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Automatically Add Disclaimers To Outgoing Emails With alterMIME On Fedora 8

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This document describes how to install and configure alterMIME as a Postfix filter on a Fedora 8 system. The resulting system will automatically add disclaimers to outgoing emails.

This howto is a practical guide without any warranty - it doesn't cover the theoretical backgrounds. There are many ways to set up such a system - this is the way I chose.

1 Preliminary Note

A running (and properly configured) Postfix server is required for this setup.

2 Needed Package

```
yum -y install altermime
```

3 Configuration

3.1 Altermime

First we create a system-account for altermime.

```
useradd -r -c "Postfix Filters" -d /var/spool/filter filter  
  
mkdir /var/spool/filter
```

```
chown filter:filter /var/spool/filter

chmod 750 /var/spool/filter
```

Next we create a script that'll execute altermime.

```
vi /etc/postfix/disclaimer
```

It should look like this:

```
#!/bin/sh
# Localize these.
INSPECT_DIR=/var/spool/filter
SENDMAIL=/usr/sbin/sendmail.postfix

##### Changed From Original Script #####
DISCLAIMER_ADDRESSES=/etc/postfix/disclaimer_addresses
##### Changed From Original Script END #####

# Exit codes from <sysexits.h>
EX_TEMPFAIL=75
EX_UNAVAILABLE=69

# Clean up when done or when aborting.
trap "rm -f in.$$" 0 1 2 3 15

# Start processing.
cd $INSPECT_DIR || { echo $INSPECT_DIR does not exist; exit
$EX_TEMPFAIL; }
```

```
cat >in.$$ || { echo Cannot save mail to file; exit $EX_TEMPFAIL; }

##### Changed From Original Script #####
# obtain From address
from_address=`grep -m 1 "From:" in.$$ | cut -d "<" -f 2 | cut -d ">" -f 1`

if [ `grep -wi ^${from_address}$ ${DISCLAIMER_ADDRESSES}` ]; then
    /usr/bin/altermime --input=in.$$ \
        --disclaimer=/etc/postfix/disclaimer.txt \
        --disclaimer-html=/etc/postfix/disclaimer.txt \
        --xheader="X-Copyrighted-Material: Please visit http://www.company.com/privacy.htm" || \
        { echo Message content rejected; exit $EX_UNAVAILABLE; }
fi

##### Changed From Original Script END #####

$SENDMAIL "$@" <in.$$
exit $?
```

Afterwards change the group and the rights in order that altermime is allowed to execute the script.

```
chgrp filter /etc/postfix/disclaimer

chmod 750 /etc/postfix/disclaimer
```

Note: This script has been modified by Falko - disclaimers will only be added to outgoing mails.

Now create a file that contains all sender email addresses which will be processed by altermime.

```
vi /etc/postfix/disclaimer_addresses
```

This is an example how it should look like:

```
olli@example.com  
falko@example.com  
till@example.com
```

Last but not least create a file that contains the disclaimer text. Edit it as you like.

```
vi /etc/postfix/disclaimer.txt
```

For example - it could look like this:

```
-----  
EXAMPLE Company  
Examplestreet 1  
Examplecity  
  
www.example.com
```

3.2 Postfix

Now you have to tell Postfix that it should use altermime to add disclaimers to mails.

```
vi /etc/postfix/master.cf
```

Add the line `"-o content_filter=dfilt:"` (without the quotes) straight below the line for smtp. Keep in mind, that the new line has to begin with at least one whitespace.

The corresponding part should look like this:

```
smtp inet n - n - - smtpd
-o content_filter=dfilt:
```

Add the following lines at the end of the file. Keep in mind, that the line with the flags (*flags=...*) has to begin with at least one whitespace.

```
# altermime

dfilt unix - n n - - pipe
flags=Rq user=filter argv=/etc/postfix/disclaimer -f ${sender} -- ${recipient}
```

Afterwards restart Postfix.

```
/etc/init.d/postfix restart
```

4 Links

Fedora: <http://fedoraproject.org/>

alterMIME: <http://pldaniels.com/altermime/>