NAME

tcp_table - Postfix client/server table lookup protocol

SYNOPSIS

postmap -q "*string***" tcp:***host:port*

postmap -q - tcp:*host:port* <*inputfile*

DESCRIPTION

The Postfix mail system uses optional tables for address rewriting or mail routing. These tables are usually in **dbm** or **db** format. Alternatively, table lookups can be directed to a TCP server.

To find out what types of lookup tables your Postfix system supports use the "**postconf -m**" command.

To test lookup tables, use the "**postmap -q**" command as described in the SYNOPSIS above.

PROTOCOL DESCRIPTION

The TCP map class implements a very simple protocol: the client sends a request, and the server sends one reply. Requests and replies are sent as one line of ASCII text, terminated by the ASCII newline character. Request and reply parameters (see below) are separated by whitespace.

Send and receive operations must complete in 100 seconds.

REQUEST FORMAT

Each request specifies a command, a lookup key, and possibly a lookup result.

get SPACE *key* NEWLINE
> Look up data under the specified key.

put SPACE *key* SPACE *value* NEWLINE
> This request is currently not implemented.

REPLY FORMAT

Each reply specifies a status code and text. Replies must be no longer than 4096 characters including the newline terminator.

500 SPACE *text* NEWLINE
> In case of a lookup request, the requested data does not exist. In case of an update request, the request was rejected. The text describes the nature of the problem.

400 SPACE *text* NEWLINE
> This indicates an error condition. The text describes the nature of the problem. The client should retry the request later.

200 SPACE *text* NEWLINE
> The request was successful. In the case of a lookup request, the text contains an encoded version of the requested data.

ENCODING

In request and reply parameters, the character %, each non-printing character, and each whitespace character must be replaced by %XX, where XX is the corresponding ASCII hexadecimal character value. The hexadecimal codes can be specified in any case (upper, lower, mixed).

The Postfix client always encodes a request. The server may omit the encoding as long as the reply is guaranteed to not contain the % or NEWLINE character.

SECURITY

Do not use TCP lookup tables for security critical purposes. The client-server connection is not protected and the server is not authenticated.

BUGS

Only the lookup method is currently implemented.

The client does not hang up when the connection is idle for a long time.

SEE ALSO

postmap(1),
Postfix lookup table manager
regexp_table(5),
format of regular expression tables
pcre_table(5), format of PCRE tables
cidr_table(5),
format of CIDR tables

README FILES

Use "**postconf readme_directory**" or "**postconf html_directory**" to locate this information.
DATABASE_README, Postfix lookup table overview

LICENSE

The Secure Mailer license must be distributed with this software.

AUTHOR(S)

Wietse Venema
IBM T.J. Watson Research
P.O. Box 704
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598, USA

Wietse Venema
Google, Inc.
111 8th Avenue
New York, NY 10011, USA