Mailing Lists

If you regularly converse with a local—or worldwide—group of people, a *mailing list* can greatly enhance your communications. From a user's point of view, mailing lists are both easy to use and very convenient.

Mailing lists allow people to send and receive group-wide messages at any time at any email location. The email server does all the hard work.

List users benefit from sharing the brainpower of the people in the group. For future reference, mailing lists optionally create and keep centralized archives of the group conversations.

Finally, because they participate on the list, everyone in the group can store all or some of its contents on their local computers simply by holding on to their emails.

There are two basic types of email lists—discussion groups and announcement lists.

Staying in Touch through Discussions and Annoucements.

Discussion Groups

A discussion mailing list automatically emails everyone in a group and transmits all replies to the entire group.
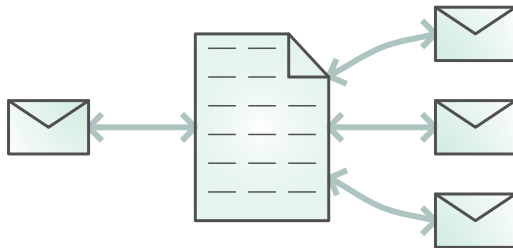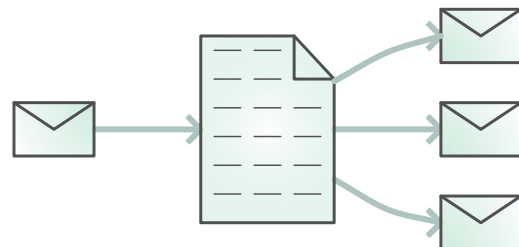

With a discussion mailing list, list members share their thoughts and receive feedback from the group.

Usually, anyone on the list can start a new discussion. In some cases, a list member can receive messages without being able to send them to the list.

Announcement Lists

An announcement mailing list transmits one-way messages, with no direct replies to the group.

If you send product notifications, press releases, policy announcements or client newsletters, as examples, a mailing list does everything you need.

One Address Goes to All

Using a mailing list is similar to adding multiple addresses to an regular email message:

	To:	person@whatever.org
	To:	whoever@domain.net
	To:	toyou@domain.com

With a mailing list, instead of sending to three, 20 or 100 addresses, you email just to the list:

To: product-planning@domain.com

To: musicnews-subscribe@domain.com
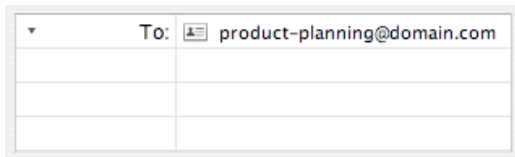
The list automatically re-sends the message to tens, hundreds or thousands of group members.

The email server takes away the hard work of creating and maintaining the mailing list. Everyone on the list uses the same centralized address book.

MDaemon's Very Flexible Mailing Lists

Easy-to-use mailing list technology comes built-in to both MDaemon Standard and MDaemon PRO. MDaemon supports both announcement and discussion lists.

You can manage MDaemon's mailing lists through its main administration program, or by using Alt-N's web-based WebAdmin application management software.

Creating a mailing list with MDaemon is as simple as supplying a list name and then adding members.
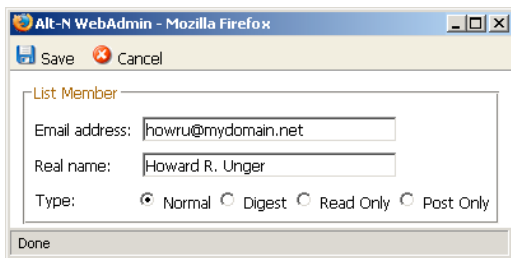
A mailing list can belong to any one domain on your MDaemon server. You can make each list private for members only or open it to anyone authorized to send mail through your MDaemon server.

MDaemon mailing lists are very flexible and designed to serve almost any type of application.

Mailing List Memberships

Each mailing list is essentially a centralized address book stored on the email server or in a data base accessible to the server.

MDaemon provides three ways to manage mailing list memberships: manual maintenance, email subscriptions and ODBC-compliant database access.

Manual maintenance is useful for adding, changing and deleting members in small lists.

Subscriptions allow members to join and leave lists at will. Using subscriptions is the most popular way of running discussion groups. With MDaemon, subscribing is as simple as sending an email:
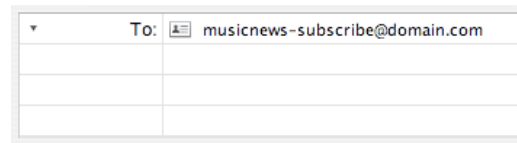
A mailing list can simply add the user to the list or send a confirmation response to make sure the user wants to subscribe.

Unsubscribing is just as easy, requiring a simple message and an optional confirmation reply.

Access to ODBC-compliant data provides a means for creating lists from already-existing data. For example, you might create an announcement mailing list from a customer database.

Mailing List Privileges

MDaemon defines mailing lists privileges for each member. With normal privileges, a member can both receive and send list messages. Members can also be restricted to send only or receive only. You might, for example, assign send-only privileges to an account used to send a newsletter to the list.

Automatic Domain and System Lists

MDaemon also automatically creates domain-specific mailing lists comprised of all accounts from each domain on the server, plus a comprehensive list of all accounts in all domains.

You can exempt individual accounts from being added to these "everyone" lists. Also, you can selectively disable the automatic lists by domain and for the server.

Moderated and Unmoderated Lists

MDaemon supports moderated mailing lists. With a moderated list, one person—the moderator—receives all messages bound for the list.
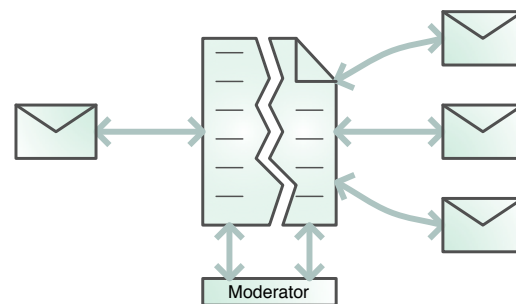
After reviewing each message, the moderator can forward or redirect it to the mailing list. The moderator can also choose to delete a message. Any list member can be the moderator.

Unmoderated lists send all email to the group, except for messages blocked by MDaemon's AntiSpam and AntiVirus[1] tools.

Individual Messages and Digests

MDaemon can distribute mailing list messages individually or combined as digests. Each mailing list can use one type of distribution or both types. When both types are active, subscribers can choose their own distribution preferences.

With the individual option, group members receive messages shortly after they arrive at a mailing list. A list sends digests when accumulated messages reach a specified size, or on a time schedule, or both.

Welcome, Header and Footer Messages

WIth MDaemon mailing lists you can create a list-specific message to automatically send to newly subscribed members. You can also make header or footer content or both to attach to each message before distributing the message to the list.

Local and "Smart Host" Mailing

MDaemon supports both local and "smart host" sending of its mailing list messages. For local sending, MDaemon emails each message to each list account. Using a smart host, MDaemon sends a single message plus the list addresses to a remote host for distribution.

Mailing Lists Features Digest

General List Options
- Mailing list and reply-to addresses
- Private or public lists
- Include, exclude list in global address book
- Member list protected from remote inquiries
- "Subject" line formatting
- "To" line formatting
- Maximum message size

Member Options
- Member email address and name
- Direct selection for members with local accounts
- Normal, Digest, Read-only and Post-only privileges
- Automatic pruning of dead accounts
- Use ODBC-compliant database as member list

Message Routing Options
- Local or "smart host" sending

Subscription Options
- Auto responder requests to subscribe and unsubscribe
- Email requests to subscribe and unsubscribe
- Authentication for subscribe and unsubscribe

Support Files Options
- Welcome message for new subscribers

- Header content for all distributed messages
- Footer content for all distributed messages
- Suppress list to prevent mailing list access.

Notification Options
- Specify the list owner
- Notify owner when a member subscribes
- Notify owner when a member unsubscribes
- Notify owner when a message exceeds the maximum size
- Notify non-members of message rejection
- Notify subscribers and unsubscribers of their status
- Specify address for returned messages

Security Options
- Specify list password
- Define password posting privileges
- Setup a list moderator
- Specify maximum membership size

Digest Options
- Setup digest scheduling times and sizes
- Setup digest format
- Define digest archive location

Public Folder Options
- Setup public folder for mailing list messages

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[1]MDaemon AntiVirus is separately licensed.