

WINLINK 2000 SPAM CONTROL AND MESSAGE PRECEDENCE

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EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, THE WHITELIST FOR EACH USER IS MANDATORY. THE WHITELIST ONLY INVOLVES ADDRESSES *FROM THE INTERNET* AND NOT WINLINK-TO-WINLINK USERS *OR* OUTBOUND MAIL FROM A WINLINK USER TO THE INTERNET.

WHITELIST: ANY MESSAGE TO A WINLINK USER *FROM THE INTERNET* (only) must be from a sender's address or domain name that is in the Winlink user's recipients' whitelist. Exception below:

BYPASSING THE WHITELIST: AS AN OPTION, the sender must include the character sequence //WL2K R/ in the subject line of the message. If //WL2K R/ is found in the subject line, the message will be accepted and forwarded to all recipients, including Winlink users of the message.

Example:

Subject://WL2K R/(then any other normal subject content to follow).

If the sender is not in the recipients' whitelist and no //WL2K R/ is found in the subject line the message will be rejected with a reference to the Winlink WEB page where instructions for sending WL2K messages will be found.

There will be certain exceptions. Messages from the saildocs.com, sailmail.com, and other specific domains will be accepted unconditionally except where a recipient specifically blocks the domain name in their whitelist.

Under these conditions, unless the subject line contains //WL2K, R/, you will ONLY receive E-MAIL messages that you have recorded in your own whitelist.

ADDING INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESSES TO YOUR PERSONAL WHITELIST:

IMPORTANT: 1. Each message you send to an Internet E-mail address from Winlink will be automatically recorded in your Whitelist.

2. You may send a special message to the SYSTEM, giving it instructions for changes to your whitelist.

3. You may manipulate your individual whitelist via your WEBMAIL account.

To ADD, DELETE, REJECT OR ACCEPT Internet E-MAIL addresses in your personal whitelist over-the-air or via Telnet, a special message should contain the information below, one line per individual instruction. Examples are given below. These are NOT case sensitive:

USING THE WHITELIST:

NOTE: Again, the Whitelist will contain all e-mail addresses sent FROM your Winlink e-mail address, and retain these Internet e-mail addresses for a period of 400 days from your last e-mail to that address. You may also send a special message to add, accept, delete, or reject an e-mail address. Specific directions described below.

ONLY as a user, and from in the system, sending the following message To: SYSTEM with Subject: WHITELIST will assist you in controlling your own individual Whitelist. In the message body, the following options are available. In the message body of this special message, you may put the following:

LIST: - will return a list of all whitelist entries for the user.

ACCEPT: jblow@somewhere.com - will allow messages from jblow@somewhere.com to be accepted. You may send multiple lines, each containing one e-mail address.

REJECT: jblow@somewhere.com - will reject any messages from jblow@somewhere.com. You may send multiple lines, each containing one e-mail address.

DELETE: jblow@somewhere.com - will remove jblow@somewhere.com from the your Whitelist. You may send multiple lines, each containing one e-mail address per line.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Domain Entries without the "@" will be treated as "domain names" only. For example if "ACCEPT: arrl.org" were entered, then ANY message from that "domain name" (arrl.org) would be accepted.

An example of such a message to control the Whitelist:

TO: SYSTEM

Subject: WHITELIST

Accept: Joe@somewhere.com < This is in the Message Body

Another example:

TO: SYSTEM

Subject: WHITELIST

Accept: Joe@somewhere.com

Accept: Bill@someplace.net

Accept: Judy@noplac.org

Delete: joan@overthere.com

Delete: steve@someplace.net

Reject: ed@thatplace.net

Reject: nogood.com

Accept: sailmail.com

Accept: ARRL.org

Accept: ARRL.net

USING WINLINK WEBMAIL TO CONTROL THE WHITELIST ENTRIES:

It is strongly recommended that each Winlink 2000 user set up a password for their Winlink account. This may be done in WEBMAIL since your WEBMAIL account will have a page that controls your Whitelist.

ABOUT MESSAGE PRECEDENCE (PRIORITY):

Winlink 2000 utilizes a Message Precedence System, which follows the United States Military procedures for message priority. Essentially, any message is sent with a routine precedence, //WL2K R/, unless otherwise designated. These designations are listed below and are to be used only when high priority messages are sent. Any precedence higher than "R" or routine should be carefully considered before sending.

Introduction:

A process for MESSAGE PRECEDENCE handling for *Internet* traffic on the Amateur Radio Winlink 2000 Radio E-mail Network System has been implemented. All messaging passing between users of the Winlink 2000 system and Internet e-mail now require message precedence headers in the subject line UNLESS the Internet e-mail address of the originator/recipient is in the user's whitelist (See Whitelist instructions.) In other words, the Message Precedence System bypasses the whitelist.

Considering that emergency e-mail to and from areas that would not otherwise have access to Internet e-mail, can become targets for an exceptional amount of traffic within short timeframes; and considering the slow nature of an HF radio link, having an ability to prioritize messages of importance that exceed a routine priority is paramount to the success of such communications. In addition, with the message precedence system in place, SPAM should be totally eliminated. This is critical when considering the size and number of unwanted e-mail now invading the Internet e-mail system and the slower speeds of radio e-mail.

Message Precedence Categories:

Precedence categories are Flash (Z), Immediate (O), Priority (P), and Routine (R). Flash and Immediate messages are reserved for urgent.

The precedence indicator is included in a Winlink message by adding one of the following to *the beginning* of the subject line in a message whether originated from Internet email or within the Winlink system.

//WL2K Z/ - Flash (for urgent message use only)
//WL2K O/ - Immediate (for urgent message use only)
//WL2K P/ - Priority
//WL2K R/ - Routine (Default)

“Reply” and “forward” messages will be treated with the same priority as the original unless the precedence indicator is changed in the subject line when replying or forwarding.

Here are some examples of acceptable subject lines using the precedence indicators:

//WL2K Z/EOC FLOODING
//WL2K O/SHELTER STATUS - FULL
//WL2K P/Food and bedding inventory request
//WL2K R/Supplies received
Re://WL2K R/Generator manual needed
FW://WL2K R/Please bring Gasoline

Unless there is some special circumstance Routing precedence //WL2K R/) should be used.

Error messages:

Example of a Rejection message sent to an Internet e-mail originator who sent a message to a Winlink user without a precedence indicator in the subject:

-----Original Message-----

From: Mail Delivery System [<mailto:mailer-daemon@comcast.net>]

Sent: Sunday, November 23, 2008 9:04 AM
To: aaa9ac@comcast.net
Subject: Delivery status notification

This is an automatically generated Delivery Status Notification.

Delivery to the following recipients was aborted after 1 second(s):

* k4cjx@winlink.org