

ProMAX® System Administration

[Other Docs](#)

[Search Page](#)

[Known Problems](#)

Introduction

In this chapter, we explain the purpose of this guide as well as the organization and conventions used. We also offer you a list and brief description of several system administration books that we have found helpful.

In This Chapter

- ▶ *About This Guide*
- ▶ *System Administration Reference Material*

About This Guide

The System Administration guide is designed and written for all ProMAX® system users, not only System Administrators. This guide should accommodate a variety of needs; it contains instructions, suggestions, and resources for learning and managing the ProMAX® software and hardware. The tasks in this guide range from simple ones that require very little system administration knowledge to complex tasks that require extensive system administration knowledge.

You can access task and reference information by looking up your topic in the table of contents or in the index.

Organization

This guide is organized around the functions and features needed to run ProMAX® processing system. You can begin reading wherever you want, depending on what you want to do; each chapter stands on its own. The [ProMAX Release](#) notes contain the information for installing the ProMAX® software.

In hopes of helping you see what lies ahead in a particular procedure, we included *A Look Ahead* section at the beginning of each section that outlines a procedure.

We suggest that you read this *Introductory* chapter first. Then you should have a better understanding of how this guide can best help you.

This guide contains the following chapters and appendixes:

- **Introduction** explains the purpose of this guide as well as the organization and conventions used. We also summarize a list of System Administration books.
- **Learning** ProMAX® tells you what training courses we offer and who to call for registration. We also list and describe the documentation that we provide.
- **Setting Up Required Resources** explains how to install your ProMAX® software license, windowing system and window manager, and the ProMAX® development environment.

- **Customizing A ProMAX® Installation** explains ways to customize your system. The information is not required but may help you run a more productive and efficient system.
- **Setting Up Tape Drives and Plotters** explains how to set up and configure various tape drives and plotters.
- **Setting Up Plotting Software** describes plotting solutions, which you can adapt to widely differing user environments.
- **Solving Your ProMAX® Problems** tells you who to call when you have a technical problem. We also offer some suggestions for reporting and solving technical problems.
- **Accessing the Internet as a Resource** describes three Internet-based information sources and how to access them, which will help you use ProMAX software productively and efficiently.
- **Appendix A- Patch List** lists the required patches for the certified platforms and versions.
- **Appendix B- System Administration Tips** lists helpful hardware and software tips.

Documentation Conventions

We use the following documentation conventions.

Directories and Commands

We use the environment variable `$PROMAX_HOME` to refer to your ProMAX® home directory. In other words, the location of your ProMAX® installation will become your `$PROMAX_HOME`.

When we issue UNIX commands, we assume you are running a C shell.

We use `%` at the beginning of a UNIX command to indicate that you are at the C shell prompt; `%` is the user default prompt.

We use the UNIX standard of a `\` at the end of a command line that continues on the next line. For example, if we give you instructions to type

```
% setenv EMACSLOADPATH <PROMAX_HOME/port/lib/emacs/19.25/lisp
```

you would type

```
setenv EMACSLOADPATH <PROMAX_HOME/port/lib/emacs/19.25/lisp
```

all on one line.

Any UNIX command line beginning with a # requires root privilege; # is the default prompt for root.

Any line within a script that begins with a # is a comment and is ignored.

Note: See the inside front and back covers for an outline of the directory structure.

Style

We use **Bookman boldface** for process names and menu buttons.

We use *italic* to refer to other documents, chapters, or sections.

We use **Helvetica bold** for commands that you type at a UNIX prompt and commands that you type in a script.

We use Helvetica regular for screen-displayed lines of output.

We use [*Helvetica italic inside brackets*] for dummy parameters; replace the brackets and their contents with your user-specific information.

We use **Note** to emphasize an important issue.

We use **Caution** when you could lose data or crash your system.

Mouse Buttons

You should have a three-button mouse plugged into your terminal. We abbreviate mouse button as MB.

The mouse buttons are numbered from left to right:

- **MB1** is the left mouse button.
- **MB2** is the middle mouse button.

- **MB3** is the right mouse button.

Button Actions

You can apply the following actions to any mouse button.

- **Click:** Briefly depress and release the mouse button.
- **Shift-Click:** Hold down the Shift key while you briefly depress and release the mouse button.
- **Double Click:** Quickly depress and release the mouse button twice.
- **Drag:** Hold down the mouse button while you move the mouse.

General Button Functions

Each mouse button has a general function. You will use MB1 most of the time.

- **MB1** selects or manipulates an object for operation.
- **MB2** displays a menu associated with the location of your cursor.
- **MB3** adjusts the objects in a window; it extends or reduces the number of objects in a window.

However, the functions of the mouse buttons will change, depending on the process you are running.

Unless a mouse button is specific to an operation, we do not refer to it. If you are unsure about a parameter or a mouse button's function, refer to the bar located at the bottom of your ProMAX® interface window.

Specific Button Functions

You can view a Helpfile or update an old flow by using the mouse buttons:

- **Shift MB1** views a Helpfile.

To view a process Helpfile, hold down the Shift key and click MB1 on the process in which you need help. For more information about accessing online help, please refer to the [Online Help](#) section of the *User Interface* chapter in the *Reference Manual*, or select *Help Using the Online Help system* from the **Other Docs** button of any

Helpfile.

- **Shift MB2** updates an old flow.

This is no longer valid for the Tape I/O processes and other updated process menus. However, you can still run old flows with old processes. To run an old flow, hold down the Shift key and click MB2 on the process in which you want to convert the menu; this will replace an old menu with the current updated menu. You end up with an up-to-date menu with the parameters already filled out.

System Administration Reference Material

Here is a list and brief description of several system administration books that we have found helpful:

The Whole Internet User's Guide & Catalog-2nd Ed., Ed Krol., O'Reilly & Associates, Inc., 1994

An Internet classic recently updated. Offers a UNIX perspective.

X Window System User's Guide, Volume 3 of the X Window System series from O'Reilly & Associates, Inc.

Orients the new user to window system concepts and provides detailed tutorials. The ultimate X windows reference series.

UNIX System Administration 2nd Ed., E. Nemeth, G. Snyder, and S. Seebass, Prentice Hall Englewood Cliff, New Jersey, 1995

A classic system administration book. The second edition has more System V documentation. Covers specific operating systems: Irix 5.2, SunOS 4.1.3, Solaris 2.4 but completely ignores AIX.

AIX RS/6000 System Administration Guide, J.W. DeRoest, McGraw-Hill, 1995

An excellent IBM-specific system administration book. Also provides a road map to additional topics in IBM's InfoExplorer.

Essential System Administration, A. Frisch, O'Reilly & Associates, Inc., 1995

This book addresses AIX. Good read, not as in-depth as Nemeth, et al.

Managing NFS and NIS, H. Stern, O'Reilly & Associates, Inc., 1991

Covers advanced issues for more complex networks. A copy is kept within arm's reach by our system administrator.

UNIX Power Tools, J. Peek, T. O'Reilly, M. Loukides et al, O'Reilly & Associates, Inc., 1993

This book is an excellent source of scripts to make UNIX chores easier. A dog-eared copy of this book sits on many desks at Advance.

X User Tools, L. Mui and V. Quercia, O'Reilly & Associates, Inc., 1995

The X version of *UNIX Power Tools*. Documentation and CD with source for all those nifty undocumented shareware utilities. Good treatment of window managers and the user environment. Includes a CDROM with source and compiled versions of many X applications.

GNU Emacs Manual 8th Ed Version 26, R.M. Stallman, Free Software Foundation, 1994

Hardcopy documentation published by the distributors of GNU Emacs.

The Joy of X, N. Mansfield, Addison-Wesley Publishing, 1993

Harder to read but offers a lot of X theory.

Modern UNIX, A. Southerton, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1992

A little of everything: UNIX commands, X, window managers, root menus. Appendix with good list of custom commands.

UNIX for the Impatient, P.W. Abrahams and B.R. Larson, Addison-Wesley Publishing, 1992

Good introductory book.

UNIX for Dummies, J.R. Levine and M.L. Young, IDG Books Worldwide, 1994

The UNIX version in a very popular series of introductory books. A good book despite its deprecating title, particularly for those making the transition from DOS to UNIX.

TCP/IP Network Administration, C. Hunt, O'Reilly & Associates, Inc., 1993

Another advanced networking classic, which remains within reach of our system administrator.