

HOW TO INTERGRATE HIGH END SCHEDULERS INTO AIRCAST

Professional standalone schedulers (talking about MusicMaster, RCS, and possibly also Music1) do have a lot of more features and possibilities than the built-in schedulers. Things that are beyond my capabilities. Scheduling algorithms can get very complex, and these guys have decades of experience with efficient and smart algorithms.

Generally, Aircast can import playlists from external schedulers in a variety of formats (more than three actually). M3U would be the most simple one, but it lacks the possibility to include control information (e.g. mark the beginning of the next hour).

Aircast's "native" format is the "TPI" format documented here:

https://www.mairlist.com/dokuwiki/reference:text_playlist_import_format_specification

It's a simple CSV-style format, with several columns that can hold control information, so you can import by filename or by ID, include multiple hours in a single file (most schedulers will produce daily logs), etc.

On the other hand, if a particular scheduling software has its own native format, I might also implement that one in little time. But most of the time, these external schedulers come with an "export designer" that allows you to adjust the output to any format required by the automation software (us).

Oh, and then they might want to sync the other way around (Aircast library to scheduler library) - there is a CSV export function in AircastDB for that:

https://www.mairlist.com/dokuwiki/reference:mairlistdb_library_csv_import_export

Here's an example of how everything is put together, for a different product (MusicMaster):

<https://www.mairlist.com/dokuwiki/tutorials:musicmaster:mairlistdb-sync-files>