NAME

generic – Postfix generic table format

SYNOPSIS

postmap /etc/postfix/generic

postmap –q "*string***" /etc/postfix/generic**

postmap –q – /etc/postfix/generic <*inputfile*

DESCRIPTION

The optional **generic(5)** table specifies an address mapping that applies when mail is delivered. This is the opposite of **canonical(5)** mapping, which applies when mail is received.

Typically, one would use the **generic(5)** table on a system that does not have a valid Internet domain name and that uses something like *localdomain.local* instead. The **generic(5)** table is then used by the **smtp(8)** client to transform local mail addresses into valid Internet mail addresses when mail has to be sent across the Internet. See the EXAMPLE section at the end of this document.

The **generic(5)** mapping affects both message header addresses (i.e. addresses that appear inside messages) and message envelope addresses (for example, the addresses that are used in SMTP protocol commands).

Normally, the **generic(5)** table is specified as a text file that serves as input to the **postmap(1)** command. The result, an indexed file in **dbm** or **db** format, is used for fast searching by the mail system. Execute the command "**postmap /etc/postfix/generic**" to rebuild an indexed file after changing the corresponding text file.

When the table is provided via other means such as NIS, LDAP or SQL, the same lookups are done as for ordinary indexed files.

Alternatively, the table can be provided as a regular–expression map where patterns are given as regular expressions, or lookups can be directed to TCP–based server. In those case, the lookups are done in a slightly different way as described below under "REGULAR EXPRESSION TABLES" or "TCP–BASED TABLES".

CASE FOLDING

The search string is folded to lowercase before database lookup. As of Postfix 2.3, the search string is not case folded with database types such as regexp: or pcre: whose lookup fields can match both upper and lower case.

TABLE FORMAT

The input format for the **postmap(1)** command is as follows:

pattern result
: When *pattern* matches a mail address, replace it by the corresponding *result*.

blank lines and comments
: Empty lines and whitespace–only lines are ignored, as are lines whose first non–whitespace character is a '#'.

multi–line text
: A logical line starts with non–whitespace text. A line that starts with whitespace continues a logical line.

TABLE SEARCH ORDER

With lookups from indexed files such as DB or DBM, or from networked tables such as NIS, LDAP or SQL, each *user@domain* query produces a sequence of query patterns as described below.

Each query pattern is sent to each specified lookup table before trying the next query pattern, until a match is found.

user@domain address
: Replace *user@domain* by *address*. This form has the highest precedence.

user address
Replace *user@site* by *address* when *site* is equal to $**myorigin**, when *site* is listed in $**mydestination**, or when it is listed in $**inet_interfaces** or $**proxy_interfaces**.

@domain address
Replace other addresses in *domain* by *address*. This form has the lowest precedence.

RESULT ADDRESS REWRITING

The lookup result is subject to address rewriting:

- When the result has the form *@otherdomain*, the result becomes the same *user* in *otherdomain*.
- When "**append_at_myorigin=yes**", append "**@$myorigin**" to addresses without "@domain".
- When "**append_dot_mydomain=yes**", append "**.$mydomain**" to addresses without ".domain".

ADDRESS EXTENSION

When a mail address localpart contains the optional recipient delimiter (e.g., *user+foo@domain*), the lookup order becomes: *user+foo@domain*, *user@domain*, *user+foo*, *user*, and *@domain*.

The **propagate_unmatched_extensions** parameter controls whether an unmatched address extension (*+foo*) is propagated to the result of table lookup.

REGULAR EXPRESSION TABLES

This section describes how the table lookups change when the table is given in the form of regular expressions. For a description of regular expression lookup table syntax, see **regexp_table(5)** or **pcre_table(5)**.

Each pattern is a regular expression that is applied to the entire address being looked up. Thus, *user@domain* mail addresses are not broken up into their *user* and *@domain* constituent parts, nor is *user+foo* broken up into *user* and *foo*.

Patterns are applied in the order as specified in the table, until a pattern is found that matches the search string.

Results are the same as with indexed file lookups, with the additional feature that parenthesized substrings from the pattern can be interpolated as **$1**, **$2** and so on.

TCP-BASED TABLES

This section describes how the table lookups change when lookups are directed to a TCP–based server. For a description of the TCP client/server lookup protocol, see **tcp_table(5)**. This feature is not available up to and including Postfix version 2.4.

Each lookup operation uses the entire address once. Thus, *user@domain* mail addresses are not broken up into their *user* and *@domain* constituent parts, nor is *user+foo* broken up into *user* and *foo*.

Results are the same as with indexed file lookups.

EXAMPLE

The following shows a generic mapping with an indexed file. When mail is sent to a remote host via SMTP, this replaces *his@localdomain.local* by his ISP mail address, replaces *her@localdomain.local* by her ISP mail address, and replaces other local addresses by his ISP account, with an address extension of *+local* (this example assumes that the ISP supports "+" style address extensions).

/etc/postfix/main.cf:
smtp_generic_maps = hash:/etc/postfix/generic

/etc/postfix/generic:
his@localdomain.local hisaccount@hisisp.example
her@localdomain.local heraccount@herisp.example
@localdomain.local hisaccount+local@hisisp.example

Execute the command "**postmap /etc/postfix/generic**" whenever the table is changed. Instead of **hash**, some systems use **dbm** database files. To find out what tables your system supports use the command "**postconf –m**".

BUGS

The table format does not understand quoting conventions.

CONFIGURATION PARAMETERS

The following **main.cf** parameters are especially relevant. The text below provides only a parameter summary. See **postconf(5)** for more details including examples.

smtp_generic_maps
Address mapping lookup table for envelope and header sender and recipient addresses while delivering mail via SMTP.

propagate_unmatched_extensions
A list of address rewriting or forwarding mechanisms that propagate an address extension from the original address to the result. Specify zero or more of **canonical**, **virtual**, **alias**, **forward**, **include**, or **generic**.

Other parameters of interest:

inet_interfaces
The network interface addresses that this system receives mail on. You need to stop and start Postfix when this parameter changes.

proxy_interfaces
Other interfaces that this machine receives mail on by way of a proxy agent or network address translator.

mydestination
List of domains that this mail system considers local.

myorigin
The domain that is appended to locally−posted mail.

owner_request_special
Give special treatment to **owner−***xxx* and *xxx*−**request** addresses.

SEE ALSO

postmap(1),
Postfix lookup table manager
postconf(5),
configuration parameters
smtp(8),
Postfix SMTP client

README FILES

Use "**postconf readme_directory**" or "**postconf html_directory**" to locate this information.
ADDRESS_REWRITING_README, address rewriting guide
DATABASE_README, Postfix lookup table overview
STANDARD_CONFIGURATION_README, configuration examples

LICENSE

The Secure Mailer license must be distributed with this software.

HISTORY

A genericstable feature appears in the Sendmail MTA.

This feature is available in Postfix 2.2 and later.

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