PackageConsole - ReadMe

Overview

PackageConsole is a WPF-based internal tool designed for automating application packaging, INI editing, deployment testing, and managing post-configuration steps. It is structured with a modular, page-based navigation system and supports detailed logging and reporting.

Features

- Home Page: Tile-based navigation to launch utility tools.

- Add Package: Form-based UI to upload, extract metadata, and structure application files.

- INI Console Page: Dynamic INI file viewer/editor with merging and undo.

- Postconfig: Allows advanced customization of INI sections and values.

- Testing Page: Automatically generates install/uninstall commands and runs them via Task Scheduler.

- App Deployment Test: Captures pre/post deployment snapshots and produces a full report.

- Previous Apps: Loads historical INI files and allows re-editing or exporting.

- Feedback Page: Submit ideas, bugs, or feature requests with optional screenshots.

Folder Structure

Packages are created under:

C:\Temp\PackageConsole\<AppName>_<Version>\1.0\

 Files\

 SupportFiles\

 tmpPackage.ini (auto-generated or merged file)

INI File Operations

- INI files are parsed and dynamically edited using a custom INI context interface.

- Supports merging tmpPackage.ini with base Package.ini.

- Undo and export options available in editor and PreviousApps page.

Deployment Testing

- Automatically determines package type (MSI, MST, PSADTK).

- Uses Windows Task Scheduler to run install/uninstall as SYSTEM.

- Captures pre and post snapshots, generates HTML reports and TSV files.

Logging

- Application-level logs are recorded using NLog.

- Deployment test logs are streamed to a RichTextBox with color coding.

- Logs stored in C:\Logs and support detailed diagnostics.

Admin Controls

- Feedback Page shows admin-only controls for users: sankara, venkat, archana, Dell.

- Admins can update responses to feedback directly in the app.

Future Enhancements

- Cloud sync for remote packaging.

- Central INI versioning system.

- Role-based user access.

- Live validation for INI sections before merging.