

## Re: Sendmail relay and procmail

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  - *Date:* Thu, 8 Mar 2007 23:17:43 +0000 (UTC)
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In article <1173366491.829842.260520@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>  
turtle@xxxxxxxxxxxxx writes:

I am trying to make a setup where my sendmail is a relaying host where all mails i piped to procmail on the way to the recipient.

I have tried some examples i found on the net, and they all fail.

Im on openbsd4.1beta running sendmail 8.14.0

It starts out great, i add the hosts to be relayed, and everything is working. Now its time for procmail. When i add the rules that invoke procmail i starts giving my this error in the maillog: SYSERR(root): savemail: cannot save rejected email anywhere.

And yes. There is alot of space, and i set the permissions for /tmp, /var/mail, /var/spool/mqueue to 777 for root.

You certainly don't want to set those to 777 – but anyway this is a "logical" error, not "physical". Sendmail tries to send the message and it fails, then it tries to send a bounce and it fails too, then it tries to send a double-bounce to Postmaster and that fails too. If this was a direct submission by a user, it could have saved the message in \$HOME/dead.letter, but it isn't so that fails too – at which point sendmail gives this slightly confusing message – it actually \*has\* saved the message in the queue directory, with the queue file named Qfxxxx rather than qfxxxx, to prevent subsequent processing attempts.

I would love if someone knew what is wrong.

this is what i followed.:

<http://www.xray.mpe.mpg.de/mailling-lists/procmail/2000-05/msg00042.html>

<http://www.professional.org/procmail/mailler.html>

<http://www.impsec.org/email-tools/procmail-on-gateway.txt>

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Well, I'm sorry, but my advice is "give up". Your problem above is with the basic logic of your rules and can certainly be fixed, but even when it appears to actually work there are lots of broken corner-cases with these methods. This spoken as someone who actually tried to provide such a set of rules (posted here in several versions way back), and ought to have been able to get it right, but it was simply too much effort – the basic "process it once and mangle the address so you don't try to process it again when it comes back" method is really a hack in the worst sense: Something you shouldn't have done in the first place, and you fix it and patch it and try to beat it into shape, but it never becomes really correct...

These days you use a milter if you want to insert your own custom processing in the mail flow – there are many of those around, and you may well find one that already does what you want, or provides hooks that let you implement it – e.g. with MIMEDefang you can do anything that you can do in perl. You might even be able to figure out a way to invoke procmail from it without any need for hacks in the sendmail config...

—Per Hedeland  
per@xxxxxxxxxxxxx

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