PlayScheduler User Manual

Introduction

PlayScheduler is a professional scheduled media player software that supports automatic playback of video and audio files at specified times.

Quick Start

1. Create a Playback Task

1. Click the **"Add"** button on the right sidebar to open the task editor dialog
2. Fill in the task information and save
3. The task will automatically play at the scheduled time

2. Test a Task

After creating or modifying a task, you can test it immediately:
1. Select the task you want to test in the task list
2. Click the **"Test"** button on the left sidebar
3. The task will start playing immediately to verify if the settings are correct

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Task Settings Guide

Basic Settings

Setting	Description
Task Name	Give the task an easily identifiable name, such as "Morning News" or "Lunch Break Music"
Playback Time	Set the start time for playback, format: HH:MM (e.g., 08:30)

Media File Settings

Action	Description
Add File	Click "Browse" or "Add" button to select video/audio files
Add Multiple Files	You can add multiple files, which will play sequentially in list order
Adjust Order	Use the Move Up/Move Down buttons to adjust the playback order
Delete File	Select a file and click the delete button to remove it

Supported Formats:
- Video: MP4, AVI, MKV, MOV, WMV, FLV, etc.
- Audio: MP3, WAV, FLAC, AAC, OGG, etc.

Streaming Media Settings

In addition to local files, network streaming media is also supported:

Action	Description
Add Stream	Enter the streaming URL directly in the media file input box
Test Connection	Click the test button to verify if the stream plays correctly

Supported Streaming Formats:

Protocol	Description	Example
RTMP	Real-Time Messaging Protocol, commonly used for live streaming	`rtmp://server/live/stream`
RTSP	Real-Time Streaming Protocol, commonly used for surveillance cameras	`rtsp://server:554/stream`
HLS	HTTP Live Streaming, developed by Apple	`http://server/playlist.m3u8`
HTTP/HTTPS	Regular network video links	`https://example.com/video.mp4`
MMS	Microsoft Media Server protocol	`mms://server/stream`
UDP	User Datagram Protocol, used for multicast	`udp://@239.0.0.1:1234`

You can test using the following address:
rtmp://ns8.indexforce.com/home/mystream
https://www.apple.com/105/media/us/iphone-x/2017/01df5b43-28e4-4848-bf20-490c34a926a7/films/feature/iphone-x-feature-tpl-cc-us-20170912_1920x1080h.mp4
http://ngcdn001.cnr.cn/live/zgzs/index.m3u8
http://ngcdn002.cnr.cn/live/jjzs/index.m3u8
http://devimages.apple.com/iphone/samples/bipbop/gear1/prog_index.m3u8

Streaming Tips:
- Ensure stable network connection
- Stream URL must be directly accessible (no login required)
- It's recommended to use the test function to verify streams first
- Network latency may cause delayed playback start

Playback Settings

Setting	Description
Fullscreen Playback	Check to automatically enter fullscreen mode during playback
Playback Volume	Set the playback volume for this task (0-100)
Loop Playback	Whether to restart playback after completion

Date Exclusion Settings

Set specific dates when the task should not play (e.g., holidays, weekends):

1. Find the "Date Exclusion" area in the task editor dialog
2. Click on the calendar to select dates to exclude
3. Excluded dates will be displayed in the list
4. You can add or remove excluded dates at any time

Use Cases:

- Exclude weekends for weekday-only tasks
- Exclude national holidays
- Exclude special event dates

Task Management

View Tasks
- All tasks are displayed in the task list on the right side
- The list shows task name, playback time, status, and other information

Edit Task
- **Method 1:** Double-click a task to open the edit dialog
- **Method 2:** Select a task and click the "Edit Task" button on the left

Delete Task
- Right-click a task and select "Delete"
- Or select a task and press the Delete key

Test Task
- Select a task and click the **"Test"** button on the left
- The task will start playing immediately without waiting for the scheduled time
- Use this to verify that media files and settings are correct

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Playback Controls

Control Buttons
- **Play/Pause**: Click the play button below the player
- **Stop**: Click the stop button to end the current playback
- **Volume Control**: Drag the volume slider to adjust volume
- **Progress Control**: Drag the progress bar to jump to a specific position

Fullscreen Mode
- Check "Fullscreen Playback" in task settings to auto-enter fullscreen
- Press **ESC** key to exit fullscreen
- Double-click the video to manually toggle fullscreen

Interrupt Playback

The interrupt playback feature allows you to temporarily insert emergency or scheduled content during normal playback.

Emergency Interrupt

For content that needs to be played immediately (e.g., emergency notices, temporary announcements):

1. Click menu **"Play → Emergency Interrupt"** or use the shortcut button
2. Select the media file to interrupt with in the dialog
3. Click "OK" to immediately start playing the interrupt content
4. After the interrupt completes, the previous task automatically resumes

Features:
- Immediately interrupts current playback
- Interrupt content has the highest priority
- Automatically resumes the original task after completion

Scheduled Interrupt

For content pre-arranged to play at a specific time:

1. Click menu **"Play → Scheduled Interrupt"**
2. Set the interrupt time (HH:MM)
3. Select the media file to interrupt with
4. Click "OK" to save the interrupt schedule
5. The interrupt will automatically execute at the set time

Features:
- Pre-arrange interrupt schedules in advance
- Automatically executes at the scheduled time without manual operation
- Automatically resumes normal playback after completion

Interrupt Use Cases

Scenario	Recommended Method
Emergency notices, breaking events	Emergency Interrupt
Scheduled ads, previews	Scheduled Interrupt
Temporary announcements	Emergency Interrupt
Hourly chimes, program previews	Scheduled Interrupt

Menu Functions

File Menu
- **Import Tasks**: Import task configuration from a file
- **Export Tasks**: Export tasks to a file for backup
- **Exit**: Close the program

Edit Menu
- **New Task**: Create a new playback task
- **Edit Task**: Modify the selected task
- **Delete Task**: Delete the selected task

Play Menu
- **Play/Pause**: Control current playback
- **Stop**: Stop playback

Help Menu
- **Help**: View help information
- **Purchase License**: Get a full version license
- **About**: View software version information

FAQ

Q: How do I prevent a task from playing on weekends?
A: Edit the task and select all Saturdays and Sundays in the date exclusion settings.

Q: How do I verify that a task is set up correctly?
A: Select the task and click the "Test" button. The task will play immediately without waiting for the scheduled time.

Q: How do I play multiple files?
A: Add multiple media files in the task editor. Files will play sequentially in list order.

Q: No sound during playback?
A: Check that system volume and the software volume slider are turned on. Also check the volume setting in the task configuration.

Q: How do I back up all tasks?
A: Use the menu "File → Export Tasks" to save tasks to a file.

Q: The program says it's already running?
A: The program can only run one instance. Please check the taskbar or system tray.

Q: How do I temporarily disable a task?
A: Edit the task and uncheck the "Enable Task" option. The task will not play automatically.

Technical Support

- **Email**: getpdffusion7300@gmail.com
- **Website**:https://www.smartschedule365.com/

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