The Federal Bulletin Board
Helpful Hints in Its Use

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About the FBBS

- Accessible via: Telnet, FTP, WWW, or Modem

- Provides immediate, self-service access to Federal electronic information. Participating Federal agencies add files remotely, ensuring that their latest official information is available.

- Offers single files in a variety of formats

- A component of GPO Access, it existed prior to the 1993 law (P.L. 103-40). Senate report 103-27 incorporated it into GPO Access.

Background & History

1989 Started under Project HERMES: Supreme Court opinions placed online

1992 Reworked to deliver files for fee via the Federal Bulletin Board. Files were priced based on file size. All users needed a password, and account approval.

12/95 All GPO Access products were made free to the public. Nov 1995, Internet access offered.

5/96 FBBS made available via the Web

Features

- Some agencies use it to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. (Example, MSPB Summaries)

- Provides modem access to all levels - supports speeds of 300 - 33,600 BPS

- Internet - FTP, Telnet, WWW

- Supports GPO Access with source files, sample questions and helpful hints

- Quick way to make information available via the Web; can also be a secure way

- Alternative way to meet employee needs - e.g., forwarding e-mail; file sharing

Who Uses the FBBS?

Organizations and/or individuals who:

- Do not need (or do not have) real-time connectivity to the Internet (or a modem).

- Need a quick, inexpensive way to deliver (or retrieve) a single, downloadable file

- Want e-mail capability

- Download files and exchange/or post messages

FBBS Customers

- General Public

- Federal Depository Libraries

> Shipping Lists, List of Classes, Profiles Database

- GPO Internal Customers

> Library Programs Service (LPS)

- Client Agencies:

> Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB)

> Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)

> Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Top 15 File Libraries, FY 1998

Agency or POC   Library   Total

GPO/LPS	shiplist	14,508
MSPB	mspbfree	10,740
MSPB	mspb_97	10,571
OGE	oge_daeo	3,180
MSPB	mspb_dec	2,598
MSPB	mspb_96	2,540
GPO/LPS	mfich97	2,477
FLRA	flra_syn	2,337
FLRA	flra_dec	2,239
GPO/LP	shipl97	2,132
GPO/LPS	paper	2,103
GPO/HCFA	hcfa_fr	1,990
GPO/EPA	40_cfr	1,921
FLRA	recent	1,753
GPO/LPS	class	1,675

Helpful Hints

- **Contact the SYSOP with problems with the system - connecting, downloading, etc.**

- **Contact the agency representative or library operator with questions or problems or questions about file content**
- **Refer to available online guides about adding helpers, readers, etc., to Web browsers**

- **New software version offers an online keyword search capability**

Access to the FBBS

Dial-up: (202) 512-1398 -- Settings: 8, N, 1
Telnet: fedbbs.access.gpo.gov

FTP: fedbbs.access.gpo.gov
WWW: http://fedbbs.access.gpo.gov

User Support

- **GPO Access User Support Team:**

  Local: (202) 512-1530
  Toll-free: (888) 293-6498
  Fax: (202) 512-1262

  E-mail: gpoaccess@gpo.gov

  Hours: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday-Friday, excluding all Federal holidays

Summary

- **A component of GPO Access (Public Law 103-40)**

- **Existed since 1990 (prior to GPO Access)**

- **Systems Operator (SYSOP) - Catrena Hairston**

- **LPS Library Operator - James Mauldin**
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- **User Support - Provided by the GPO Access User Support Team**

  E-mail: gpoaccess@gpo.gov
  Toll-free: (888) 293-6498
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