

Distribute Orders Plugin

This sample plugin provides a way to spread a set of orders over a desired number of days, such that each route for each day in the period can get some orders assigned to it. The plugin is useful for learning how to create a custom Page with some controls, and adding a custom Command to it which reads a file and adds orders to the project. The file *DistributeOrdersPage.xaml* contains xaml code for creating the custom page, *DistributeOrdersPage.xaml.cs* contains the support code for the page and *DistributeOrdersCmd.cs* contains the code for the custom command.

Installation:

1. Copy the plugin DLL (*DistributeOrdersPlugin.dll*) into the ArcLogistics install directory.

Usage:

1. A new action panel called “Distribute Orders” appears on the Schedule tab. There is only one task in the Tasks widget of the page, also called “Distribute Orders”.
2. First, click the Browse button on the page, and select a csv file containing the orders to be distributed. The column headers for the csv file must conform to the *Sample Plugins Import Specification*.
3. Next, specify the number of days that the orders must be spread over.
4. Click the Distribute Orders button. The plugin will first count the total number of routes (N) for the specified number of days, then cluster all orders into N clusters, and then assign the orders that belong to any n unused clusters to each day, where n is the number of routes present on that day. The idea is that there must be some spatially clustered orders available for each route each day.

Customization:

1. Open the Visual Studio project *DistributeOrdersPlugin*.
2. Modify references and project settings if needed.
3. Modify the code in the *Execute* method to change plugin behavior. It contains logic for setting the app status to busy, clustering, creating orders and adding them to schedules.
4. It may also be useful to change some of the other methods or properties, such as *Title* and *Tooltip*.
5. Modify the page’s xaml code in *DistributeOrdersPage.xaml* to change how the page looks, or the support code in *DistributeOrdersPage.xaml.cs* to change how the page reacts to user interaction.
6. Rebuild the project to obtain the new dll.
7. Copy the dll into the install directory, and run ArcLogistics to check the results.