

Reply-To controversy

Original sender: Reply-To: My assistant ...
Mailing list: Reply-To: This mailing list ...

Mail programs often have two reply commands, “Reply to Sender” and “Reply to all”. How should these two commands interpret the “Reply-To” header??

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In Usenet news, the “Newsgroups” header indicates the name of the Newsgroup(s) to which this contribution was sent.

Example:

`Newsgroups: alt.sex.fetisches.feet`

Some newsreaders provide a facility to answer personally by e-mail to only the author of a message. They sometimes copy the Newsgroups header to such answers.

Some gateways between Usenet news and e-Mail copy the Newsgroups header to the mail copy of a message, to indicate which newsgroups it comes from.

Thus: The Newsgroups header has two different interpretations:

1. The newsgroup to which this message was also sent
2. The newsgroup of the message, which this is a personal reply to.