BBS NEWS
Information Pack

.::.: English Version :.::.

Introduction

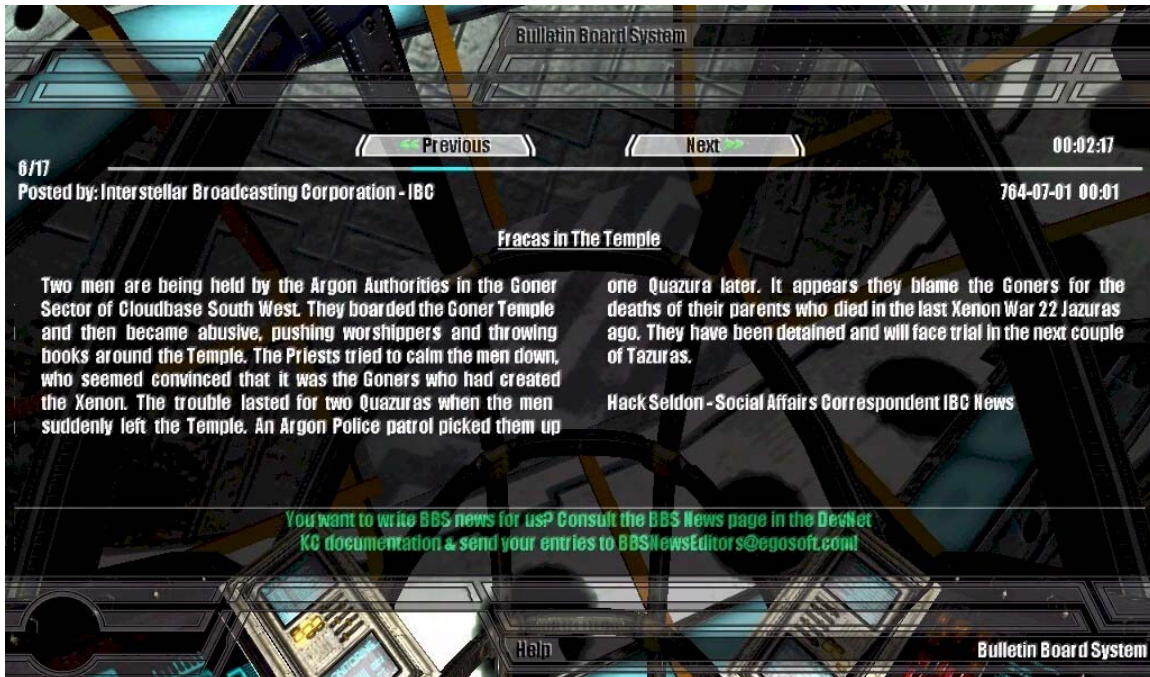BBS NEWS : Information Pack
English

Version 1 – 07/05/2003

About The BBS System

If your reading this then you have displayed an interest in BBS news for the Egosoft game X^2: The Threat.

Firstly what is BBS?
BBS is a term used to mean Bulletin Board News, but for this purpose its like a newspaper story.
In the game it will appear in stations like this:

As you can see the layout is simple and you don't have to worry about most of it.

It's a text based news system that displays fictional news that is written by many people, and one of those people could be you…

How do I get involved?
Easy – read though this document that has been written to try to explain what we are after. It will have do's and don'ts, information you may find useful. As well as names for all the correspondents.

I write this before all the information has been put in, but this document has been written to try to help you and myself at writing these texts.
BBS will play an integral role at interactivity between player and game, and will hopefully add more depth to the game.

Many articles are already written. Some are documentary style, trying to add history to the races in the games. Some are short, like the one above.

And if your articles are good you will get the credit, no credit will be taken from people who submit work.

What do I Need To Have?

You don't need to be part of devnet, this document is intended to have information for many people, regardless of level.
When you submit your articles, you need to give me the following details.

- Your REAL name
- Your FORUM/DEVNET name
- A Valid E-Mail address

Then your article(s) with the proper format.

You need a catchy headline, something that should be no more than 10 words long (id say anything up to 150 characters)

Your text can be as long as you need, please don't go over 300 words though! Read the next section for some guideline articles.

And finally the author of the post, or as we call them, the correspondent. You can find a list of correspondents in appendix*.

Then that's it. Ideas are endless and the next section will have a list of ideas you can use, and adapt.

Examples of Articles
By Jonathan Handby

The following articles are standard news entries.
These are what we are primarily after.

Argon Shipwrights Plan Strike
The Argon Shipwrights at Omricron Lyrae have announced plans to strike under pay. The claim that their pay is less than shipwrights at Argon Prime. Met Selek, from Omicron Lyare Shipyard, commented, "This is ridiculous, we are getting half of our fellow shipwrights, why should we suffer? We live in some of the poorest Argon sectors, and we have to put up with pay that meets, we have families to feed and educate. We need more money!"

The Local Senator is going to meet with the shipwrights unions tomorrow, hoping to bring this strike to an end. But there are fears that the only way will be to give in to the demands and pay up.

Hack Seldon - Social Affairs Correspondent IBC News

Wheat Plague Causes Concern
The planet based wheat farms located on the southern Continents of Argon Prime, have been suffering from a strange new plague that has been killing of the Delexian Wheat Crops. The farms affected are owned by one of Argon Primes main wheat producers, Delexcorp, who have not yet responded to requests for an interview. Scientists from the Argon University of Food Sciences, have quarantined the affected zones and have warned neighbouring farms to the problem.

A preliminary report has said that sabotage should not be ruled out. Even on Delxcorps orbiting farms. The Argon Military have also said that rival farms should also increase their protection.

Hanes Gisler - Science Correspondent IBC News

Weapons Development Program AT AUMS
Professor Jo Bydnah today spoke out about a new program he is starting at the Argon University Of Military Science.
"Young Minds are always thinking of new ideas for ships, Weapons and even Technology" he commented, "This program should allow them to put their ideas into development."
The program that is supported by the Argon Military, allows students who participate, to design and develop technologies that could be used by the military in the future. One concept that was on show by the first year students, was a device that blocks missiles targeting sensors, hence allowing for an Anti Missile Defence System. Another idea that was on show was an ingenious robot that crawled along the hulls of large destroyers and carriers, repairing any damage done to the hull of the ship.

"I myself am going to take part in this program, teaching what I know to these students" said professor Bydnah, who is responsible for some of the Argon militaries most recent weapon technologies. "And who knows we may have an important discovery made in this very program."

Hanes Gisler - Science Correspondent IBC News

Argon Senator Kidnapped

The Senator of Antigone Memmorial was returning home when his ship suddenly disappeared. The pilots were moving the Centaur Class ship out of orbit of Argon Prime, and preparing to use its jump drive to return home. It made the jump successfully, but when it jumped out, there was no crew on board.
Four Stazura later the Argon military received a transmission from a group of terrorists demanding 20 million credits from the Argon Government as ransom for the Senator.

It was later made clear how the operation was done, the pilot was actually a terrorist sympathiser who made the jump to a sector that is currently not been named. He later stunned the crew and docked with the terrorist ship, setting the auto jump system to make the jump, pilotless, to Antigone Memmorial.

The Terrorist ship has been named as the Argon Registered Mercury: 'Golden Rose', if you have seen this ship, please contact the local authorities, or IBC News on your local Communications Frequency.

Hack Seldon - Social Affairs Corospondant IBC News

Some of these articles are based on current day events that you can find broadcasted on the news of today.

Examples

- Natural Disasters (planet bound only)
- Scientific Discovery
- Industry News
- Industrial Action
- Commercial News (such as new products being developed)
- Colonial News (News about colonies being formed in sectors – please restrict to current sectors)
- Murders
- Local Elections
- Day Of Respect
- Raider Parties
- Archeologically Finds
- Spacecraft Crashes

Etc…

Unfortunately we cannot accept articles about things that can be checked by the player.

- Supernova
- New Solar system
- New Gates
- New Ships
- New Stations
- New Aliens
- Splitting up of a race into two warring factions.

Etc…

These are examples using the 'Documentary Style Report"
Please submit these if the information is official. – I will give possible sources later.

Galnet Special : Weapons At War - Impulse Ray Emitter

"Impulse Ray Emitter"
Jan Polak

The Impulse Ray Emitter is one of the oldest energy based weapons around. No one actually knows who and when the weapon was first developed. The IRE, as they are better known as, are used on scout class M5 craft. They require not much power to fire, and they usually have quite a rapid recharge rate.

Today IRE weapons are considered to be of the lowest desired weapons as they have little or no affect on high powered shields such as the 25MW or the 125MW shield.
But against fighters of the scout nature they are extremely valuable.

Argon, and Teladi Scientists keep studying new ways of expanding the technological uses of the IRE weapon, although there is very little that can be done. They have to keep the low power demands with the damage ratio. It is expected that in the next few years IRE weapons will be taken off the market as power generator technology means they can expand into adding PAC weapons to M5 craft.

Could the day of using IRE weapons to cut the Celebratory Argnu be here? Who knows!

Galnet Special : Weapons At War - Ion Disruptor

"Ion Disruptor"
Jan Polak

This weapon is unlike any weapon encountered, developed by Boron Scientists; this weapon fires a steady stream of ion particles in the direction of a ship. The stream is then ignited. The result is a lightning effect that affects ship systems and shields, while leaving the hull relatively untouched.

Although this weapon is new, it has undergone extensive testing to make sure it keeps up to Boron standards. Although simple to explain how it works, manufacturing the weapon is different matter; it's a complicated process that involves creating a device that can create a stream of ionised particles. This itself is dangerous. Boron scientists turned to the Argon who use Lightning Conductors on some planets as a power source.

They reversed engineered the conductors and converters to fire the particles. Ion Particles themselves only affect electricity, but they also affect the firing mechanism. The Boron came up with an ingenious idea that took them several years to develop. The weapon actually fires normal particles that then fly through a ring that converts the particles into Ions. The process can be seen in one of the Borons Published Documents by Dr Halilo Wo - "Processes and Functions of the Ion"

Mainly people who have access to the official information, I'm afraid, can only do these. But you can find plenty of information here.

http://www.helge.de/XbtfWiki/ - Helge's XBTF Wiki

It contains much information for fiction writers.

Appendix Of Information

BBS NEWS : Information Pack
English

Here you will find information that has been made especially for the BBS job. – Feel free to use the information in your articles. I will add notes in a grey box with suggestions on how you can adapt the information to suit you.

Appendix 1 : News Agencies

Each race has its own news agency, and these are the names for them.
Please don't make any new ones up, as shown in the example articles earlier, you should place them at the end of each article.

Race	Ident	Agency Name
Argon	IBC	Interstellar Broadcasting Corporation
Boron	RCN	Royal Commonwelath News
Paranid	IPN	Imperial Paranid News
Split	SFN	Split Family News
Teladi	CBNN	Central Business News Net
Goner	GCN	Goner Communications Network
Pirate	MIN	Mecenary Information Network
All Races	GalNet	Galaxy Network

Appendix Source Of Information : BBS News Team

Appendix 2 : Sport, Leisure and Games

A new idea implemented shortly before this document was produced is sport, we are hoping to have a few sport articles as well as standard news.
The following tables are to show the different races sports. And a small bit of information about them.
You can consider these as official as they can get.

Argon Sports/Games	
Hardball	Ringo moon is the spiritual home of the sport also known as hardball.
Argon 5000	Argon racing tournament that takes place on the surface of many planets. Each team has three contenders and the race usually has 40 racers. The winner of the tournament gets a large amount of money.
Argon 1000 Rally	A space bourn tournament that follows rules of a normal rally, the race usual goes go though several argon sectors in the main block.

Boron Sports/Games	
Long Distance Swimming	A standard boron sport is swimming, as the boron themselves are aquatic creatures this sounds like a normal everyday thing. But the long distance is more a test of endurance and speed than a physical test.

Paranid Sports/Games	
Triskele	An oversized and large version of the game chess. Similar rules and a common game played by Paranids. The Paranid have a league of experienced players for this game who compete against each other to win the trophy and the title of Triskele master.

Split Sports/Games	
Ghok Deathmatch	The Ghok is a large dragon like creature. And split try to prove their warrior nature by trying to kill the creature in a large arena using small, old, hand made weapons.

Teladi Sports/Games	
Teladi Blues	Respected Music from Blue Profit
Roulestar	A game similar to roulette, following with the Teladis main aim in life to make money, this game is a game of chance and skill.
Teladis Eye	A card game that follows a suite based system. Circle, Square, Triangle, Star and a cross. Complete with a value between 1 and 14. The purpose is to get the highest value possible. And outwitting your opponents to retract their gambles my making them think they haven't got a high enough value. The winner is the person who after five times around the table has the highest value.

Pirates have many illegal activities that you can make posts about – this is just some of them.

Pirate Sports/Games	
Gate Racing	And illegal and dangerous sport that makes use of the trade lanes. This illegal sport attracts gamblers and skilled pilots alike by entering races gates and racing across their sectors and avoiding the police and military. The routes sometimes pass though dense asteroid belts and dangerous nebula streams, many have died, but the reward is worth risking your life.

Appendix Source Of Information : X-Tension Sector Description and BBS News Team

Appendix 3 : Names, Celebrities and Reporters

This section lists the different names for the reporters and what we refer to as celebrities. Characters developed especially for the BBS news job. So we use the term celebrity loosely.

Argon Personalities	
News Reporters	
Hack Seldon	Social Affairs Correspondent IBC News
Jako Keppel	Entertainment Correspondent IBC News
Hanes Gisller	Science Correspondent IBC News
Kleo Danna	Weather Office IBC News
Hach Burnett	Foreign Affairs Correspondent IBC News
Tomes Nedley	Documentary Writer IBC News
Otto Bislar	Culture Correspondent IBC News
Met Giorno	Sport Correspondent IBC News
Celebrities / Personalities	
Jo Bydnah	Major Argon Scientist
Gil Bro	Champion Argon 5000 Racer
Scot Joyi	Popular Hardball Player

This box contains information about the names used if you don't have access to the random name generator. – Take one from the first column, then another from the next column. And you have a name.

First Names	Last Names
Ban	Danna
York	Cruise
Jo	Selek
Mak	Giorno
Pok	Jovi
Nil	Rider
Jako	Halter
Gil	Gisler
Leo	Rana
Toki	Nedley
Flot	Brano
Uma	Poler
Val	Hang
Scot	Kult
Ulla	Gusta
Janit	Keppel
Hanes	Fisty
Kleo	Bro
Tomes	Springer
Met	Slamer
Pico	Seldon

Boron Personalities	
News Reporters	
Bolo Fi	Social Affairs Correspondent RCN News
Himi Go	Entertainment Correspondent RCN News
Nini Ba	Science Correspondent RCN News
Popo Ha	Weather Office RCN News
Babu Di	Foreign Affairs Correspondent RCN News
Kunklu La	Sport Correspondent RCN News
Gaga Gu	Documentary Writer RCN News
Dala Da	Culture Correspondent RCN News
Celebrities / Personalities	

Take one from the first column, then another from the next column. And you have a name.

First Names	Last Names
Gululu	Ba
Bolo	Bi
Galala	Bo
Hili	Bu
Trali	Da
Loli	Di
Dala	Do
Holu	Du
Halilo	Fa
Babu	Fi
Boso	Fo
Hola	Fu
Nana	Ga
Mulu	Gi
Himi	Go
Lolo	Gu
Gaga	Ha
Tata	Hi
Tosi	Ho
Fumi	Hu
Busi	La
Hali	Li
Kuli	Lo
Nila	Lu
Humko	Ma
Sala	Mi
Kulo	Mo
Mumi	Mu
Ninu	Na
Suli	Ni
Tata	No
Nini	Nu
Toto	Pa
Mula	Pi
Susu	Po
Kunklu	Pu
Molo	Wa
Sansi	Wi
Popo	Wo
Funfi	We

Paranid Personalities	
News Reporters	
Romanckelyang	Social Affairs Correspondent IPN News
Tlokmanckkahlong	Entertainment Correspondent IPN News
Slokmanckkahyang	Science Correspondent IPN News
Ktikmanckelchung	Weather Office IPN News
Slokmanckelying	Sport Correspondent IPN News
Loakmanckeldong	Foreign Affairs Correspondent IPN News
Krikmanckelong	Documentary Writer IPN News
Hlokmanckkahsung	Culture Correspondent IPN News
Celebrities / Personalities	
Tlokmanckelfung	High Priest Spokesman

Take one from the first column, then another from the next column, then the last column. And you have a name. – Although for the paranoids its best to use a random name generator.

First Names	Middle Connector	Last Names
I	Manck	ulot
Ab		agtek
Eb		amstras
Al		olanks
El		etvahs
Ol		ettiks
Ul		atslot
Kel		abssit
Et		atsalss
Ot		oknnid
Id		otsat
Hatib		arsat
Uck		olok
Tai		ussut
Ti		elttak
Tup		alsann
Ko		igttab
Tam		osset
Kri		ardet
Ra		uttall

Split Personalities	
News Reporters	
Cho't Lt	Social Affairs Correspondent SFN News
Mo't Hnt	Entertainment Correspondent SFN News
Ha't Pst	Science Correspondent SFN News
Lo't Ng	Weather Office SFN News
Fui't Plt	Foreign Affairs Correspondent SFN News
Gu't Nnt	Documentary Writer SFN News
Ga't Ng	Sport Correspondent SFN News
Yo't Kt	Culture Correspondent SFN News
Celebrities / Personalities	

Take one from the first column, then another from the next column, then the last collumn. And you have a name. – Although for the paranoids its best to use a random name generator

First Names	Middle Connector	Last Names
Cho	't	Nnt
Chi		Hnk
Ra		Nnk
Gu		Ktt
Ho		Tn
Yo		Knt
Na		Lt
Ho		Kt
Lo		Ng
Chu		Snt
Mo		Hnt
Kao		Ktt
Soa		Pst
Lu		Nst
Fui		Plt
Lau		Sht
Sao		Plp
Cio		Ztk
Sai		
Cai		
Nu		
Ha		
Pu		

Teladi Personalities	
News Reporters	
Tzessosis Hoaenos Holigis V	Social Affairs Correspondent CBNN News
Rungissas Trantaeos Yalos IV	Entertainment Correspondent CBNN News
Yalos Yaalamandis Huritis III	Science Correspondent CBNN News
Zusilas Gutosos Tertasobas IV	Weather Office CBNN News
Uguras Dasinos Yosulis VIII	Sport Correspondent CBNN News
Yoyunis Towisaris Yooses IV	Foreign Affairs Correspondent CBNN News
Rusiris Tertasobas Zusilas III	Documentary Writer CBNN News
Yohulis Yoganis Yalos II	Culture Correspondent CBNN News
Celebrities / Personalities	
Yazarus Mitalinus Zurails VIII	Famous Teladi Blues Player

Teladi names are generated like this, pick three names from any column. To make the name like this "Grandmother, mother, person" then a numeral. (e.g. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X etc…) Mainly between 1 and 10 though…
ALL TELADI ARE FEMALE
E.G. Hurilis Hilibis Rusiris

All Names		
Dasinos	Hirussusis	Yosulis
Gradias	Hanirases	Yahandis
Yoyunis	Gogoeolos	Yohulbus
Yalos	Hurilis	Holigis
Hohindras	Tumulis	Ganatos
Desudras	Yusmaeos	Trosulis
Rurandis	Hoaeos	Gantelios
Foologos	Hilibis	Zuzuamis
Hintorias	Yohulis	Trantaeos
Yalamandis	Yoganis	Yahanis
Uguras	Huritis	Rusiris
Tissmaneos	Gutosos	Gustiosanis
Horasumas	Yooses	Yuyamados
Tzessosis	Zusilas	Yayasisos
Towisaris	Rungissas	Yahondras
		Tertasobas

Pirates and Goners use other races names.
Goner names are like Argon Names, but a bit more earth sounding.
Pirates use any names from the other races respectively.

Also pirates don't have a set group of correspondents.

Pirate Personalities	
Celebrities / Personalities	

Goner Personalities	
News Reporters	
Miria Gisler	Communications Correspondent IBC News
Ion Gren	Science Correspondent IBC News
Tome Smit	Weather Office IBC News
Jo Springer	Social And Culture Correspondent IBC News
Jame Keppel	Documentary Writer IBC News
Celebrities / Personalities	

GalNet Correspondents we will allow you to make up as there will be a lot more needed.

Appendix Source Of Information : BBS News Team and DEVNET

Appendix 4 : Locations

Locations for the X-Universe can be virtually anywhere.
But the following is a list of planet names that can be used in articles as well as sector names.
The list is sorted like this; you will find the sector name, and a list of planets within that area.
If this lookup table does not have any planets under the sector name then there are no named planets within that sector.

Note : NO X2 SECTOR NAMES WHICH HAVEN'T BEEN MADE PUBLIC ALREADY ARE NOT PUBLISHED IN THIS DOCUMENT
SOME SECTOR NAMES MAY HAVE BEEN CHANGED – IF SO THEN YOUR ARTICLE WILL BE ALTERED BY THE BBS TEAM…
PLEASE DO NOT INVENT UP NEW SECTORS…

Sector Look Up Table		
Race	**Sector Name / Planet Name**	
A	Aladna Hill	
A	Antigone Memorial	
	⮌	Sandwell
A	Argon Prime	
	⮌	Argon Prime
B	Atreus Clouds	
	⮌	Tethys
I	Bala Gi's Joy	
A	Black Hole Sun	
	⮌	Hades
T	Blue Profit	
T	Bluish Snout	
I	Brennan's Triumph	
T	Ceo's Buckzoid	
T	Ceo's Doubt	
T	Ceo's Sprite	
S	Chins Clouds	
S	Chins Fire	
S	Cho's Defeat	
A	Cloudbase North West	
A	Cloudbase South East	
A	Cloudbase South West	
T	Company Pride	
I	Danna's Chance	
P	Dukes Domain	
T	Eighteen Billion	
I	Elena's Fortune	
P	Emperor Mines	
	⮌	XylaXaar
P	Emperors Ridge	
P	Empires Edge	
X	Enemy sector 11-07	

	↻	Saa Russ / Life Of The Sea
X	Enemy sector 15-05
X	Enemy sector 17-00
X	Enemy sector 19-00
X	Enemy sector 19-01
S	Family Chin
S	Family Njy
S	Family Pride
S	Family Whi
S	Family Zein
I	Farnham's Legend
A	Getsu Fune
S	Ghinn's Escape
B	Great Trench
T	Greater Profit
I	Hatikvah's Faith
A	Herron's Nebula
B	Hila's Joy
T	Ianamus Zura
	↻	Ianamus Zura
B	Kingdom End
A	Light Home
	↻	Kho's Haven
A	Light of Heart
B	Lucky Planets
B	Menelaus' Frontier
B	Menelaus' Paradise
	↻	Oceania
A	Montalaar
	↻	Hitt's Eye
T	New Income
T	Nopileo's Memorial
A	Nyana's Hideout
B	Ocean of Fantasy
I	Olmancketslat's Treaty
A	Omicron Lyrae
A	Ore Belt
P	Paranid Prime
P	Patriarch's Keep
P	Pontifex' Realm
A	Power Circle
	↻	Shipfall
P	Preacher's Refuge
A	President's End
P	Priest Pity
P	Priest Rings
T	Profit Center Alpha
T	Profit Share
T	PTNI Headquarters
B	Queens Space
A	Red Light
A	Ringo Moon
	↻	Ringo Moon

B	Rolk's Drift
B	Rolk's Fate
B	Rolk's Legacy
T	Scale Plate Green
⮐	Nature's Profit
T	Seizewell
B	Shore of Infinity
T	Spaceweed Drift
⮐	Phobas IV
I	Split Fire
T	Teladi Gain
S	Tharka's Sun
A	The Hole
A	The Wall
A	Three Worlds
S	Thuruks Beard
S	Thuruks Pride
S	Thyn's Abyss
A	Treasure Chest
⮐	Garleth Prime
⮐	Garleth Beta
T	Trinity Sanctum
T	Two Grand

Known X2 Sectors – Publicly Made Ones

A	Akeela's Beacon
P	Spring Of Belief

Key

A	Argon	I	Pirate	X	Xenon
B	Boron	S	Split	⮐	Planet
P	Paranid	T	Teladi		

Appendix Source Of Information : DEVNET Map Team

Appendix 5 : The Time System

LEGEND: s/m/h/d/y as in Earth seconds/minutes/hours/days/years

Sezura(Second) = the smallest, mercantile time unit; it equals roughly 1.7 s
Mizura(minute) = 96 Sezuras = 163.2 s = 2.72 m
Stazura(Hour) = 96 Mizuras = 15667.2 s = 261.12 m = 4.352 h
Tazura(Day) = 7 Stazuras = 109670.4 s = 1827.84 m = 30.464 h = 1.27 d
Wozura(Week) = 7 Tazuras = 8.89 d
Mazura(Month) = 7 Wozuras = 62.23 d
Jazura(Year) = 8 Mazuras = 56 Wozuras = 392 Tazuras = 497.84 d = 1.36 y

Furthermore, there are a couple of terms used almost exclusively by Teladi:

- **Quazura** = 22 Mizuras = 3590.4 s = 59.84 m = curiously enough, this is almost ONE EARTH HOUR.
- **Inzura** = 8 Mizuras = 1305.6 s = 21.76 m
- **Sun** = 1 Jazura

Appendix 6 – Structuring Your Report

This Final Section is to show you how to structure your reports.
The examples are quite simple.

Firstly you need a catchy Headline : no more than 10 words please…(I will go up to 12 if needed)

"Teladi Arrested For Shop Lifting"

Then you need to write the body text. Id say keep to no more than 300 words for the article. This will then keep it to a length. If you go over please try to shorten it.

After the text you then create your author, use one of the correspondents from appendix 3. If there is not a correspondent that meets the requirement for the article, feel free to make one up.

End it like this…

Jo Bydnah – News Anchor, IBC News

Note I have included the correspondents name, his position and finally the news ident. Please don't use your name for the correspondents.
Also try to avoid using "Today" "Tomorrow" Yesterday" in the texts.
Also don't give the headline "And Finally" – this has been used many times by different people and also doesn't fit with the article.

When you submit please remember to tell me your real name, as well as your forum addy.
Also please remember you give me a valid e-mail address.
Articles submitted without any of this information which are used, will be submitted to the database with an unknown author.

And that's it,
Send your articles to:

BBSNews@Egosoft.com
OR
BBSNewsEditors@Egosoft.com

If you get any returns saying it could not deliver – PLEASE DO NOT send again.
Instead send me a PM on the Egosoft Forum to the recipient "CMDR J Handby" saying who's e-mail address it could not deliver to.

The chances are that I did get your articles.

Also please note that between X-Tension and X2 there have been some changes, and if your article needs to be changed slightly – we will change it. These mainly involve ship names and sector names.
No credit will be taken from the author.

Please post in the following threads for help and updates. I can not respond personally to every e-mail because of time constraints.
http://www.egosoft.com/x2/forum/viewtopic.php?t=1048 - English Forum
http://www.egosoft.com/x2/forum/viewtopic.php?t=1059 - German Forum