

Redmine - Feature #23011

Purpose of MESSAGE\_ID\_RE in mail\_handler.rb

2016-06-08 10:39 - Alexander Herr

<b>Status:</b>	Closed	<b>Start date:</b>	
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>		<b>% Done:</b>	0%
<b>Category:</b>		<b>Estimated time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>			
<b>Resolution:</b>			
<b>Description</b>			
In `dispatch` of `app/models/mail_handler.rb` a global named `MESSAGE_ID_RE` is used, which is defined as the regular expression:			
<pre>MESSAGE_ID_RE = %r{^&lt;?redmine\.[a-z0-9_]+\-(\d+)\.\d+(\.[a-f0-9]+)?@}</pre>			
The conditional in `dispatch` does the following:			
<pre>if headers.detect { h  h.to_s =~ MESSAGE_ID_RE}   klass, object_id = \$1, \$2.to_i   method_name = "receive_#{klass}_reply"   if self.class.private_instance_methods.collect(&amp;:to_s).include?(method_name)     send method_name, object_id   else     # ignoring it   end end</pre>			
The purpose of this global (and its conditional in `dispatch`) isn't quite clear to me, as it is also lacking comments. I suspect that it looks for redmine's own e-mail-address and then calls a supplied method?			
Why should redmine talk to itself through e-mails in such a way? What if I change redmine's e-mail-address to something not containing redmine? What will break (if anything)?			
We recently changed the naming of our redmine instance (both the domain-name and the e-mail-address now do not contain redmine) to something more obvious for non-tech folk. We would hate to have broken something by that change.			

History

#1 - 2016-06-08 19:25 - Jean-Philippe Lang

- Status changed from New to Closed

Redmine doesn't talk to itself by email. This regexp is used to parse the In-Reply-To and References headers when a user replies to a Redmine notification in order to know to which object (issue or message) the user is replying:

- 1. Redmine sends a notification (eg. issue X is created)
- 2. A user replies to this notification
- 3. Redmine detects that this is a reply to issue X and appends the message as a note to issue X

It doesn't match the host part of the message id, so changing your hostname should not have any effects on this.

#2 - 2016-06-08 19:27 - Toshi MARUYAMA

- Description updated

#3 - 2016-06-08 19:46 - Alexander Herr

And what if not only the domain does not contain redmine but the e-mail-name as well? I.e. instead of [redmine@domain.com](#) its [ticket@domain.com](#). Does that break the above?

#4 - 2016-06-08 21:39 - Jean-Philippe Lang

Alexander Herr wrote:

And what if not only the domain does not contain redmine but the e-mail-name as well? I.e. instead of [redmine@domain.com](mailto:redmine@domain.com) its [ticket@domain.com](mailto:ticket@domain.com). Does that break the above?

No

**#5 - 2016-06-08 21:41 - Jean-Philippe Lang**

This regexp is not for parsing email addresses but message ids which are always generated by Redmine in this way: <redmine-xxx@xxx>, whatever your host name or email address is (see Mailer#message\_id\_for and Mailer#token\_for).