Tech Info Library

Does AppleMail Support AppleScript (1/95)

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Security:       Everyone


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TOPIC -------------------------------------------------------------


I'm doing some testing and evaluating of Apple Mail that comes with System 7 Pro
and System 7.5. I want to automate the moving of mail into different folders on
the network. However, the AppleMail application as delivered by Apple is not
scriptable. Is this true, and if so will it be scriptable, script aware, or
recordable in the future?


DISCUSSION --------------------------------------------------------


There are two functional areas of scripting being discussed here. Being able to
move and sort mail from the PowerTalk Mailbox which is a function of Finder
scriptability, and the AppleMail application, which is a text editor with a
PowerTalk mail header capability.

AppleMail is not scriptable, script aware, or recordable. AppleMail was never
meant to be THE messaging application, it is a bare bones tool. AppleMail as a
word processor will probably never attain the scriptability of say, Scriptable
Text Editor. In other words, everyone should think of AppleMail as the TeachText
of messaging.

If you need a scriptable word processor, then MacWrite Pro, WordPerfect, or
Microsoft Word as well as other are all candidates. These three all support
AppleScript and PowerTalk mail headers.

The Scriptable Finder can be installed into the System 7 Pro environment, but
the capabilities of managing mail through AppleScript are still extremely
limited. New Mailbox APIs will be made public to enable development of better
managers and filters for the PowerTalk Mailbox.


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