`fax.cls` Documentation

J.B. Rhebergen

July 20, 1995

1 Introduction

This fax class is written to work with the following other classes or packages:

`artikel3.cls`	One of the dutch article styles.
`lastpage.sty`	A small package that lets you reference the last page.

It can however still work without these files. If the `artikel3.cls` cannot be found the `article.cls` will be loaded instead. If available `lastpage.sty` will also be loaded. If you do not have `lastpage.sty` you can set the fax page numbers by hand by using the `\setcounter{faxpages}{..}` command.

2 Other files

The following files should be prepared by the user:

`from.fax`	containing your name etc.
`note.fax`	containing a note which you would like to add.

If you are using the `dutch` class option you need:

`van.fax`	containing your name etc. (in dutch)
`nb.fax`	containing a note which you would like to add. (in dutch)

Of course this can easily be changed or added for any other language. Feel free to do so.

3 Options

The following class options are at your disposal:

dutch Switches to dutch language and reads the files `van.fax` and `nb.fax` instead of the default `from.fax` and `note.fax`

note Adds a note to your fax header. This note should be specified in the file `note.fax` or if you have used the `dutch` option `nb.fax`

nosep Omits the `faxtopset` length variable which is currently set at `3ex` This white space separates your fax header from the rest of the text.

The fax is typeset in `\sf` (sans serif) by default, because I felt that this would give the most legible results on a fax machine.

4 Commands

In the preamble of the fax document the following commands are available:

\to Specifies what you want in the 'to' box. This should preferably be in the form of a `tabular` environment. If omitted the box will stay empty.

```
\to{\begin{tabular}[t]{rl}
  to:      &You\\
  address: &Your place\\
  tel:     &Your number\\
  fax:     &Whatever\\
  \end{tabular}}
```

\from Specifies what you want in the 'from' box. This should preferably be in the form of a `tabular` environment. If omitted the `from.fax` file will be used.

```
\from{\begin{tabular}[t]{rl}
  from:    &Me\\
  address: &My place\\
  tel:     &My number\\
  fax:     &Whatever\\
  \end{tabular}}
```

If you want an empty 'from' box use `\from{}`.

\mymsg Normally the fax header begins with the message: Tele-Fax Message. If you have specified the `dutch` option the fax header will begin with: Fax Boodschap If you want to start with your own header (or logo even) you can use the `\mymsg` command like this:

```
\mymsg{{\Large\bsf Watch out! here comes a FAX!}}
```

If you want absolutely no fax top message just specify `\mymsg{}` i.e. an empty command.

\bsf Switches to bold sans serif. i.e. `{\bsf this is bold}`

\slsf Switches to slanted sans serif. i.e. `{\slsf this is slant}`

5 Suggestions

To make your faxes even more 'beautiful' you could use the `wasysym` package which provides a `\phone` command. This can be used to get a cute little telephone icon in your 'to' or 'from' box. Like this:

```
\from{\begin{tabular}[t]{rl}
  from:    &Me\\
  address: &My place\\
  \phone:  &My number\\
  fax:     &Whatever\\
  \end{tabular}}
```

Don't forget to put `\usepackage{wasysym}` in your preamble though.

For my own convenience I have made a signature package. This provides a signature for my fax documents. Of course you need to get your signature scanned first and make the signature available in the form of a `.pcx` file or `.msp` file. If you want to know more about this compile and read the `sigdoc.tex` file.

6 Conversion

Once you've successfully used the `fax.cls` to make a fax document you have a choice.

- Print it, feed it to the fax machine and send it. (trivial)
- Convert it to a fax-modem compatible file and send it.

These days lots of people have a fax-modem. To convert the `.dvi` file you generated, to some kind of fax-modem compatible file you need a conversion program. Let me describe how I go about sending a fax.

I am using emTEX for `DOS` to compile my `.tex` documents. The latest emTEX release, version [4a], has a `fax.cnf` file and `fax_base.fli` file which facilitate generating `.dvi` files in fax resolution.

I subsequently convert this fax `.dvi` file to a `.pcx` file, using the following batch file.

```
@echo off
dvidrv dvidot pcx @fax.cnf /fl=-1 %1 %1.p?? %2 %3 %4 %5 %6 %7 %8 %9
```

This will generate a number of `.pcx` files one for each page of the fax document. The `.pcx` files are numbered `myfax.p01, myfax.p02, myfax.p03` if your original `myfax.dvi` has three pages.

The last step is to convert these `.p??` files to one single `.fax` file. I have found the `2FAX` program by Hans Harder very useful. However there was a bug in this program. Herre de Jonge the coauthor of this `fax.cls` and I have debugged the program and added some functionality. Actually, Herre did most of the work on debugging the `2FAX` program while I did most of the work on the `fax.cls`. We've modified version 1.62 of `2FAX` and called it version 1.62a. I will make this debugged version available for ftp as soon as possible. We've also added some functionality. You now can use wildcards at the `2FAX` command line. Like this: `2fax indoc.p?? outdoc.fax /hr`

At this stage you have a file which can be sent by the fax-modem. In the case of `2FAX` this file is in the `ZFAX` format. I am using an unregistered version of `BGFAX` to send (or receive) faxes. `BGFAX` is written by B.J.Guillot and is a simple but solid command line driven fax program. It's primarily intended for use with people who operate a bulletin board but who also want to send or receive faxes. There are various other programs for `DOS` that will also send `ZFAX` files. I will probably send the debugged version of `2FAX` to B.J. Guillot's bulletin board soon so people can download or ftp it from there. At the moment I still have to write a readme file and make some minor changes. If you're in a hurry to get the debugged version of `2FAX`, mail me and I'll send it to you.

```
jbrhebergen@et.tudelft.nl
rheberg@morra.et.tudelft.nl
```