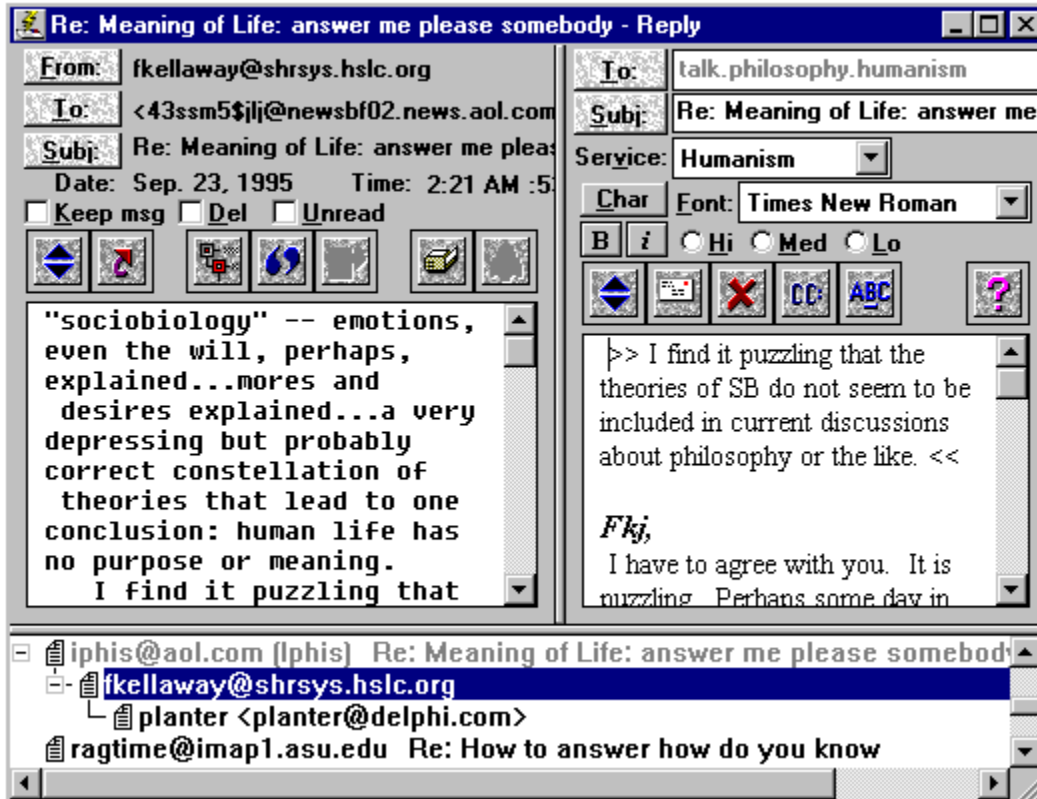
Small newsgroup icons

Besides small newsgroup icons as shown below left, OUI can be set up to display a list box view, or a large icon view.



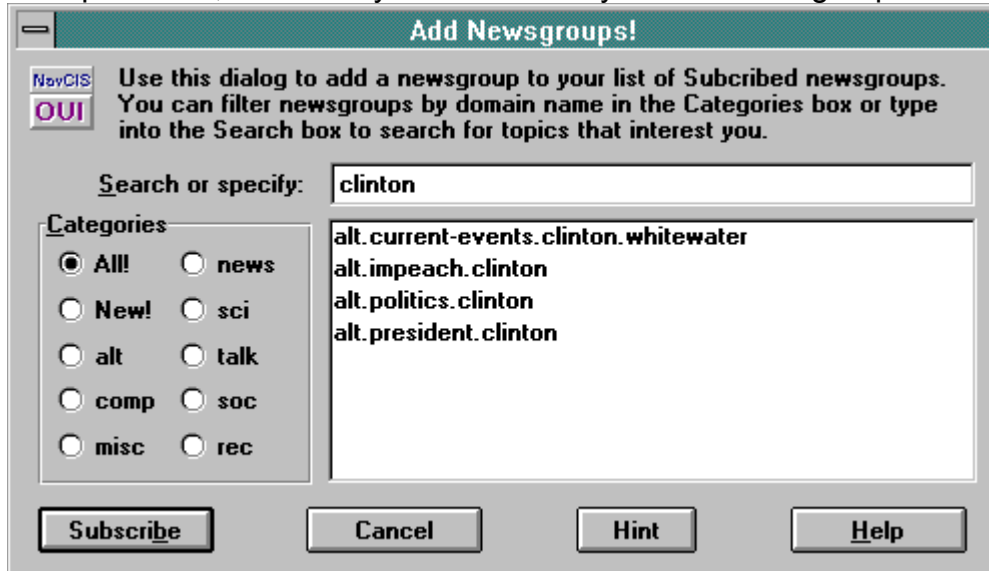
Split screen

This screen shows the original message in the left hand pane, the reply in the right hand pane, and the relevant thread in the bottom pane. Notice that the reply utilizes fonts. Other OUI users, as well as NavCIS and NavStar (using e-mail) users will see your messages with the fonts you chose. The size of the individual panes can be reset at any time, so you can easily make the Reply pane larger for instance. OUI "remembers" how you sized the individual panes from session to session. Click here to return to [Contents](#).



Subscribe to a newsgroup

OUI comes with an index of more than eleven thousand newsgroups. You can easily select a certain type of newsgroup by clicking on the appropriate radio button and OUI will only display that type. You can also search for a key word by simply typing it in. In the example below, the the key word "clinton" yielded 4 newsgroups:



Task Window Screen

This window appears when you go online. As tasks are completed, they switch from black to gray. Also, check marks are placed on the graphic to indicate the item is finished. Progress bars are used to indicate the progress of large messages such as UUencoded files.

Click on the screen to learn more about specific aspects:



Task interface

Ever wondered what Internet navigation tools like browser were doing while online?

OUI shows you with a clear task window of all activity happening while it is connected.

[Click here to see a screen shot.](#)

The menu bar

The number of lines in the message

The title and ID of the message author

The tool bar

This is the currently highlighted thread title, and the menu actions relate to it.

This thread is "watched" by an agent. The agent places cool sunglasses next to the thread title to bring it to your attention.

Three messages downloaded from
news.newusers.questions newsgroup

Twit filtration

If you've ever visited Usenet, you know how important this feature can be. OUI lets you ignore messages based on user ID, or on subject title content... for example, you can ignore all thread titles or message titles with the word "massacre" in them.

UUdecoding and encoding

OUI will automatically collate and decode incoming UUencoded messages. For instance, if you download a 5 part file, OUI will collate the different message parts into a whole file, then decode it. If a part is missing (say OUI was able to download parts 1, 2, 3, and 4, but not 5 because your daughter picked up the phone while you were online), OUI will automatically fetch part 5 on the next online run, and then finish the collate / uudecode process.

Uploading a file used to be a royal PITA, but using OUI, it is as simple as identifying the file, and OUI will UUencode it, break it into parts (if it needs it), and title each part appropriately (example: MOUNTAIN.ZIP part 2/5). OUI makes file uploading and downloading easy. You'll marvel at the number of files available in Usenet Newsgroups.

Uploading a file to alt.test
newsgroup

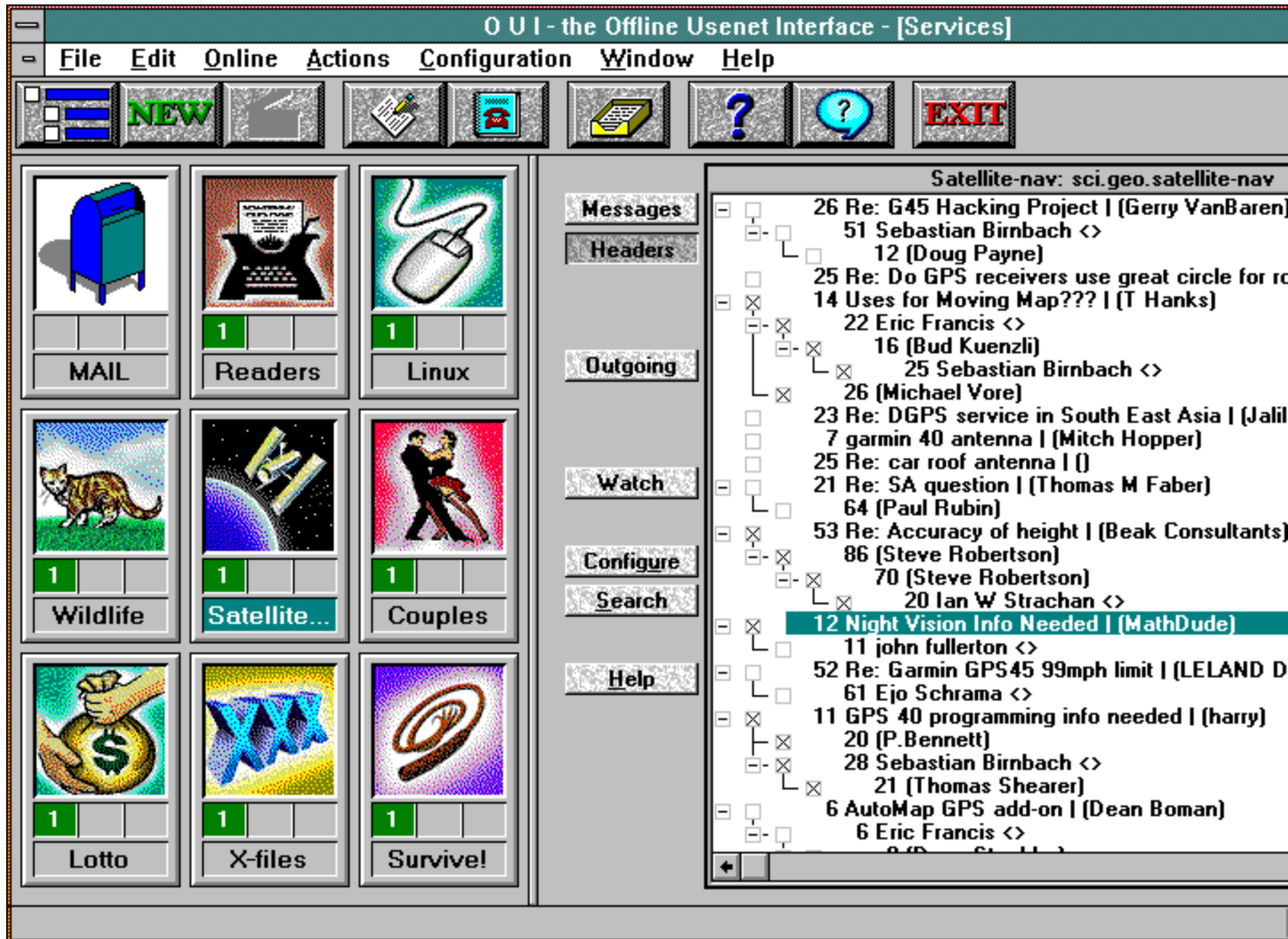
Watch agent

The watch agent lets you watch for specific IDs, key words, and phrases in message headers and message titles. If matches occur, you can highlight the item (grab your attention), mark the item for next pass task, or automatically download the item. A great tool for watching threads that interest you.



Main interface

OUI allows you to select a newsgroup with a single click. In the screen shot below, the newsgroup "Satellite" is active. The view on the right is Satellite's current thread list. You can easily change the newsgroup icons if you would prefer. OUI offers both a small icon look, and a list look.



news.software.readers newsgroup

Header actions menu

This menu lets you assign different tasks to the currently highlighted thread title or titles.

Mark selected headers to download will place an "x" in the left hand check box of all currently highlighted headers which will cause those messages to be downloaded with your next online pass.

Unmark selected headers will remove the download "x".

UUdecode selected files will cause OUI to find all parts of a file that are missing, and will mark each with a solid gray box. Those messages will be downloaded, collated and decoded on the next online pass.

Cancel UUdecode for selected files will unmark the highlighted message parts that are marked.

Delete selected headers will remove all highlighted headers from your thread header list.

Recall selected headers will undo the action described above.

Sort brings up the sort menu. You can sort thread headers by subject, date, and sender ID.

Help brings up detailed help.

What is an Off-line navigator?

A second generation navigator is a tool that allows you to dramatically increase your information flow to and from newsgroups, while substantially reducing your connect time charges. This means you do most of your work off-line, while disconnected from the Internet. Work like composing e-mail messages, newsgroup messages, selecting which files to download, and reading conversation threads. Off-line navigators only go online when you have provided specific tasks to do, such as fetch this file, post the e-mail message, check these 18 Newsgroups for any messages to me. Grab these newsgroup conversations, and much more.

Spell checker

Identical to the spell checker in NavCIS, it supports different languages including American English, British English, Short German and Long German. The spell checker also has a easy to use private dictionary capability to which you can add your own words. And OUI comes with a custom dictionary called INET.DIC which contains a wide assortment of common Internet terms and acronyms, so you don't have to "train" the spell checker.

