Eudora Address Book Conduit README
April 5, 2001

Limitations:

The Eudora Address Book Conduit is intended to allow a single Palm user to sync with a single instance of Eudora. If you run multiple copies of Eudora on your machine, the conduit can be configured to synchronize with only one of them. See Set Up below for instructions.

The Eudora Address Book Conduit is designed to replace the Address Conduit included with the Palm Sync software. Due to limitations in the Palm Conduit APIs, there is no supported way to synchronize both your Palm Desktop Software and the Eudora Address Book.

Functionality:

The Eudora Address Book Conduit is intended to synchronize your Eudora Address Book Files with the Address Book database on your Palm Handheld.

Requirements:

To use the Eudora Address Book conduit, you must have a Palm Computing handheld device of some sort. You must also have the latest version (2.6) of the Palm HotSync software installed on your computer. You can download the latest software from Palm at <http://www.palm.com/support/macintosh/>. Finally, Eudora 5.1b1 or newer is also required.

Setup:

1. Backup your data

Since this is beta software, it is highly recommended that you back up your data before using the conduit. You should backup both your Eudora nickname files and the data on your Palm handheld:

Make sure the data in your Palm handheld is backed up. Synchronize it with the Palm Desktop Software, for example, to do this.

Locate your active Eudora folder. Make a backup of the "Eudora Nicknames" file, as well as the "Nicknames Folder".

Note: In Eudora, you can turn on automatic nickname file backups with <x-eudora-setting:193=y> as well. Each time you add or delete a contact, or perform a sync operation, your nickname files will be automatically backed up to your Spool folder within your active Eudora folder

2. Install the conduit

Locate the Palm Desktop Software folder. This is the folder that contains the active copy of the Serial Port Monitor. It will be inside of the folder installed by the Palm Desktop software.

Place the Eudora Address Book conduit into the conduits folder.

Remove the Address Conduit, and any other conduit that synchronizes the address book from this folder.

-OR-

Select "Conduit Settings" from the HotSync menu. The HotSync software will allow you to disable duplicate conduits.

3. Configure the conduit

In most cases, you can simply launch the instance of Eudora you would like the conduit to sync with, and press the HotSync button on your cradle. The conduit will automatically configure itself to sync with the running copy of Eudora and start.

If you need to change which copy of Eudora the conduit should sync your Palm with, or change any of the sync options, you can access the conduit settings screen from the "Conduit Settings" item in the Palm Desktop Software menu. When you double-click the Eudora Address Book Conduit in the Palm Desktop's Conduit Settings dialog, the following settings dialog is displayed:
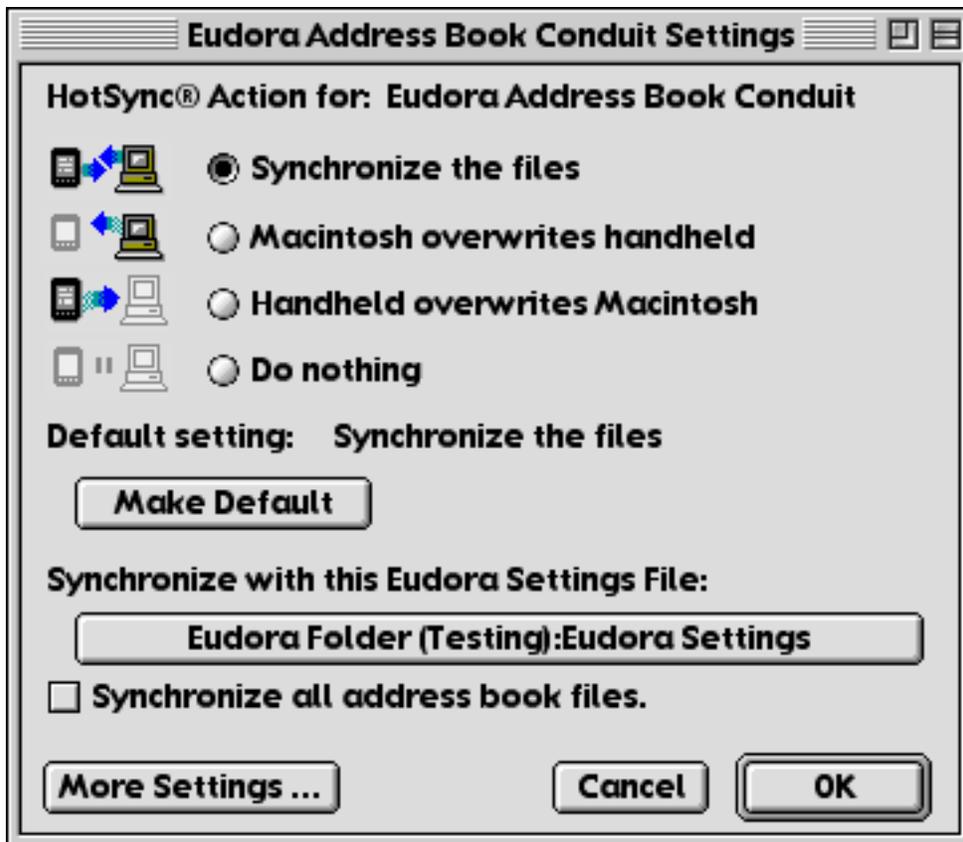
The radio buttons may be used to determine what kind of synchronization will be done the next time a HotSync is performed:

Synchronize the files will synchronize contacts on your Mac and Handheld device.
Macintosh overwrites handheld will cause all of the contacts on the handheld to be replaced with the contacts in Eudora.
Handheld overwrites Macintosh will replace all of your contacts in Eudora with data from your Handheld.

Do Nothing disables the conduit completely.

The "Make Default" button makes the currently selected HotSync action the default action. That is, it causes whatever action is selected to be performed each time you do a HotSync.

The settings file selection button allows you to locate a certain Eudora settings file you would like the conduit to synchronize with. This button is useful if you need to change which instance of Eudora the conduit syncs with.

Checking the "Synchronize all address book files" checkbox will tell the conduit to synchronize all of your address books files in Eudora, and not just the Eudora Nickname files. By default, only your Eudora Nicknames file is synchronized. When synchronizing all Address Book files, all contacts are saved to the Palm. New contacts added from the Palm are synced to your main Eudora Nicknames file.

Hit the More Settings buttons to access some of the more esoteric conduit settings:
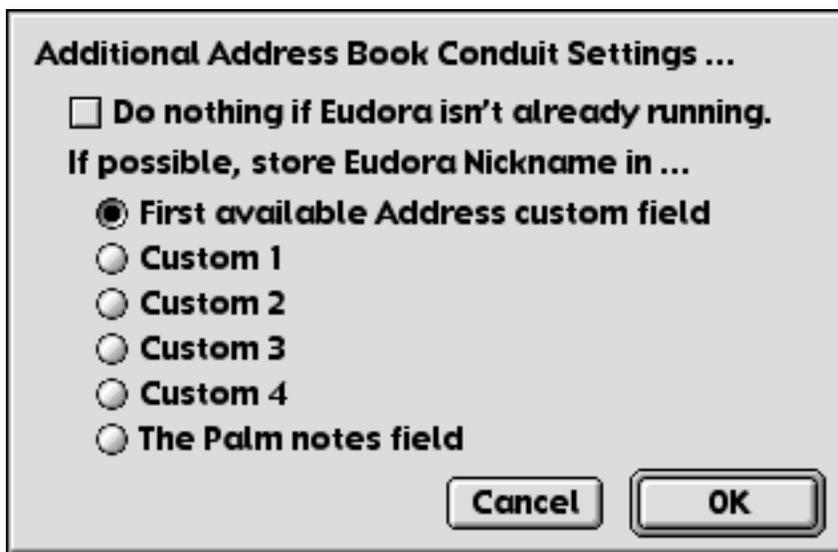
Checking the "Do Nothing if Eudora isn't already running" checkbox will prevent the conduit from synchronizing the address book during a HotSync operation unless Eudora is already open and running. This is useful if you'd like to limit address book synchronization to those times where Eudora is already up and running.

The radio buttons can be used to tell the conduit where to store the "Eudora Nickname" field when copying contacts from Eudora to the handheld. The Address database on the Palm does not include a nickname field. By default, the conduit will store the Eudora nickname in the first available custom field in a new palm record, or use the note field if all customs are filled. You can tell the conduit to attempt to place the Eudora Nickname in a specific custom field – this is useful if you've renamed one of the custom fields and reserved it for this purpose. You may also choose to have the conduit place the Eudora Nickname in the note field. This is wise if you've set up your custom fields, and are using them for other things.

4. Perform a HotSync operation

Press the HotSync button on your cradle. The contacts in your Eudora Address Books will be added to the address database on your Palm device, and the contacts on your Palm will be added to your Eudora Nickname file. You may want to go through and remove duplicate entries that appear after this initial sync.

Special Notes:

The conduit is designed to synchronize the Eudora Nickname files while Eudora is running. If Eudora is not running when a HotSync operation is performed, the conduit will launch the correct instance of Eudora. The "Do Nothing" checkbox in the conduit settings can be used to change this behavior. When checked, the conduit will simply not sync with Eudora unless Eudora is already up and running.

The conduit will fail to synchronize the address book if the Address Book window is open in Eudora, and there are unsaved changes. The sync will complete, but the Conduit Manager will report an error. Make sure the address book is saved before you perform a HotSync operation. The conduit will fail to synchronize the address book if you modify any contacts during a sync operation. Try to avoid this, if at all possible. The sync will complete, but the Conduit Manager will report an error.

You can force the conduit to do a "slow sync" by holding down the shift key before the conduit starts up. A slow sync will sync all contacts, not just the modified ones. Try a slow sync if there are contacts on either the handheld or in the Eudora client that aren't being synced. This will result in duplicates, but will insure that every contact is copied to both the PC and the handheld device.

Known Issues:

There are several known issues with this release of the conduit. These will be addressed in a future release:

-   Categories are not yet supported. They are maintained, but not accessible from the Eudora interface. A future version of the Eudora client and conduit should support this.
-   Address Book window flicker – occasionally, a field in the address book will flicker after a HotSync. The workaround is to close and reopen the Address Book window.
-   If the Conduit manager consistently reports a –43 error, open the conduit settings screen and select the copy of Eudora you wish to sync with.
-   A single contact in Eudora with more than about 32K of data will cause the conduit to abort.

Feedback:

Please send email to mac-eudora-bugs@qualcomm.com if you encounter any strange or confusing behavior. Of interest are a detailed explanation of the problem you've encountered, as well as a copy of your Eudora Nicknames file.

Feel free and submit any suggestions or ideas you may have as well.