



POWER-MERGE
SOFTWARE OWNERS
INFORMATION MANUAL

For: Sound-Manager - LAN Inc.

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INTRODUCTION:

The POWER-MERGE Schedule Editor has been designed in cooperation with LAN International to enhance the schedule preparation process of POWER-LINK and Sound Manager System clients (Hereafter referred to as Sound Manager System). POWER-LINK acknowledges and is grateful of the continued support provided by Orban in the development of this project.

The Program is designed to make schedule files "Sound Manager System Ready", by allowing the task of music merging and final editing to be performed *external* to the Sound Manager System. The user may also insert, delete, change the line-up and change the characteristics of items. It is also possible to view the schedule as to determine time placement of event carts and titles.

The schedule editor is very flexible, in that it is capable of merging any number of same type files (spots to spots) or dissimilar files (spots to music), by constantly sorting out the incoming information by time, cart or title. The final exported file is always sorted by Sound Manager.

The enhanced BREAK commands make spot placement in the music merging more definite. The system has the capability to automatically place end of hour Alignments and to pattern segue codes. Template creation and merging is a new area where Power-Merge dynamically expands the ability to create precise program schedules.

INSTALLATION:

Ideally, the program should be installed in a subdirectory named \PM. The files PM.EXE and PM.OVR are needed from the installation disk. With updates, Power-Link will supply a self-executable zip file, which is to be placed in the Power-Merge sub directory and run from the DOS prompt or command line. In an effort to organize the future logs and data, it may be advisable to additionally create subdirectories under \PM to put the files of each station to be affected.

STATION CONFIGURATION FOR:

For future reference, it is advisable that once configuration is complete the necessary paths are entered below:

Executable Subdirectory	_____
Path for Music Files	_____
Path for Traffic Logs	_____
Path mask for Archive Files	_____

STATION CONFIGURATION:

```
          P O W E R  -  L I N K
          E D I T O R  C O N F I G U R A T I O N

Configure Stations: █
ReInit Printer----:
Printer Location - : Prn
Events per Page---: 58
Printer Init -----: 27 64
Wide Type On-----: 27 87 1
Wide Type Off-----: 27 87 0
Italics On -----: 27 52
Italics Off -----: 27 53
Bold On -----: 27 69
Bold Off -----: 27 70
Printer Finish ---: 27 64

          Press ^Enter or Esc to end..
```

Once installation is complete, it is time to configure Power-Merge Schedule Editor for your station or stations. The first time the program is started, it will default to the Program configuration screen. Additionally the program configuration can be accessed by pressing "Ctrl-C" from the main operating screen. From the first screen, select Configure Stations press "Enter". You will now be offered a choice of configuring up to 15 different stations

```
Station 1 : DEMO      Station 6 :           Station 11:
Station 2 : DEM1      Station 7 :           Station 12:
Station 3 : DEM2      Station 8 :           Station 13:
Station 4 :           Station 9 :           Station 14:
Station 5 :           Station 10:          Station 15:
```

To configure a station select the first available open station from the list and press enter.

Upon entering the configuration screen, you will be presented with a series of configuration parameters. We will now examine their function and use. It is important that you predetermine certain details such as file extension and import and export paths. If you have this information at hand it will expedite the process of configuring the station. However you may go back at any time and alter the configuration settings. Remember that should you alter a path or file extension, you will have to ensure that all previously saved files have also been altered or discarded whatever the case may be. Look to the bottom of the screen for the help prompt as you move from field to field.

STATION CONFIGURATION CONT.

CONFIGURATION	DESCRIPTION
Import Path for Music Logs	The full path and file mask to retrieve the music logs. e.g. C:\DEMO\MUSICIN*.MUS
Import Path for Traffic Logs	The full path and file mask to retrieve traffic logs. e.g. C:\DEMO\TRAFIN*.EVR
Export Path for Final Logs	This is this path for your export logs e.g. D:\PLAYLIST\. Remember to end the path with a Backslash Character “\”.
Export Logs Extension	Enter the 3-letter extension for the export file. This will by default be TXT .
Spot Set Interval	Enter the spot set interval (Minimum time between spot breaks)
Enter “Y” to create Archived Logs	Upon export, should Power-Merge create an archive copy of the log being exported?
Path for Archived Logs	This is the Path to store the archived log. e.g.: D:\DEMO\ARCHIVES\
Enter “S” if using Selector or “M” for Music-Master	Enter the numbers “S” or “M” to select the type of music compiler you are using. See section on specific file formats.
Configure Dynamic Carts	This will allow you to configure the dynamic cart naming structure. For a full explanation see section on Dynamic Carts
Dynamic Cart Trigger Character	Enter the character to be found in the cart number field to trigger the event as a dynamic Cart.

STATION CONFIGURATION CONT.

CONFIGURATION	DESCRIPTION
Hours for End of Hour update	Press "enter", to access the grid to turn on the hours that must receive the update.
Path for merge Templates	Enter path to store and find template files.
Automatically try to find daily templates	Must Power-Merge seek out a logical template to use when merging all files?
Prompt For Recalc	Do you wish Power-Merge to prompt you to Recalculate times after merging?
Prompt for date upon export.	Must Power-Merge prompt for the date for the export file upon Unloading?
Prompt to do Auto-Fill after Merge	Should Power-Merge Prompt user to process the auto-fill routines after a merge?

PRINTING SCHEDULES:

Power-Merge not only performs the merging and the above additional functions but rounds off it functionality by printing a formatted log complete with both music and spots. The log is designed to be easy to read and is unique because it is the first opportunity to see the day's schedule in a composite form. To print formatted log from the main editing area press the F5 key. The user will be presented with a series of options for designing the layout of the log as well as calendar to select which day to print out. The formatted log has been designed in cooperation with broadcasters to provide a printed composite log. There are no advanced print design features available, call Power-Link should you wish to see a variation in the printed log format.

CONFIGURING FOR PRINTING:

The printer codes found in this configuration are for a formatted printout of the merged log. This provides an easy to read log containing both music and spots just as they are to be scheduled in the automation.

Configuring for printing is automatically requested upon the installation of POWER-MERGE if the configuration file "PM.CFG" is not found. Additionally the configuration screen can be accessed by pressing "Control-C" at the editing screen. Select ReInit Printer command to reinitiate the printer and select which compatible printer is to be used. For Power-Merge to format the printed log, it must have the values needed to instruct the printer. These are usually known as the printer's commands or "Escape commands"; they can usually be found and explained in the manual or programmer's reference that included with the printer. Each print type used can be assigned the proper printer command codes.

BREAK COMMANDS:

For MusicMaster simply place a "T" Traffic break in your clock at the desired location. As you construct the traffic break, the next parameter will ask for a 2 digit number, this is where you specify which minute in the hour you want the traffic break to start collecting it's commercial matter form. The duration of the break determines the length of time from the starting minute of the break. If you specified 20 in the starting time field and duration of 3 minutes, the traffic break will pull all commercial matter from 20 minutes after to 22:59 after the hour into the time that the traffic break fell. (Determined by the position in the music schedule)

For SELECTOR music scheduler, the use of break commands are to insure the correct placement of traffic generated items (spots sets, jingles, whatever). Using BREAK as a cart number will change trigger POWER-MERGE to seek a begin time and break length located elsewhere in the title field. The values should be a value inside square brackets with the beginning minute, hyphen and break-ending minute as in [17-20]. This example would force all traffic events to the BREAK'S time from the 17th minute up to and including the 20th minute (no matter where the BREAK command is found), allowing a more definite placement of traffic items.

SPECIFIC FILE FORMATS

MUSICMASTER:

In MusicMaster the file format is set once by utilizing the LOG-TO-ASCII utility supplied By MusicMaster. A file called "LOG2ASC.DEF" is created and can be edited with a simple text editor. The following is the layout of a current Power-Merge user's "Log2Asc.def" file.

```
D:\musicout\  
17, 1, 6  
13, 1, 3  
3, 1, 15  
2, 1, 14  
99  
5, 1, 2  
6, 1, 1
```

For more details on how to create the Log2Asc.Def file consult the MusicMaster manual, (Version 1.1 Page 344) or contact A-Ware Software for standard configuration settings.

SPECIFIC FILE FORMATS CONT.:

SELECTOR:

For selector, a new log design needs to be set-up. Using the Selector "Print the Log" option select "F4" for the "Edit Log Format". Select a format you wish to edit and set it up using the following formula:

- 1) Clear out all Header and Footer information. Turn all page settings to "0".
- 2) Set output file name to \PATH\@M@D@Y.MUS (extension may be any 3-letter combo.)
- 3) Set music and break notes as follows:

MUSIC EVENTS

COLUMN NUMBER	TEXT	FIELD
1 - 7	CART NUMBER	enter "Song Id" or use "Label" to create a personal ID
9 / 10	HOUR MILITARY TIME	AH
11	COLON	F7 for punctuation enter ":"
12 - 16	LOG TIME INCLUDING PUNCTUATION	enter "LT" to give log time
23 - 36	TITLE	enter "TI" for song title here
37	SEMI COLON	F7 for punctuation enter ";"
38 - 53	ARTIST NAME	enter "A1" for artist name here
60 - 63	ENTER RUNTIME HERE	enter "RT" to give duration

BREAK EVENTS

COLUMN NUMBER	TEXT	FIELD
1 - 7	MEDIA FIELD	enter "Media Field"
9 / 10	HOUR MILITARY TIME	AH
11	COLON	F7 for punctuation enter ":"
12 - 16	LOG TIME INCLUDING PUNCTUATION	enter "LT" to give log time
23 - 37	TITLE	enter "TI" for song title here
28 - 53	ARTIST NAME	enter "A1" for artist name here
60 - 63	ENTER RUNTIME HERE	enter "RT" to give duration

An example of the above format is as follows:

COLUMNS							
1 - 7	8	9 - 16	17-22	23 - 37	38 - 53	54-59	60-63
SI		AH:LT		TI	A1		RT
2007-09		06:04:55		THE BUG	MARY-CHAPIN CARPEN		3:36
2004-01		06:08:36		HALF A WORLD AWAY	GREG LEE		4:02
BREAK		06:12:40		TRAFFIC BREAK [10-15]			5:00
1882-00		06:20:43		I WISH	SKEELO		4:02
2040-04		06:28:20		CONGA	BARRIO BOYS		4:41

DYNAMIC CARTS:

The use of Dynamic Cart is mainly for constructing unique cart numbers that may contain: Abbreviations of the day of the week, numeric sequencing of the events appearance during the entire day or numeric sequencing within the hour.

Dynamic Cart Number Config		
Reserved Title	Cart Mask	Duration
1. UBREAK	-> \$/#H	-> 00:00
2.	->	-> 00:00
3.	->	-> 00:00
4.	->	-> 00:00
5.	->	-> 00:00
6.	->	-> 00:00
7.	->	-> 00:00
8.	->	-> 00:00
9.	->	-> 00:00
10.	->	-> 00:00
11.	->	-> 00:00
12.	->	-> 00:00
13.	->	-> 00:00
14.	->	-> 00:00
15.	->	-> 00:00

Esc to Exit

Dynamic carts are triggered by the placement of a character in the cart field. (This character is configurable at the configuration screen.) The title of the event must equal one of the “reserved” Titles in the Dynamic Cart configuration. The cart number is then reconstructed and assigned to that event based on the Static (placed as typed) and dynamic symbols placed in the cart Mask field. The following are the available variables in the cart mask:

SWITCH	PRODUCE THIS CART NUMBER
\$	Places a number variable for the day of the week (1=Sun, 2=Mon, 3=Tue, 4=Wed, 5=Thu, 6=Fri, 7=Sat)
#H	Places the current hour number (01,02,03,..., 18,19,20,) in 24-hour time, with leading zero's.
#C	Places the event's appearance count from the top of the hour. (01,02,03,.....,18,19,20) in 24 hour time with leading zero's
#D	Places the event's appearance count from the beginning of the day.

Any other characters will be considered static (unchangeable) characters and will be placed in the same sequence as they are entered into the cart mask.

UPDATE TIME COMMANDS

Update Time Commands are used in instances where you want certain events to occur at a set time within the hour, particularly placing an “update” at the end of an hour’s scheduled events. Placing an update at the end of the hour allows the user to specify that at a certain pre-specified time, Sound Manager will “update” to that position in the playlist to the beginning of the next hour. POWER-LINK allows you to configure Update Time Commands for each Hour. The configuration of an Update takes four steps:

- 1) In the configuration screen select the "Update Time" for the update command.
- 2) Press "enter" on the "Hours for Update" selection and you will be presented with a 24 hour seven day selection screen:

Now select the hours of each day that you want the update commands to take effect by turning each particular hour to "Y".

- 3) Select a unique "Update Position Character" for your update trigger. This can be a character such as '@', '\$', '#', '^', or any given character. However avoid Alpha Numeric characters unless you are sure no other Title exists with that character in its title field.
- 4) Configure the title of the event you want to be the first event after the update command. E.G. if your "UPD POS. CHAR" is ^, and you want a "20 After liner" to be an update. Then the title for the ID would be: "20 After Liner ^"

On applying the Update Commands the update for 20-after, will be placed in front of the event with the Upd Pos Char. When the Automation reaches 20-after, if it has not reached the update command it will drop all upcoming events and go to the update command putting the 20 after liner as its next playable event.

IMPORTING DATA:

Event information (music or commercials) can be imported by way of either manually adding to the schedule or imported directly from a traffic system or music compiler that exports to the Sound Manager System schedule format. The loading order is inconsequential to the merge results. Once a schedule has been merged with another, there is no way to separate (unmerge?) them except to start over. Since this process does NOT erase any files, a restart is always possible. The process for importing from a traffic system or music compiler is as follows

Alt-L (for Load) will prompt the user asking for the format to initially search.

ALL		Will prompt the user with a calendar to select a date and will pull in music spots and any logical templates.
SELECT	MUSIC	Will allow user to select from a list of available music schedules.
	COMMERCIALS	Will allow user to select from a list of available spot schedules.
	TEMPLATE	Will allow user to select from a list of available templates.
ARCHIVES		Will bring up a list of the archived logs.

By choosing "All" in the loading screen, Power-Merge will find all files pertaining to the date chosen from the calendar. After pulling in the music and commercial schedule, Power-Merge will seek out any logical templates. E.g.: MON.TMP for a Monday template. After the loading process has finished you will be prompted to recalculate the logs. It is advisable to recalculate, as it will present you with accurate schedule times for editing. Any final editing may now be carried out.

If the user decides to pull in each the schedule individually. The process will differ in that each file in the process will have to be loaded. When loading individual files it is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** that, you do NOT press the letter "R", for "Recalc times". This recalculation is based on the current hour and event duration's. Recalculations should be performed only when music and spots have been fully merged. The erroneous effect of "Recalculating" with only one log loaded would change all of the event times to follow the top of the hour, incrementing the times of the events in accordance to the total length of the preceding events. Once the first file has been loaded, the second file can be loaded using the same process. At this point, you will be prompted to "Do Merge" or "Start New File". "Start New" will reinitiate the work-file. "Do Merge" would combine the two schedules.

TEMPLATES AND TEMPLATE MERGING:

Templates and Template merging is a relatively new field of schedule creation. It became apparent that there was a need to create a series of events that appeared regularly in a schedule but that were not scheduled by music or traffic. POWER-LINK has created excellent templates routines to give the user the ability to build and construct their templates to their own desired style and content. In its simplest form a template would be merely a list of jingles and PSA or any other events that are needed in the schedule, however with more rigid automation control needed it has become necessary to pass more than just the necessities. For this reason Power-Merge has several options of schedule formatting and spot cluster processing.

POWER-LINK can create templates that are able to pad Network Commercial breaks to the required fill time and can also create Templates for sporting events which do not necessarily run at the same time each day. These templates are then merged with their time being offset to allow for the change of the actual broadcast time.

TYPES OF TEMPLATES:

Daily Template: Ideally, this contains the events needed to enhance the daily schedule. You can construct one template per day or use one template for the complete week. There is no limit as to the amount of templates you create.

Special Event Templates: These templates are constructed for use with special events such a sports broadcast. These templates are unique in that their start times begin at 00:00:00 this allows for the creation of templates that can be

plugged in to the schedule wherever they are needed. I.e. a template for a three hour event has a start time of 00:00:00 and an end time of 02:??:??.

Must Fill Template: This could be a daily template or a special event template. Regardless this template contains formatted breaks using a Fill definition event followed by a series of events that will be used to pad the break to its specified length. Creating the Breaks and specifying its parameters will allow for Satellite breaks to be filled to the correct amount of time needed by the satellite format.

TEMPLATE BUILDING:

To construct a template it is necessary to begin with either an existing schedule containing the events or a blank screen in the editing window. To get a Blank screen, press F10 and select clear screen. Template construction is made simple by dynamic copying routines, which allow you to construct one event and then copy over its details to the next required time. The easiest and most straightforward way of constructing a template is to work on a one-hour block until it resembles the layout you want. Then mark off all the events and "Mass Change" (using the "Create New Events with Changes" Option) their time to the needed hours. Templates can contain as many events as required to complete your final schedule, however remember to take into account all the necessary items that may come down from traffic and music scheduling.

Templates ideally contain events that are not scheduled by traffic or Music but are needed in the final schedule. In addition to static spots, PSA's or program elements, there also may be "control events" (such Labels) that affects the on-air behavior of the automation. For enabling the "Spot Set Must Fill Feature," Power-Merge has to know what your rules are for commercial break fill duration's and what spot set start times. Therefore, we have created special events that are NOT passed to your automation but rather are only used internally in Power-Merge to automatically yield the desired spot set lengths. These events are referred to "Fill Definitions"

Constructing a template involves inserting events, along with their relevant air time and event details. These details vary depending on which event type you select, During the building of a template it should be kept in mind that events in a template are normally events that will not be scheduled by traffic or music. Using the following various events, you begin by inserting your details into the format that you require. Always take into account that Airtimes are approximate in that events such as Recalculating the playlist and Traffic break commands can effect the airtime of events as needed (if these functions are used).

TEMPLATE LOADING:

To merge a template with your music and commercials, you load it as you would a regular schedule file and select "template" from the load type. You will be prompted with a directory of all the templates available in you template directory. When you load a template, you have a variety of options. You may leave the

template as is, You can block out certain hours of the template or you can offset the template.

Block Hours: Blocking hours out of a template is used when you have an event such as a sport's event that requires different programming to the normal schedule. In this case, it will be used with the template created for the sports event. For example, if the Sports event were to run from 14H00 to 17H00 then you would block out 14 to 16 hours. (Remember the 17th hour is when you will return to your normal template, so it is NOT included in the blackout)

Offset Template: One feature of template merging is the ability to create special event templates. To load a special event template you would block out the necessary hours in the daily template and then "offset" the special event template by its starting time from midnight using military time. Templates can be offset by hours and minutes. Remember that in offsetting the templates the times will be re-referenced from the new beginning time. E.G.: An event that has to start at 2:30pm should have its template offset by 14H30 hours.

TEMPLATE UNLOADING:

Once a template is built it is necessary to save it. To do this you export it as you would a normal schedule. Pressing Alt-U will present you with the option to unload the playlist. In this case, you opt to save it as a template and you will be prompted to supply the template name. It is important that you choose a clear and defined template naming structure for future reference. You will also be prompted to add an additional line of text defining the template.

EVENT EDITING:

During schedule editing the following keystrokes are possible:

COMMAND	FUNCTION
ALT-A	Change the active station.
ALT-C	Un-marks or clears all "marked" events with one keystroke.
ALT-D	Apply the dynamic carts.
ALT-L	To Load or merge another schedule. This is used for both music and traffic schedules.
ALT-M	To perform " Mass Changes ". If when you activate Alt-M there is events marked for changes, you will be prompted with a bare editing screen with the edit-able fields that can be changed. <i>Only the fields that you enter information for will be changed.</i> Therefore it can be also said that the fields that you leave blank will <i>not</i> be changed. After changed all items are unmarked.
ALT-R	Reform a recalculation of air times based on the duration of the

	previous events.
ALT-U	To Unload or export an edited file.
CTRL-C	Configuration of the stations and printer commands.
DEL.	Delete the currently highlighted event.
EDIT	To edit an entry, place the bar cursor on the item to be edited and press Enter or simply click the mouse to move the cursor to the item to be edited then click again to start editing. REMEMBER: "Control Enter" (^Enter) finishes the editing and saves the changes or ESC will abort the changes.
ESC	To exit the Program.
F2	Apply the End of hour update commands as defined in program configuration.
F3	Toggle Sort from Airtime, Cart Number, and Title.
F4	Apply both segue codes and Alignment commands.
	Apply just the segue codes as defined in the segue matrix.
	Apply the alignment commands. Alignment commands allow the schedule to have command cuts that align the schedule according to the time. These are placed at 1 second after the top of hour in configured hours.
F5	Print out schedule in your desired style. This is also where you begin to obtain a formatted composite log from POWER-MERGE.

COMMAND	FUNCTION
F7	Process Must Fill break Routines, by adding the configured events to breaks that are short of content.
	Create a Must fill Report showing which brackets need events to be added or deleted.
F8	Chose between Single hour study of time and events including average times or a 24-hour study of time and events (in brief).
F10	Rebuild ; rebuild the indexes for any reason the user suspects the sorting order or editing performance is not behaving correctly.
	Clear the screen. Remove the currently displayed schedule and leave a blank screen. Used when beginning to build templates or to just start with a fresh screen.
INS	Insert new items just before the item highlighted, same as new item but the airtime is already prompted to properly make an insert.
J	JUMPS to preselected time in the schedule by entering time.
M	"Pick-Up and Move " the currently highlighted event.
R	To Recalculate airtimes based on duration's of spots & music. This

	calls on the same Recalculating time procedure as described earlier in this document.
S	To " swap " the places of two events, place the cursor bar over the first event to swap and press the letter "S", the event will then show the S character to mark it to be swapped. Find the other event that you want to swap it with and press " S " again, the two events will be instantly swapped.
Space	Use the Spacebar to " mark " an event for future mass changes. The Spacebar will "toggle" an item's marked status.

EVENT TYPES AND EDITING PARAMETERS:
--

Spot: A commercial event with the necessary traffic codes.

Cart Number: Supply relevant cart number.

Event Title: Supply the events title.

Airtime: Enter the approximate airtime for the event.

Duration: Enter the duration of the event.

Dropable for Auto-Fill: Can this event be dropped during Must fill routines.

Drop in the presence of traffic events: if this event is used in a fill break, can it be dropped if there is a valid event from traffic.

Event Type: S for Spot

Music: A music item with its necessary codes.

Cart Number: Supply relevant cart number.

Song Title: Supply the events title.

Artist: Supply the events artist details.

Duration: Enter the duration of the event.

Airtime: Enter the approximate airtime for the event.

Event Type: M for Music

Traffic Break: A label string that it used to pull together commercial items into a specific place.

Cart Number: Field is filled automatically.

Event title: Supply the events title.

Airtime: Airtime of break.

Traffic Break start minute: Which minute in the hour you wish the break to start collecting commercials from.

Start Second: Which second in the minute you wish the break to start collecting commercials from.

Length of break window: From the starting Minute and Second, this determines the length of the range of spots to be affected. Example: If the Traffic Break Minute and Second started at 20 past the hour and the duration was 5 minutes then the Traffic Break Command would gather and change the time of all of the traffic originated events from 20 past to (and including) the 25th minute.

Event type: T= Traffic break. This field is filled automatically.

EVENT TYPES AND EDITING PARAMETERS CONT.:

Comment: A comment field used to pass notes through to the automation for display on screen.

Label or Comment: Enter the relevant comment. (65 character Max.)

Airtime: Enter the approximate airtime for the event.

Event type: L = Comment

Update Command: To allow the automation to jump to this event at its required time.

Cart Number: Use the word AUTO, MAN, HARD or SOFT to make this an Update.

Event title: Supply the events title

Airtime: Enter the approximate airtime to reposition the affected events.

Update Begin time: Enter time for update to begin

Event type: U = Update

Fill Definition: An event to create "must fill" spot sets. This event must be followed by the necessary events required to fill the break should it run short. Additionally it defines a spot set range of time to control whether a Skip Command (an event Dropped in the presence of any traffic events for that time range) event should be kept or not.

Cart Number: Filled automatically as "FillDef".

Event title: Supply the events title

Amount of time to fill to: The amount of time that must be used.

Airtime for visual placement only: Enter a time for visual placement of break during editing. Ideally, these are placed one minute before the affected spot cluster.

Fill using commercials between minutes of [xx] and [xx]: enter the start and ending minutes (in its hour) for the time range where the commercials will be gathered.

Set commercial break to start at: Enter the actual airtime when you want the break to start. All elements' time in this spot set will begin and increment from this time.

Event type: Enter event type F= Fill definition.

RECALCING TIMES:

Most music compilers will automatically calculate airplay schedule times. A song starts at the top of the hour, is 3:30 long and so the next song starts at 3:30 after the top of the hour and so on. The compiler simply goes through the hour and increments the airtimes on the events according to the total time used by the previous events in that hour.

At the time at the music compiler calculated the times, there was only one thing missing, the commercial content. Once the schedules have been merged, an accurate recalculation of air times can be performed. Since POWER-MERGE is now counting ALL events, an accurate projection of total time accounted for in the hour can be performed. Spots times increment and music after spot breaks become aware of the time occupied by the spots. POWER-MERGE sets the time for the events in accordance to the time occupied by the previous events in the hour.

EXPORTING DATA:

After final editing, the "Unloading" or Exporting of the schedule must be performed. The unloading process is activated by pressing the Alt-U keystroke

sequence. The exported file will be sent along the path as specified in the program configuration. Once the file has been exported, any batch files, specified to run upon transfer, will be carried out. Typically, a common batch file is to change to the \DAD\FILES\ sub-directory, and run the Replist utility to attach the file to the list of available files. Additionally this batch file could be called upon to copy over files or whatever other commands need to be executed. There are three options for exporting:

PLAYLIST	Will export a final playlist to the AV SYSTEM.
RELOADABLE	Will export the log to production for further editing. These would then be pulled in later for final merging with commercials
TEMPLATES	Will export schedule as a template. Templates should be named clearly and have a description for future reference.

Note: the file name for the reloadable daypart is made up according to the parameters set up in the Archive File Export Mask in the Configuration screen and explained in the Section on Dayparts to Export.

END OF TRANSFER COMMAND:

The end of transfer command gives the ability for a batch file containing necessary routines, to be executed. Ordinarily a command to attach the exported file to AV system's Playlist Database must be used. The batch file should be created with all the commands necessary to transfer the files. Often it has been found that there is a need for a file to first attach to a server in order to transfer the final file. In this case the correct Attach, login and map commands must be carried out before coping of files and running of the Replist utility.

GENERAL OPERATING PROCEDURE:

While performing functions in Power-Merge, look to the bottom of the screen for help prompts that display a brief description to assist in the function of the program.

1. Start the program and choose which station you wish to process. If only one station is configured program will default to that configuration.
2. You will now see the last schedule that you worked on displayed on the screen.
3. Press Alt-L to begin loading. Select from one of the following files to load.

ALL	Will pop-up a calendar, which will allow user to choose a day to process. All files relative to that date will be pulled in as well as any logical templates. Select file and press enter.
MUSIC	Will bring up a directory of the available music files. Select file and press enter.
SPOTS	Will bring up a directory of the available traffic files. Select file and press enter.
TEMPLATES	Will bring up a directory of the available templates. Select file and press enter.

4. Once the file has been loaded, It can now be edited before merging with another schedule. If the "Load All" option was selected the merged log will be on screen.
5. Depending on the configuration settings Prompts to automatically add soft branches and to recalculate the times will pop up at this point. If these functions were configured as to be performed manually, remember to carry them out before exporting.
6. Editing functions can now be carried out on the log. A list of the editing functions is available in this manual.
7. Before exporting, remember to ensure that a recalculation has been performed to correctly time out the hours.
8. When final editing has been carried out, it is time to export the schedule.

PLAYLIST	Will export the schedule as a final playlist to the configured playlist directory with the File mask. Once file has been written out, the end of transfer command, batch file will be executed.
TEMPLATES	Will bring up an edit screen to supply a name and brief description to the template that you are going to export.

9. Once exporting is complete, a second station can be processed by pressing Alt-A and selecting from the available stations.
10. Pressing escape will prompt to exit the program.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The editing work session is performed using two DOS files called KXXX.dat and KXXX.idx, where KXXX are the call letters of the station being worked on. Erasing these files will do no harm except erase the previous edit session, which then must be reloaded from the original schedule files from traffic and music. The schedule files are overwritten in cases of starting a new schedule and appended when merging.

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