[0004]

Among emails transmitted by senders, there are, for example, emails that become unnecessary after the receivers have viewed them such as already-known matters, and emails that become unnecessary for the senders after a certain period has elapsed or after a specific date/time. That is, there are cases where senders want to delete their transmitted emails for senders' own convenience. However, in the email deletion reservation system disclosed in Patent Literature 1, the deletion reservation process is performed by the certain email software or the like installed in the terminal possessed by the receiver. Therefore, there is a problem that transmitted emails cannot be deleted according to the senders' intentions.

[0005]

Embodiments of the present invention make it possible, by an email server, an email transmitting/receiving method, and an email transmitting/receiving program, to perform a deletion process for an email transmitted by a sender according to sender's intention and thereby to delete the transmitted email based on that operation.

Solution to Problem

[0006]

According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided an email deletion server that deletes a transmitted email transmitted from an email server by a sender, the email server being used for a transmission/reception service of an email transmitted/received by a client terminal, the email deletion server comprising: a deletion request information storage unit that stores identification information of an email and identification information of at least one receiver of that email, the email being requested to be deleted by the sender; and an email deletion processing unit that updates, for the email server, a process for deleting an email from a reception email area of the receiver based on the identification information of the email and the identification information of the receiver stored in the deletion request information storage unit, the email being identified by the identification information of the email and the identification information of the receiver, wherein the email deletion processing unit generates a deletion schedule of the email, deletion of which has been requested, based on a specific character string in which the sender adds deletion of the email in a content of the email, and updates, for the email server, the process of deleting the email from the reception email area of the receiver according to the generated deletion schedule.

[0007]

According to a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided an email deletion method for deleting a transmitted email transmitted from an email server by a sender, the email server being used for a transmission/reception service of an email transmitted/received by a client terminal, the email deletion method comprising: storing identification information of an email and identification information of at least one receiver of that email, the email being requested to be deleted by a sender; and updating, for the email server, a process for deleting an email from a reception email area of the receiver based on the stored identification information of the email and the stored identification information of the receiver, the email being identified by the identification information of the email and the identification information of the receiver, wherein a deletion schedule of the email, deletion of which has been requested, is generated based on a specific character string in which the sender adds deletion of the email in a content of the email, and the process of deleting the email from the reception email area of the receiver is updated, for the email server, according to the generated deletion schedule.

[0008]

According to a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided an email deletion program for causing a computer to execute an email deletion method for deleting a transmitted email transmitted from an email server by a sender, the email server being used for a transmission/reception service of an email transmitted/received by a client terminal, the email deletion program causing the computer to execute a process comprising: storing identification information of an email and identification information of at least one receiver of that email, the email being requested to be deleted by the sender; and updating, for the email server, a process for deleting an email from a reception email area of the receiver based on the stored identification information of the email and the stored identification information of the receiver, the email being identified by the identification information of the email and the identification information of the receiver, wherein the email deletion program causes the computer to generate a deletion schedule of the email based on a specific character string in which the sender adds deletion of the email in a content of the email, and update, for the email server, the process of deleting the email from the reception email area of the receiver according to the generated deletion schedule.

Advantageous Effects of Invention

[0009]

According to an email server, an email transmitting/receiving method, and an email transmitting/receiving program in accordance with embodiments of the present invention, it is possible to perform a deletion process for an email transmitted by a sender according to sender's intention and thereby to delete the transmitted email based on that operation.

Brief Description of Drawings

[0010]

Fig. 1 shows a system configuration of an email deletion server according to a first exemplary embodiment;

Fig. 2 shows a configuration of an email deletion server;

Fig. 3 is a flowchart showing processes performed by an email deletion server;

Fig. 4 shows a configuration of an email deletion server according to a second exemplary embodiment;

Fig. 5 is a flowchart showing processes performed by an email deletion server;

Fig. 6 is a flowchart showing processes performed by an email deletion server;

Fig. 7 shows a configuration of an email deletion server according to a third exemplary embodiment;

Fig. 8 is a flowchart showing processes performed by an email deletion server;

Fig. 9 shows a configuration of an email deletion server according to a fourth exemplary embodiment; and

Fig. 10 is a flowchart showing processes performed by an email deletion server.

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Description of Embodiments

[0011]

Claims

1. An email deletion server that deletes a transmitted email transmitted from an email server by a sender, the email server being used for a transmission/reception service of an email transmitted/received by a client terminal, the email deletion server comprising:

a deletion request information storage unit that stores identification information of an email and identification information of at least one receiver of that email, the email being requested to be deleted by the sender; and

an email deletion processing unit that updates, for the email server, a process for deleting an email from a reception email area of the receiver based on the identification information of the email and the identification information of the receiver stored in the deletion request information storage unit, the email being identified by the identification information of the email and the identification information of the receiver,

wherein the email deletion processing unit generates a deletion schedule of the email, deletion of which has been requested, based on a specific character string in which the sender adds deletion of the email in a content of the email, and updates, for the email server, the process of deleting the email from the reception email area of the receiver according to the generated deletion schedule.

2. The email deletion server according to Claim 1, wherein when an update email that is obtained by updating a content of the transmitted email is transmitted, the email deletion processing unit generates, based on a specific character string in which the sender adds deletion of the email, the deletion schedule of the email in a content of the update email, and updates, for the email server, a process of deleting the email from the reception email area of the receiver according to the generated deletion schedule.

3. An email deletion method for deleting a transmitted email transmitted from an email server by a sender, the email server being used for a transmission/reception service of an email transmitted/received by a client terminal, the email deletion method comprising:

storing identification information of an email and identification information of at least one receiver of that email, the email being requested to be deleted by a sender; and

updating, for the email server, a process for deleting an email from a reception email area of the receiver based on the stored identification information of the email and the stored identification information of the receiver, the email being identified by the identification information of the email and the identification information of the receiver,

wherein a deletion schedule of the email, deletion of which has been requested, is generated based on a specific character string in which the sender adds deletion of the email in a content of the email, and the process of deleting the email from the reception email area of the receiver is updated, for the email server, according to the generated deletion schedule.

4. An email deletion method according to Claim 3, wherein when an update email that is obtained by updating a content of the transmitted email is transmitted, a deletion schedule of the email is generated based on a specific character string in which the sender adds deletion of the email in a content of the update email, and a process of deleting the email from the reception email area of the receiver according to the generated deletion schedule is updated for the email server.

5. An email deletion program for causing a computer to execute an email deletion method for deleting a transmitted email transmitted from an email server by a sender, the email server being used for a transmission/reception service of an email transmitted/received by a client terminal, the email deletion program causing the computer to execute a process comprising:

storing identification information of an email and identification information of at least one receiver of that email, the email being requested to be deleted by the sender; and

updating, for the email server, a process for deleting an email from a reception email area of the receiver based on the stored identification information of the email and the stored identification information of the receiver, the email being identified by the identification information of the email and the identification information of the receiver,

wherein the email deletion program causes the computer to generate a deletion schedule of the email based on a specific character string in which the sender adds deletion of the email in a content of the email, and update, for the email server, the process of deleting the email from the reception email area of the receiver according to the generated deletion schedule.

6. The email deletion program according to Claim 5, wherein when an update email that is obtained by updating a content of the transmitted email is transmitted, a deletion schedule of the email is generated based on a specific character string in which the sender adds deletion of the email in a content of the update email and the process of deleting the email from the reception email area of the receiver is updated, for the email server, according to the generated deletion schedule.