

## ■ Other Improved MailMan Patch 50 Features

The following list briefly describes the new and improved general functionality and characteristics provided with MailMan and Patch 50:

- **Improved Online Help System**—Use "?" and "???" online help liberally to find out what you can do at each prompt or menu option (similar to Graphical User Interface [GUI] context-sensitive help). Also, all MailMan help screens and online help have been updated to assist you with all of the new features and improvements introduced with Patch 50.
- **Combined Options**—The two separate options for becoming a surrogate (i.e., Assume the Identity of SHARED,MAIL and Assume another identity as a surrogate) have now been combined into a single option, Become a Surrogate (SHARED,MAIL or Other).
- **User Interaction Done Through VA FileMan**—User interaction, wherever possible, is now standardized through VA FileMan (e.g., "?" and "???" online help at all prompts).
- **Increased Robustness of the MailMan APIs**—For developers, improvements have been made to *existing* Application Programmer Interfaces (APIs) making them more robust. In addition, *new* APIs are also provided to give application programmers additional hooks into MailMan.



*For VISTA applications using approved MailMan APIs: it is not necessary to make any modifications, because the same APIs are still in use and all changes to those APIs have been made in the background.*



**Those VISTA applications *not* using approved MailMan APIs or having an approved Database Integration Agreement (DBIA) with MailMan, must review their code to determine if modifications are necessary prior to installing Patch 50.**

- **Improved MailMan Management Tools**—For those of you who manage MailMan (e.g., IRM), the MailMan global integrity checker now recognizes and corrects more errors and produces output you can better understand and use (instead of the previous cryptic error messages).