

Formall - Documentation (Draft)

Purpose: This program assists in the creation of HTML forms to be used with AnalogX's Simple Server program and CGIMLS version 2.xx. It prompts the user for various responses, and builds three files to handle the integration. An HTM file that is the primary form. A TXT file that contains information for CGIMLS. Finally the special HTM file for handling the required field checks.

These files are created in the current directory.

New New addition - Program will prompt to create defaults file if not exist

New addition - defaults file to setup custom defaults. Simple text file

Filename Defaults

Line 1 - URL for success	http://guam.packet.org/thanks.html	
Line 2 - smtp server	guam.packet.org	
Line 3 - TONAME name	Michael D. Setzer II	
Line 4 - TOEMAIL address	mikes@kuentos.guam.net	
Line 5 - MLSDATA directory	c:\www\cgi-bin\mlsdata\	{requires ending \}

If this file is created, blank entries for these options will select defaults.

Steps of Running the Program:

Step 1: Run Program - Formall

Filename must be 8 characters or less, no spaces

Enter Name of Form to Create->

(Program is written in Borland C++ Version 3.1, so doesn't support long file names)

(Program will check if file with this name already exist, and doesn't continue to avoid overwriting forms created)

Special Note: I've made some minor changes to the source code to make it work with C++ Builder 5 compiler as well as the 3.1. This compiled version supports long file names.

Example:

Filename must be 8 characters of less, no spaces

Enter Name of Form to Create->FORM1

Note: Formall5 can accept long file names, and the program will remove all non-character/digits.

It appears the filename doesn't work in the mlsdata directory with these.

Step 2: Form Title

Enter Title for Form->

(The Title is used as the title for the HTML and is centered and at Font +3 at the top of the form)

Example:

Enter Title for Form->Form1 Title

Step 3: Description

Description->

(Description is a second Title Line, also centered and at Font +5)

Example:

Description->Form 1 Description

Step 4: Option to add additional text to the Form before questions. (Such as instructions)

You can enter plain text lines or HTML Code
(Such as instructions)
Some Sample Code text to bold some text
<I>text</I> to Italic text
<CENTER>text</CENTER> to center text
<HR> for a Horizontal line
An image link could also be added.

Enter the text you wish to add, Just press enter when done

Example after above text appears.

Just Press Enter again to add no additional text

Example to add additional text

```
<CENTER><BOLD>Please Take your Time</BOLD></CENTER>  
<CENTER>Good Luck!</CENTER>  
<CENTER></CENTER>  
<HR>  
just press enter to stop
```

***Note: after each line is entered, it places a
 and if an image is entered you need to enter the path to image since if an error occurs, cgimls program displays the other form in a different location.***

Step 5: Option to add code for requesting the user name

This will add a prompt for User Name as a Required Field
Do you wish to ask for user Name (Y or N)

Note:

Entering Y causes the program to add a text input field to ask for the user name, and will later add the code to display the error message if the field is left blank. It will also use this field as the From: for the email address.

Enter N will do nothing at this point, but at the end, you will be prompted for the From Email field to be placed in the TXT file. I generally use anonymous if the name is not used. The anonymous id is used for anonymous ftp, and I create the same id for my mail server.

Step 6: Option to add code for requesting the email address.

This will request a valid Email address as a Required Field
Additionally, it will check the format of what is entered
Do you wish to ask for user email (Y or N)

Note:

Entering Y causes program to add a text input field to ask for the user email, and will later add the code to display the error message if the field is left blank or a message if what is entered doesn't follow the email format. It will also use this field as the Fromemail: for the email address.

Enter N will do nothing at this point, but at the end, you will be prompted for the From Email address field to be placed in the TXT file. I generally use anonymous@smtphost if the name is not used. (Special note: this may need to be a valid email address, since the smtp server may reject it if not a valid local email.) I use Mercury as my Mail server, and it rejects mail that is from an invalid address, if an outside invalid address is used, but sent to a local address, it is accepted.

Step 7: Entering Questions, Extra Text, or stopping

Questions are auto number, so you only need to enter question
to add non question material enter a ~ **tilde**
Enter Question Title->

To enter a question, enter the text, then press enter.
To add extra text, just enter a ~
Refer to Step 4.

Step 7a: Entering Questions

Enter Question Title->What is your Major?

Currently this doesn't work for checkboxes (**Required field option**)
Is this a required question? (Y or N)

Note: Entering Y will add this question to the required list, and will add extra code to the htm file used by cgimls to produce error messages. This works for all type except checkboxes since each option on a checkbox has a different name. Entering N will make the field completely optional.

Step 7b: Question Type

Select Type of Question

A - Text (Single Line)

B - Text Area (Multi-Line)

C - Check Box (Multi-Check Option)

D - Radio Button (Single Check)

E - Selection

Option A:

Prompt for size of text field

This is the number of Characters

ENTER SIZE OF COLUMN->

Option B:

Prompt for size of text area field

This is the number of Characters

ENTER SIZE OF COLUMN->

This is the number of Lines

ENTER SIZE OF ROWS->

Option C:

Prompt for Check box options

Number of CHECKBOX options->

Prompt to place check box entries in a table or one per line.

Put CHECKBOX BOX in Table? Enter 0 for one or number of columns.

Note: 0 give a single column

a number equal to the entries give 1 row of that many columns

a number less than entries but greater than 1 makes multiple rows and columns.

Prompt for CHECKBOX options

Enter Other for the last option to add a user text field

Enter Option (?) ->

Note: The ? Will be the option number. The other option adds a text field, and will span additional columns if they are available.

Option D:

Prompt for Radio button options

Number of RADIO options->

Prompt to place Radio entries in a table or one per line.

Put RADIO BOX in Table? Enter 0 for one or number of columns.

Note: 0 give a single column

a number equal to the entries give 1 row of that many columns

a number less than entries but greater than 1 makes multiple rows and columns.

Prompt for RADIO options

Enter Other for the last option to add a user text field

Enter Option (?) ->

Note: The ? Will be the option number. The other option adds a text field, and will span additional columns if they are available.

Option E:

Prompt for Select options

Number of Select options->

Option ->

Step 7b: Entering additional non question text

Just enter a single ~ **tilde** to do Step 4 again.

Step 7c: Finishing this process

Just press Enter to finish

Step 8: Request if info is to be written to MLSDATA log file

CGIMLS creates daily log files if the log directory is created, and this can then be converted to a database if needed.

Currently, the choice is only Y for all or N for none.

This places the LOG: line in the TXT file or Not. I could be edited later.

Step 9: Enter the Success Web Page

Example: <http://guam.packet.org/good.htm>

Enter the URL of the web page that the user will go to after successfully submitting this form->

Step 10: Request SMTP Server Name

This is the SMTP (Simple Mail Transport Protocol) Server that Processes the mail. Example: guam.packet.org

Enter the SMTP Server to use->

Note: I have Mercury (www.pmail.com) running as my mail server on a Windows 95 box. It is a freeware program (author sales manuals to support development). I recommend using the beta version that is available at: <ftp://risc.ua.edu/pegasus-previews/>

Step 11: Email Name to send to

The name of the person or group to send mail to: John Doe

Enter the TO: Email name->

Note: I use mail list on Mercury to process the mail to allow for sending form to multiple users and also to use the mailing lists archival function to keep all the forms in archival file(s).

Step 12: Email Address to send to:

The email address of the person or group to send mail to:

johndoe@guam.packet.org

Enter the TOEMAIL address->

Note: This must be an email address that your SMTP server will accept as valid. Running the server on the same machine as the SMTP server makes this easy

SPECIAL NOTE: If you didn't ask for the User Name and/or Email address, you will be prompted for them.

At conclusion

You have now finished creating your form

The following three files have been created filename.htm,filenameemls,filenameetxt

The htm file can be placed in your regular web directory

The txt file needs to be placed in the \cgi-bin\mlsdata directory

The mls file needs to be placed in the \cgi-bin\mldata directory\n\tand renamed to htm

If your AnalogX root directory is \\www the following batch commands would work

Batch file mlstxt.bat

```
copy %1.txt \\www\cgi-bin\mlsdata\%1.txt
```

```
copy %1.mls \\www\cgi-bin\mlsdata\%1.htm
```

With the latest option, you will be prompted if you want to copy the txt and mls files to the default location and rename the mls.