Outpost v2.6 Release Content Description

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1. Introduction

This Release Content Description provides information about new or changed functionality that will be available in Outpost Packet Message Manager Release 2.6. This information is organized under the following sections:

- *New Features:* A new capability that did not exist in any prior version of Outpost in any form.

- *Enhancements:* A change to an existing feature that further improves the performance or usability of the application. Enhancements include minor changes, internal changes (that may not be evident to the user, but contribute to improved supportability increased stability, or application performance) and bug fixes.

- *Changes since Version 2.5:* A list of the various changes that were introduced in maintenance or defect releases since the original v2.5 release.

2. New Features

2.1. ER#960: MARS Message Maker

MARS (Military Auxiliary Radio System) is a United States Department of Defense (DoD) sponsored program, established as a separately managed and operated program by the United States Army, Navy, and Air Force.

The recently expanded MARS mission outlined by the DoD defines "contingency radio communication support" as "The provision of radio-based transfer or exchange of information to assist with DoD or civilian authorities' operations during, or responses to, any major disruption of DoD of other communications networks, such as those associated with official national security or emergency preparedness events or activates."

MARS uses packet to pass message traffic on behalf of their military affiliate. The structure and format of the message is fixed and can be tedious to create in a free-form environment. To provide more robust packet support, the MARS Message Maker program (Marsmm.exe) will be created to support EEI reporting.

MARSmm.exe complies with many of the requirements outlined in the *U.S. Navy Marine Corp Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) Communications Instructions NTP 8(D)*, but is not fully NTP-8(D) compliant as of this first release.

See your Service national MARS web site for details on how to obtain the MARS Message Maker program.

3. Enhancements

3.1. Outpost

ER#909: Send-Only Option. This change will allow the user to send a message without performing a check for incoming messages.

ER#910: Control fonts. Allows the user to change font size and font on all Outpost message forms.

ER#918: Skip TNC setups. If certain TNC command fields are blank (datetime, etc), then Outpost will not send it.

ER#948: Set Msg ID location. Adds setting up the 3 character message ID on the Identification Form. If you set the Tactical ID, the message ID usually needs to be changed as well. This change

makes it easier to do it all in one place. This message ID field is still changeable Tools > Report Settings.

ER#959: Adds support for KPC4-5.0-HM$ PBBS.

ER#961: Message Handling problem. Corrects a problem with mMsgIndex data type. This problem occurred when the user had processed over 32,767 messages.

ER#962: Address Book and JNOS. When forwarding an address book entry to another user using JNOS, the address book record gets split into multiple lines due to the JNOS 128 character per line limitation. This change now creates multiple address records that are rebuilt on the receiving end.

ER#963: Adds a Resend option. Allows a user to resend a message previously sent and either reuse the current message number or increment to the next number.

ER#965: Printing Receipts. Adds an option to exclude auto-printing of READ: and DELIVERED: messages when they arrive.

ER#967: Adds support for Airmail as a BBS. This is pending a complete description of the message exchange handshake.

ER#975: Receive Time. Adds a receive time variable to the message record; this is different from the message post time that refers to when the message was actually posted to the BBS. The receive time will be displayed on the Open Message Form and the message print-out.

ER#976: Receive Time to PacFORMS. Passes the Receive Time to PacForms at launch time.

ER#977, #978: AutoPop Change. Today, messages posted to Outpost from other local applications (Pacforms, etc.) are automatically opened in Outpost on arrival. This occurs when Opdirect is enabled. This change causes the message "AutoPop" functionality to perform the check all the time regardless of Opdirect running or not. This change supports message passing for the new MARS message maker program.

ER#979, #980: internal code changes. Clean up error calls "ReportError" parms are not consistent across all subroutines. This change should be transparent to the user.

ER#986: In-domain SMTP address. Corrects the Address validation check. When sending an SMTP address within the same domain, user@<something> without a .domain entry is now considered valid. This only works for messages sent within the same domain, such as within a networked JNOS environment.

ER#988: PC's IP address. Adds an option to display your PC's computer name and IP Address (**Help > My IP Address**). This will help for ICS213mm setups.

ER#990: Opscript and BBS Friendly Names. BBS Friendly names were never anticipated to be stuffed in the Message's BBS field. However, Opscripts does just that. This change accommodates Friendly names to be set in the Messages' BBS Field and processed correctly at Send/Receive time.

ER#994: Internal code change. Corrects the handling of the message db control record.

ER#995: Adds support for the KAM3 PBBS.

ER#996: Adds MARS-specific hierarchical address support.

3.2. Interactive Packet

ER#910: Control fonts. Allows the user to change font size and font on all interactive packet programs.

ER#421, 981: Adds an Ipserial option: "Get Comm Port Settings from Outpost". This loads the currently set Serial configuration into Ipserial.exe.

ER#964: IpAgwpe, Iptelnet, and Ipserial do not show the bottom of the screen in Aero windows appearances. All 3 programs are updated to now correctly show the form regardless of the windows appearance that is currently selected.

3.3. Opdirect Message Capture System

ER#974: Firefox processing: FireFox FF 8 does not look at the file type to determine that it is an HTML file. This change simplifies the reply from Opdirect so that all browsers now process the reply.

3.4. Opscripts

ER#989: command line file passing problem. Corrects command line processing to ensure parsing on a "-" of the command option works correctly.

3.5. Ics213mm

ER#926: Ini initialization problem. Fixes a date and time format problem where the ini file gets created and then deleted. While the conditions for this to occur are unclear, this change ensures the date and time format displays correctly.

ER#930: Ics213mm. Internal Outpost cleanup of route processing. This should be transparent to the user.

ER#935, #940: Audible alert on message receipt. Similar to Outpost, this feature now lets the user choose a .wav file to that audibly announces when a message has been received. In none is selected, the program "beeps".

ER#938: Reply problem. Observed an original message with a full reply structure set up. This change is a general REPLY Processing fix.

ER#946: Updated ICS 213 Form. Adds the optional Incident name field to all form processes. This change is in compliance with this FEMA reference:
http://www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nims/ics_forms_2010.pdf.

ER#957: Stand-alone install. Adds a stand-alone install package for non-ham Ics213mm users.

ER#982: Cursor handling problem. Resolves cursor placed in a field making it appear as if it is ready for input, but the field is actually locked until pressing NEW or REPLY.

ER#989: Network Check. Adds a check to see if networking is enabled before starting a complete remote Outpost process.

3.6. Ics309clb

ER#947: Popup message. Cleans up the message wording when the program first runs and there is no message log found.

ER#972: ICS 309 Report Header. This change stores the balance of the ICS 309 Report Heading fields in Outpost and passes them to the Ics309clb program when invoked.

4. Documentation

ER#738: Spell Check. While spell-check will not be directly added to Outpost message forms, Application note will be written that describes how to use TinySpell with Outpost.

All other documentation will be updated to reflect the changes made in this release.

5. Changes since v2.5 c014

Version 2.5.0c021 Release

ER#907: BPQMail BBS to allow multiple addresses to be sent via the SP command.

ER#908: Resolved problem with KAM detecting a no list.

ER#911: Resolved problem where connect to PK-96 PBBS from local PC, LM lists both messages from me as well, then Outpost retrieves and deletes someone else's' message.

ER#913: Resolved problem with Type 13 error when processing MFJ127x PBBS messages, 1st BBSSIM entry

Version 2.5.0c031 Release

ER#899: Implemented facility to launch PacFORMS forms from Outpost using a launch.dat file.

ER#924: Handle the situation where a message is retrieved from one JNOS Node and the exact msg exists on another JNOS node, it is retrieved.

ER#927: Resolves inconsistent message Save Action. IF Draft, set it Italize+Blue. If regular, non-italics.

ER#939: Remove TNOS and SNOS references to the #911 change.

ER#944: Lock FROM Field on message Form.

ER#945: Same as #863 but for the initial connection.

ER#898: Passes the receive "envelope" data to PacFORMS for display in the form; msg number, other params.

… and no others