Music Player/Shortcutter

This is a little Windows system tray app to develop/assess switch skills with music on a standard Windows computer. When assessing switch skills we often want to look a number of aspects; cause & effect, timed and two-switch. Playing music (along with a game such as Musical Statues) can be a great way to assess this. There are quite a few ways of doing this with the right equipment, for example a powerlink (http://www.inclusive.co.uk/powerlink-4-uk-p2575) and tape player is the classic (reliable?!) way - or using one of the iPod (http://www.inclusive.co.uk/ipod-switcher-p2554) switching (http://www.inclusive.co.uk/hook-ipod-switch-access-p5960) boxes that suppliers now sell. However if you are out on an assessment and of these bits of kit is failing you or that mp3 file is stuck on a computer you can use this little tool.

(For more information on developing switch skills take a look at Ian Bean's free book available from Inclusive (http://www.inclusive.co.uk/articles/switch-progression-road-map) or the documentation available at ACE North (http://www.ace-north.org.uk/pages/resources/documents/DevelopingSwitchingSkills.pdf) for starters)

To use:

1. Download it here (https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/app-musicswitcher/MusicSwitchShortCutter.zip). Unzip it. Feel free to run it from your desktop or wherever - even a USB stick will do.
2. Get your music ready in iTunes or Windows Media Player. Open one of those apps. Don't have both running. (NB: It doesn't need to be in the foreground so you can do other things with other switches if needed)
3. Configure your switch driver software (e.g. this (http://www.sensorysoftware.com/switchdriver.html)) to convert the correct switch presses to the correct keys:

Some suggestions:

- *Timed play with 1 switch* Configure switch to F8 or 0. Configure time by pressing Control+Shift+C (Default time is 8 Seconds). If you want to check what time is set: Control+Shift d
- *Latching with 1 switch* Configure switch to F7 or 1
- *Two switch Play/Stop* Configure Play switch to F3 or Left Arrow and Stop switch to F4 or Down Arrow
- *Two switch Play/Next* Configure Play switch to F3 or Left Arrow and Next switch F6 or 3

Caveats:

- It will stop any previous use of F keys whilst running. Just right click on the taskbar icon to exit the application.
- If WMP or iTunes is already playing when you make the first switch hit, or you manually hit press/play after the first hit is made then you may find everything gets reversed! (i.e. Play becomes Stop!).

The full shortcuts are:

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F8 or 0 or ctrl-shift t : Play music for timed period (default 8 secs)
Ctrl-Shift c : Config window to set the time
Ctrl-Shift d : View the time period set

F3 or Left Arrow or Ctrl-Shift f : Play (not toggle)
F4 or Down Arrow or Ctrl-Shift s : Stop (not toggle)

F5 or 1 Ctrl-Shift [ : Previous
F7 or 2 or ctrl-shift p : Play / Pause toggle
F6 or 3 or Ctrl-Shift ] : Next

Ctrl-Shift - : Vol down
Ctrl-Shift = : Vol up

Ctrl-Shift h : This help box
```

Developer Notes

The code is written rather quickly in AutoHotKey (http://www.autohotkey.com/) by will wade (http://willwa.de) you can take a look at the source code here

(https://github.com/willwade/Scripting-Recipes-for-AT/tree/master/Autohotkey/MusicSwitcher) and you are more than welcome to fork the code and adapt for your own needs. (with thanks to this thread (http://www.autohotkey.com/community/viewtopic.php?t=23267))

There are some other scripts available on GitHub in this sub-project; Notably Play and Stop Windows Media Player. These were hacked together by Marcus Friday.

Free to use with Credit. Please consider forking back to this project if you make changes.