Distribution

The distribution of MacPGP Control contains:

1. the application itself,
2. this manual application file,
3. items you should place into the Scripting Additions folder inside your Extensions folder inside your active System Folder. These items are grouped inside a Put in Scripting Additions folder.

Note: I had to do this because of errors I was getting and which are apparently due (among other things) to a bug/feature in FaceSpan when it comes to handling/calling osaxen with more than one verb defined within them.

he MPGPC Manual is what you're reading now. It's a good idea to turn on Balloon Help for the first few times you use the application, until you get more acquainted with its idiosyncrasies. This is now made easy thanks to the addition of (a) the Help button in most of MPGPC dialogs and windows, and (b) the inclusion of ACME Script Widget's Balloon Help osax.

Requirements

You need to have:

1. The Scriptable Finder,

2. Geneva font family,

3. MacPGP (tested with the 2.6.3i and 2.6.2 versions),

4. The following additional extensions should be in the Extensions folder inside the System Folder:

— AppleScript™,
— Finder Scripting Extension,
— FaceSpan Extension v2.0.1.

5. The following osaxen which should be part of the standard distribution of the Scriptable Finder, and which should reside in the Scripting Additions folder inside the Extensions folder:

— Choose File,
— Display Dialog,
— File Commands,
— Load Script,
— New File,
— Numerics,
— programmer's tool,
— Read/Write Commands,
— Store Script,
— String Commands.

Because of some incompatibilities between the following osaxen and FaceSpan, I elected not to embed them in MPGPC, you should copy them into your Scripting Additions folder:

— From the GTQ Scripting Library 1.2 ©1994 Gregory T. Quinn, with permission:
+ Object Database.

— From the FaceSpan distribution:
+ Any2Str (I'm still waiting for permission from SDU to include this in MPGPC's distribution).

Note: This version indeed has the following osaxen embedded within its code:

— From the GTQ Scripting Library 1.2 ©1994 Gregory T. Quinn, with permission:
+ Extract Resource,
+ Add Resource,
+ Record Sound To.

— From ACME Script Widgets ©1994-95 Wayne K. Walrath, with permission:
+ Balloon Help Demo.

— The TCP/IP Scripting Addition (1.1.2 unregistered), ©1993-94 Mango Tree Software with permission from Atul Butte – MD.

6. Eudora (either the freeware or the commercial version) if you want to use the interaction features. Eudora Pro 2.1.3 and Eudora Light (1.5.3) are OK.

First time you run MacPGP Control

The first time you run MacPGP Control, you will be asked to locate Eudora and MacPGP applications. If you do not use Eudora as your email application you have two options:

1. When MPGPC asks you to select Eudora, select instead an application that is not scriptable —AppleScript Script Editor is such an application; most of the utilities are not scriptable as well.

2. Install the Eudora freeware, select it when you're asked to do so and then remove it from your disk.

If you update the MacPGP application to a newer version, but still keep somewhere on you mounted disk volumes the previous one, MPGPC will continue to address the old version and ignore the new one UNLESS THE NEW APPLICATION IS ALREADY RUNNING. To benefit from the new version in conjunction with MacPGP Control, you have to completely remove old versions of referenced applications. You can do this by either making a backup copy(ies) before deleting them or -what I do- compact them with any compression software such as StuffIt [Lite], Compact Pro, Norton Fastback, etc…

The first time you run the application, you will get a feedback message that MPGPC was not able to locate a Preferences file. This is the only time you will get this message since from that moment on, MPGPC creates one in

the Preferences folder in your active System Folder. At the end of each working session, MPGPC renames this file MPGPC Preferences.bak after it trashes any file with this name if found in the Preferences folder. A new MPGPC Preferences file is then created with the latest preferences.

When you upgrade to a newer version

If you set the Eudora Start notification process in an older version of MPGPC, you might need to Stop it first before installing a newer version. This is because the information about what process Eudora should notify is saved in a resource inside the Eudora Preferences file you launched when you first started the notification process.

If you fail to do so, you might get annoying messages (more than once) from Eudora every time it checks for mail telling you of its inability to find an unknown application.

MacPGP Options

For MacPGP Control to work properly with MacPGP the following options should be pre-set:

- Verbose

"Under this mode to display maximum information, usually to help diagnose problems in PGP. Not recommended for normal use. (Under key generation the mode reveals the internal mathematical parameters used in the RSA process.)." [MacPGP Manual]

Uncheck this option.

- Quiet Mode

"In quiet mode, MacPGP outputs minimal amounts of information during operations." [MacPGP Manual]

Check this option.

- Batch Mode

"With the Batch flag enabled, MacPGP will not ask any "unneccessary" questions or prompt for alternate filenames. This is useful for running PGP non-interactively." [MacPGP Manual]

Uncheck this option.

- Overwrite files

"In the regular PGP package this is called the "force flag." When the option is on, MacPGP will NOT prompt you before overwriting files during e.g. decryption. Instead it will just remove (not wipe) the existing file and replace it with the newly decrypted file of the same name." [MacPGP Manual]

Check this option.

- Wipe warning

Turning this switch on causes MacPGP to warn and prompt anytime a file is about to be “wiped” (irreversably erased) under the “wipe file” checkbox option under Decryption." [MacPGP Manual]

Uncheck this option.

• Recycle passwords

“Under this option MacPGP remembers passwords that were entered at any point during its execution for the duration of the execution so the user does not need to retype them. Be careful with this option; if you leave the computer without exiting the application someone could sign documents with your signature or decrypt private messages to you.” [MacPGP Manual]

Check this option. Although not mandatory, checking this option will minimize timeout events that might occur within the execution of MacPGP Control actions. MacPGP Control uses two timeout values: one is the 2 minutes default timeout allowed by AppleScript, and the other is a 30 minutes time limit with some normally lengthy actions such as public/secret key-pair generation (needed for generating 2Kbit-length keys).