Software Product Description

PRODUCT NAME: ALL–IN–1 MAIL Product Family **SPD 31.51.03**

DESCRIPTION

ALL–IN–1 MAIL is an electronic messaging application which implements the international messaging standards set by the CCITT X.400 P2 recommendations. It provides a means of exchanging messages and attached data with other users, and is a consistent user interface across heterogeneous desktop devices in a client/server implementation.

Layered on top of Digital Equipment Corporation's VAX Message Router (SPD 26.33.xx), ALL–IN–1 MAIL interacts with all other MAILbus gateways and complementary products.

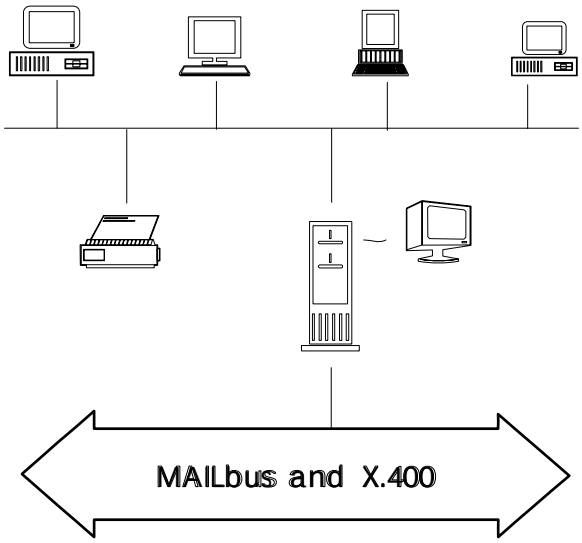
ALL–IN–1 MAIL is a client/server implementation supporting Video Terminals, DOS[1] PCs, the Microsoft® Windows™ Environment, Apple® Macintosh® PCs, DECwindows VMS workstations, and other X11 display devices. ALL–IN–1 MAIL represents an upgrade path for current users of Digital's VMS Personal Mail Utility (VMSmail), DECwindows VMSmail or the PC Mail interfaces provided with the PATHWORKS product set (formerly DECnet/PCSA).

ALL–IN–1 MAIL has no technical dependency whatever on the ALL–IN–1 integrated office product. It may be used entirely independent of that product. DOS and DECwindows clients are also available which connect directly into the ALL–IN–1 integrated office system base and do not require the ALL–IN–1 MAIL Server. For more information, refer to the ALL–IN–1 DESKtop for DOS Software Product Description (SPD 50.20.xx) and ALL–IN–1 Services for DECwindows (SPD 33.22.xx).

Client software performs services for the user. This software usually resides on an intelligent desktop device and takes advantage of the processing power on the desk.

Clients are connected to the ALL–IN–1 MAIL Server where local- and wide-area network delivery services are performed.

Transport between ALL–IN–1 MAIL Servers and between ALL–IN–1 MAIL and the other products in the ALL–IN–1 Phase II product family is performed by the VAX Message Router. Optional gateways may also be connected to the VAX Message Router as needed for mail transfer in a multi-vendor environment.



A user might alternately use an intelligent workstation in the office, a video terminal at home, and a laptop PC while traveling. Clients are provided for all three situations/and more, all using the same user mailbox and files on the server.

ALL–IN–1 MAIL adheres to the National Institute for Science and Technology (NIST) profile of 1984 CCITT X.400 recommendations. It provides a level of messaging service compatible with that of the electronic messaging subsystem of the ALL–IN–1 integrated office system, and adds new service elements defined in X.400 and ALL–IN–1 MAIL.

[1] For the purposes of this Software Product Description, IBM®'s Personal Computer Disk Operating System, Microsoft Corporation's MS–DOS®, and COMPAQ® Computer Corporation's COMPAQ-DOS are referred to simply as DOS.

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Features

Compatibility with VMSmail

Users can migrate easily from VMSmail to ALL–IN–1 MAIL. The interfaces are logical extensions of the VMSmail interface, and commands and services will be familiar. Addresses and distribution lists used in VMSmail can be used in ALL–IN–1 MAIL. From the VMS-resident clients, nickname logicals may be used. Most addresses used in VMSmail distribution lists may be used in ALL–IN–1 MAIL with similar restrictions as found when using such a list from another node. (Refer to product documentation for details.)

No file cabinet conversion is required for either of the VMS-based interfaces. A one-time file cabinet conversion is required to make VMSmail messages available from the PC.

Messages can be exchanged with VMSmail on the same system or elsewhere in the DECnet network by means of the VAX Message Router VMSmail Gateway. This is included in the ALL–IN–1 MAIL Wide Area Network Server Package or can be purchased as an option.

Users can select an editor for use with ALL–IN–1 MAIL. Each client has guidelines for selecting from a wide variety of available editors on its particular platform. The product will carry an attachment in any file format including binary files.

Compatibility with ALL–IN–1

Messages can be exchanged with the ALL–IN–1 integrated office system by means of the VAX Message Router using the same style of addressing.

The services of ALL–IN–1 MAIL are compatible with services in the electronic messaging subsystem of ALL–IN–1. For example, receipt requests from either product are honored by the other. New features defined in the CCITT X.400 P2 recommendations may be implemented in stages by both products.

Distribution lists created in the ALL–IN–1 integrated office system can be used in ALL–IN–1 MAIL. They work with the same restrictions found when sending a list to another ALL–IN–1 office system node. (Refer to product documentation for details.) Addressing strings used in the ALL–IN–1 office system work equally well in ALL–IN–1 MAIL, with the exception of addressing strings which invoke ALL–IN–1's foreign protocol hook (those beginning with underscore).

X.400 Message Transport

Messages can be exchanged with other ALL–IN–1 MAIL domains and services which meet international X.400 P2 conformance criteria. Conformance testing is being done in the United States and Europe.

In ALL–IN–1 MAIL, each customer network is referred to as a "domain." Within a customer network, messages are transported by means of DECnet wherever DECnet is available. Transport to another vendor's X.400 service requires an OSI networking stack and the VAX Message Router X.400 Gateway (MRX).

OSI message exchange requires at least one MRX Gateway in each Digital domain (usually one per customer network). Refer to the VAX Message Router X.400 Gateway Software Product Description (SPD 27.50.xx) for hardware/software requirements.

Supporting the Multi-Vendor Environment

MAILbus offers a series of off-the-shelf gateways and a gateway development kit to create other gateways for message exchange with other vendors' proprietary mail systems. Refer to the Software Product Description (SPD) for the appropriate products' hardware/software requirements.

Directory Services

ALL–IN–1 MAIL uses Digital's Enterprise-wide Directory Service (DDS) as its user address directory. This distributed directory, available as part of the VAX Message Router, links ALL–IN–1 MAIL, the ALL–IN–1 integrated office system, the gateways, and any other agents sharing its directory services.

Users can access the DDS directory while addressing a memo or creating an entry in their Personal Address Book (PAB). The PAB is an integral part of ALL–IN–1 MAIL and is located in each user's personal mail account, or in the local file store on the intelligent client device. The user references a PAB entry by using its user-assigned nickname. Local distribution lists may contain nicknames.

The DDS directory is a networking resource available only while the server connection is in place. If messages are created and addressed on a PC in the absence of the server connection, the user can still use locally stored nicknames and distribution lists, or type the full address string.

Distribution Lists

Distribution lists are simple text files stored in the user's mail area. These distribution lists can be shared among a group of users by using the VMS Access Control facilities and PATHWORKS.

Filing Services

ALL–IN–1 MAIL provides a filing structure of drawers and folders as well as access to RMS files. Filing services are similar in nature to VMSmail. The PC clients have the same filing structure of drawers and folders on the PC, as well as a drawer on the VMS server. The PC can also access files stored on the local PC device.

VMS-based drawers may be shared among groups of users, with each user's privileges defined by VMS access controls.

Message Retrieval

Messages can be retrieved based on user specification of certain header fields and filing structures.

File Formats

As detailed below, a number of different editors can be used with the various interfaces. A variety of file formats come with these editors. ALL–IN–1 MAIL is designed to handle various file formats with features that allow configuration for maximum readability of messages. The system allows for the automated handling of messages in ASCII, DDIF, WPS–PLUS and DX, and for invocation of other file formatting or conversion routines that conform to Digital's Compound Document Architecture (CDA), or to standard DOS and Macintosh conventions.

Beginning with Version 1.1, ALL–IN–1 MAIL can be set to perform automatic conversions of message components as they are delivered, using optional VMS-resident conversion services such as Digital's CDA Converter Library for VMS (SPD 31.31.xx) or other third-party converters such as KEYpak® for VMS (SPD 32.71.xx). This is an additional-cost option. Users' preferences can be registered in the profile. In early versions of the Macintosh and Windows™ clients, user format preferences must be registered by the system manager on the server.

For advice on interchange of specific file formats, especially across gateways, consult your local Digital office.

Help

Users can get help for ALL–IN–1 MAIL using the Help facility. Help provides basic information on how to perform the function in question without the user having to reference the documentation.

Printing

ALL–IN–1 MAIL takes advantage of Digital's standard VMS printing facilities provided under VMS and PATHWORKS for VMS.

Messaging Functions

Users can create, read, and send messages using the commands provided. Messages can contain information in a variety of file format types including Digital's Document Interchange Format for compound documents (DDIF).

Messages can be forwarded to another destination. Message attachments may include another message, a document or file, or even a binary file.

Answering a message is easy. The system automatically addresses the answer for transfer back to the original sender. The user can reply to the sender, or to all the original recipients.

Messages can be addressed to one or more users at any valid MAILbus destination (e.g., VMSmail, UNIX mail, X.400, etc.) worldwide. File formats may possibly be modified by gateways or user agents in order to make the memo readable to the recipient. Not all file formats are supported by all gateways and user agents. Care should be taken in planning the network capabilities to insure maximum readability of memos.

Notifications

Delivery and Receipt tags can be attached to a message. These tags cause a notification message to be generated and returned to the originator when the message is delivered or received.

On-line notification of new mail is handled slightly differently by each client. Please see component Software Product Descriptions for details.

Message Redirection

The user can request that all incoming messages be automatically redirected to a secondary address.

Priority-based Delivery

Users can choose priority for message delivery. The grade of delivery (express, first class, second class) can be specified. Other transport services are also available.

Message Classes

The user can set a number of indicators to give the recipient information about the nature of the message: Importance (high, medium, low), Sensitivity (not restricted, personal, private, company confidential).

Expiration dates may be applied to messages to help facilitate automatic removal over time.

These fields may also be used to locate classes of messages in the file cabinet.

System Management

Required local system management for the mail system is minimal and usually automated. A system manager or administrator is required to open a standard VMS account; most routine functions can be performed by the users. Registration of PC clients is done on the server.

There are no special utilities to run for file cabinet maintenance. One or all user areas on the server can be backed up or restored using standard VMS or PATHWORKS utilities. Management of the file structures available to the PC user are under the control of the user.

The mail management design adheres to the coordinated management system used by the MAILbus family of products. The ALL–IN–1 MAIL Server provides a management utility which allows configuration changes to be made, and the status of the mail system to be checked. Invoking this utility via the VMS SYSMAN utility allows such operations to be managed centrally.

Internationalization

ALL–IN–1 MAIL is designed to support multi-lingual operations. It can be deployed in a multi-lingual network and can support multi-lingual operations on a single server system.

For clients in other languages, refer to:

ALL–IN–1 MAIL FRANÇAIS	SPD 26.J6.xx
ALL–IN–1 MAIL ITALIANO	SPD 26.J7.xx
ALL–IN–1 MAIL DEUTSCH	SPD 26.J8.xx

ALL–IN–1 MAIL Documentation

Documentation of the installation and user procedures are included in the individual kits. The Server media kit includes system management documentation, as well as the software and installation instructions for the Server and the DECwindows and Video Terminals clients.

Packaging

ALL–IN–1 MAIL for Video Terminals, ALL–IN–1 MAIL for VMS DECwindows, and ALL–IN–1 MAIL Server for VMS are layered software products which reside on VMS. ALL–IN–1 MAIL for DOS and ALL–IN–1 MAIL for Windows are layered software products which reside on DOS. ALL–IN–1 MAIL for Macintosh is a Macintosh application which resides on Macintosh.

For product details, please refer to the Software Product Descriptions for the individual components:

ALL–IN–1 MAIL Server for VMS	SPD 39.59.xx
ALL–IN–1 MAIL Client for Video Terminals	SPD 39.59.xx
ALL–IN–1 MAIL Client for DECwindows	SPD 39.59.xx
ALL–IN–1 MAIL Client for DOS	SPD 39.58.xx
ALL–IN–1 MAIL Client for Macintosh	SPD 39.62.xx
ALL–IN–1 MAIL Client for Windows™	SPD 39.15.xx

ORDERING INFORMATION

Operation of this product requires an ALL–IN–1 MAIL Server and at least one ALL–IN–1 MAIL Client.

See the Software Product Descriptions listed above for details.

SOFTWARE PRODUCT SERVICES

A variety of service options are available from Digital. For more information, contact your local Digital office.

SOFTWARE WARRANTY

Warranty for this software product is provided by Digital with the purchase of a license for the product as defined in the Software Warranty Addendum of this SPD.