

OVFax Server V3 R2.0 Summary of Changes

February 22, 2005

- **OVFax Server will not terminate after errors.**

In previous versions, errors resulted in the server aborting. This has been changed so that the server logs the error, and continues to run.

- **Add AUTOSTART command line option.**

This is a new command line option, added to permit the OVFax server to be started automatically, without user intervention. The server will startup without the 2 enters normally required... 1) "hit enter to continue, esc to end", and 2) "hit enter when CICS is available".

When AUTOSTART is specified, the server will immediately enter a short delay, and then begin polling the Host. The delay allows some time for the 3270 emulator session to be acquired by CICS. During this time, the screen displays the message, "Autostart in progress - currently waiting for the host".

The 'Autostart delay' value can be set using the FAXADMIN application, on the communications setup panel.

- **Log error messages to the Windows event log.**

Error messages issued by the OVFAX Server are now written to the Windows event log. This can be disabled using a new command line option, NOEVENT.

All OVFax Server events use an application id of OVFax. The event id matches the error message number (as documented in the OVFax Server Guide). The message text is identical to that already issued by the server. In addition, event messages are issued at startup and shutdown, giving the servers name and version number.

During OVFax Server operation, should any error arise during the issuing of a message to the event log, an error message indicating this will be issued to the servers message panel (onscreen), and to the servers own log (if the LOG command line option was specified). To prevent an excess of these messages, they will not be issued more than once per hour.

The following details are provided only as background information for administrators. The FAXSERV application automatically handles the registration described below.

To issue messages to the event log, an application must be registered, with the location of its message DLL. This registration is checked during OVFax Server startup.

- 1) The registry should contain an entry for OVFax at the following key
"SYSTEM \ CurrentControlSet \ Services \ EventLog \ Application \ OVFax"
- 2) The "eventmessagefile" key should contain the value...

"%SystemRoot% \ System32 \ OVFaxMsg.dll"

When either of the above is not found, then OVFax is registered, with these values. The OVFaxMsg.dll file is copied from the current working directory to the location in the above key.

- **Add NOEVENT command line option**

When this command line option is specified, the server will not write log messages to the NT event log.

- **Host error messages limited to once every 30 minutes.**

To limit the number of messages that may get logged to the event log during 'normal' operating conditions, these messages will only be issued once every 30 minutes, rather than at each polling interval.

- **Minor cosmetic enhancements**

The sample cover sheet (dummy.pck) was updated to show Version 3 Release 2.0
The bottom line on the screen, in both the FAXSERV and FAXADMIN applications, was difficult to read as there was insufficient contrast against the background. The text colour was changed to white, to improve readability.

Testing Summary

This version of the OV/Fax server has been tested on,
Windows 2000 Server, and Windows 2003 Server, using,
GammaFax Cpi/100 fax card,
Dialogic system release 5.11 software (with GDK 5.0),
IBM Personal Communications V5.6

No problems were encountered.

Known problems

A loop will occur in FAXSERVER, when more than 1 test fax is created using the same reference number. These are created using FAXADMIN, option 4.3 (Outbound Test Fax setup). To avoid this problem, do not create more than one test fax, with the same reference number.

In normal operation, each fax request will get a unique reference#.