

APPLICATION NOTE

ClipMail FTP Auto-Pull

Enhancing media delivery to multiple units

The Auto-Pull feature allows Telestream ClipMail systems (ClipMail Pro, ClipExpress, ClipView and ClipRemote) to automatically monitor and receive new parcels from an FTP server. This is useful for getting content into secure networks and for distribution to multiple ClipMail systems.

How it works

ClipMail has a feature called the "Remote Box" which will scan an FTP server for parcels that have been sent to it by other ClipMail systems or by FlipFactory (v3.1 or later). The Auto-Pull feature allows the ClipMail system to periodically check the "Remote Box" FTP server for new parcels and then automatically pull those parcels into the system's Inbox.

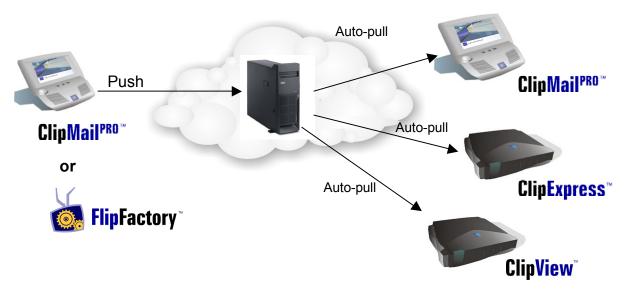
Distribution to multiple ClipMail systems

Until the Auto-Pull feature was available, the only way to send content to multiple ClipMails was to send to a list of recipients sequentially. Now, with Auto-Pull, you send one file to a central server and multiple ClipMail systems can simultaneously pull the content. If you are sending content to ten recipients, this results in a five-fold improvement in transfer time. Now, only two transfers take place rather than ten: one to the FTP server and one to the ClipMail system (see diagram below).

Media parcels are sent to a central FTP server which is monitored by multiple ClipMail systems. Then, each receiving ClipMail automatically pulls the new content to its Inbox from the FTP server.

Facilitating delivery through secure firewalls

Some system administrators configure firewalls to prohibit pushing of media into the local area network (LAN) from outside the firewall. This is done for security reasons, to help protect their network from viruses and spam. By delivering media files to a server outside the firewall and *auto-pulling* the content in, the media parcel can successfully be delivered to the ClipMail system.



Sending to multiple ClipMails with Auto-Pull

A Typical Application Example: Distribution of Corporate Training Videos

Many corporations today are using file-based digital technologies to create and distribute training videos to a geographically dispersed workforce. These training videos are created, then logged and stored in an asset management system.

An operator selects the desired videos to be distributed to offices and training facilities around the world. The asset management system notifies FlipFactory of the source files and associated bit rates required for the various locations. Some locations with lower bandwidth may require lower bit rate content. FlipFactory then delivers the high-resolution MPEG files to a folder on the hosting FTP server.

All ClipMails in the company, which are monitoring this folder, pull the videos to their respective Inboxes. Then, the training videos are available for immediate viewing and/or printing to tape.

Configuring your ClipMail system for Auto-Pull

The Auto-Pull feature allows the ClipMail system to periodically check the "Remote Box" FTP server for new parcels and automatically pull them into the system's Inbox.

Go to the "Setup" screen, "Network" tab, and "Remote Server" button. This will bring up a window with a new "Auto Pull Frequency" value. This will set the frequency for polling the "Remote Box" FTP server.

Integers represent minutes between polls, so entering a "3" means that the server would be polled once every 3 minutes. A value of "0" means that the remote box FTP server will not be polled.

