

# ***VSI-FAX 4***

**LINUX TIPS, TRICKS AND HINTS**

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# FOREWORD

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## Scope and Intended Audience

This manual provides supplemental information about how to optimize VSI-FAX for the Linux operating system. We expect that persons intalling this product already possess detailed technical knowledge about the Linux platform.

Refer to your *VSI-FAX Getting Started Manual* for detailed installation instructions and your *VSI-FAX Server Manual* for general fax server maintenance and adminstration information.

## Typeface Conventions

The following tables show examples of standard typeface styles used in this manual to convey various kinds of information.

EXAMPLE	DESCRIPTION
Click <b>OK</b> . - or - Choose File > <b>Close</b> .	Bold text is used to show actual Graphical User Interface (GUI) menus, commands and buttons. Also note that in the second example, sequential commands are separated by a greater-than (>) character.
Enter <b>vfxadmin...</b>	Bold monospaced text is used to show literal user input that must be entered exactly as it appears in the manual.
< <b>my_filename</b> > - or - < <b>my_password</b> >	Bold monospaced text inside angle brackets shows a type of user input (not a literal user input). Your actual entry will be your file or your personal password.

EXAMPLE	DESCRIPTION
Installation Complete. - or - ...set the VSIFAX variable... - or - ...are stored in \$VSIFAX/spool/dbs	Regular monospaced text is used for file, directory and environment variable names, as well as file entries and displayed messages.

## Notes

The following kinds of notes appear in this manual:

**NOTE:** This is a general note. We strongly suggest that you read these as they always contain important information you should be aware of before performing some action.

**IMPORTANT:** This is a warning. Warnings always contain information that if not heeded could result in unpredictable behavior or loss of data.

**TIP:** Tips present optional information intended to speed up your work or otherwise enhance your experience with our product. Tips never contain information that will cause a failure if ignored.

## Obtaining Additional VSI-FAX Manuals

The VSI-FAX manuals are available in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format in the /docs directory of your installation CD. You can also download manuals in Acrobat format from the VSI FTP site as follows:

1. Connect to <ftp.vsi.com>.
2. Login in as anonymous
3. Go the /pub/releases/vsifax4 directory.
4. Go the directory for your version (e.g., /latest or /V400).
5. Go to the /docs directory.
6. Download the .pdf files.

You must have Adobe Acrobat Reader 4.0 installed on your system to view these .pdf files. The Acrobat Reader is available free of charge from the Adobe web site at <http://www.adobe.com>

You can also contact VSI ([sales@vsi.com](mailto:sales@vsi.com)) if you would like to purchase additional printed manuals.

## Additional Technical Information

Additional technical information is available from the Technical Support area of the VSI web site. Point your browser to <http://www.vsi.com/support>, then go to the Knowledge Base.





# FAX ENABLING STAROFFICE 5.1

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The StarOffice suite provides built-in faxing capabilities. The basic faxing mechanism involves creating a document, then printing it to a “fax printer.” The fax printer then passes the formatted document file to a fax program for sending.

In order to fax-enable StarOffice with VSI-FAX, you must first add a PostScript or PCL printer to your system. The Apple LaserWriter is a commonly-used PostScript printer driver that will work well for faxing.

After adding the printer, the connection to the fax software must be configured. This is done via the Printer Setup dialog box.

After these two operations are completed, any document created or opened in StarOffice can be faxed by simply printing the file to the fax printer.

To setup and configure StarOffice for use with VSI-FAX, do the following:

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**NOTE:** This setup procedure installs the Apple LaserWriter printer driver because it produces compatible PostScript output and is widely available. However, you can use any printer driver that produces PostScript Level 1 or PCL 5e output.

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1. Launch StarOffice.
2. Open the Printer Setup applet or choose **File > Printer Setup...** from inside any application.  
The Printer Installation dialog box appears.
3. Select “Apple LaserWriter” from the Existing Printer drivers list and click **Add new printer**.  
“Apple LaserWriter on queue default\_queue (lpr)” is added to the Installed printers list.
4. Select “Apple LaserWriter on queue default\_queue (lpr)” in the Installed printers list and click **Rename**.

The Input dialog box appears.

5. Enter a new name for the fax printer (e.g., “VSI-FAX printer”) and click **OK**.

The Input dialog box closes.

6. Switch to Printer Installation dialog box.
7. Connect the printer by selecting the VSI-FAX printer in the Installed printers list and clicking **Connect...**

The Connect dialog box appears.

8. Select “fax\_queue=(FAX)” from the Existing queues list and click **Configure Fax Output...**

The Configure Fax dialog box appears.

9. Change the fax command to:

**vfx -n (PHONE) -Fps**

10. Set the **Pipe** option.

11. Click **OK**.

The Configure Fax dialog box closes.

12. Switch to Connect dialog box and click **OK**.

The Connect dialog box closes.

13. Switch to Printer Installation dialog box and click **Close**.

The Printer Installation dialog box closes.

14. Complete.

You can now send a fax by printing your document to the “VSI-FAX printer” and entering the fax number when prompted to do so.

# FAX ENABLING THE K DESKTOP ENVIRONMENT

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The K Desktop Environment (KDE) is provided on most Linux CD-ROMs and is also available free from [www.kde.org](http://www.kde.org). A generic fax applet called KSendFax is available for KDE. It is very easy to setup and configure KSendFax to work with VSI-FAX.

In order to fax-enable your KDE desktop via KSendFax, you must install KDE and the KSendFax application according to the instructions provided with your Linux distribution. Instructions are also available at [www.kde.org](http://www.kde.org). You must also install VSI-FAX on your system.

## Basic Setup and Configuration

To setup and configure KSendFax to work with VSI-FAX, perform the following:

1. Launch KSendFax.
2. Choose **Options > Preferences...**

The Fax Preferences dialog box appears.

3. Enter the following in the Send Fax field:

```
vfx -n'@@Phone' -t sub='@@Comment' -t tnm='@@Name' '@@FName'
```

4. Enter the following in the Show Jobs field:

```
vfxolog
```

5. Enter the following in the Remove Job field:

```
vfxcancel '@@ID'
```

6. Click **OK**.

The Fax Preferences dialog box closes.

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**IMPORTANT:** Before you exit KSendFax, you must save these changes to your fax options or you will lose them.

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7. Choose **Options > Save Options**.
8. Complete.

## Advanced Setup and Configuration

VSI-FAX uses “tags” to include various pieces of information in your fax. It is extremely easy to extend the basic fax command, just by adding additional tags to your entry in the Send Fax field.

Consider the basic command shown on the previous page:

```
vfx -n'@@Phone' -t sub='@@Comment' -t tnm='@@Name' '@@FName'
```

This **vfx** command has three primary components:

**-n'@@Phone'** is the fax number.

**'@@FName'** is the name of the file you want to fax.

Both of these elements are required for all faxes (you must have something to fax and someone to fax it to).

Between the **-n'@@Phone'** and **'@@FName'** command line arguments are the “subject” (**-t sub**) and “from name” (**-t tnm**) tags. These tags are optional but it is a good practice to include them.

**vfx Tags**      **vfx** tags are simple name/value pairs. They always begin with **-t** and are followed by a three-character mnemonic that describes that tag. For example, **-t sub** is the *subject* tag.

VSI-FAX currently provides more than seventy different tags you can use to include additional various information with your fax. Simply include the tags you want to use in your fax command and assign static values or environment variables to these tags.

## Sample Fax Commands

These sample fax command show how to extend the basic fax command (page 3) with additional **vfx** tags.

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**NOTE:** These sample fax commands must be entered on a single line.

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This sample fax command adds a “classic” cover page with each of your faxes, add the cover page tag (**-t cvr**) to the basic fax command:

```
vfx -n'@@Phone' -t sub='@@Comment' - ttnm='@@Name' -t cvr='classic'
'@@FName'
```

This sample fax command adds a tag (**-t udf**) that retrieves information from your VSI-FAX user profile before sending the fax and also adds your company name (**@@Enterprise**):

```
vfx -n'@@Phone' -t udf=true -t sub='@@Comment' -t tnm='@@Name'
-t tco='@@Enterprise' '@@FName'
```

Refer to your *VSI-FAX Server Manual* for a complete list of all available **vfx** tags. Also refer to your KSendFax documentation for a list of environment variables you can assign to these tags.

