

Power-Link's "Show Fetch" program

For safely retrieving, naming and importing Commercials and Syndication Shows Segments

Introduction: PLFetch was developed by our clients to automatically and safely download and markup radio show segments for assured airing the latest program version and to quickly notify station personnel of any errors.

Features

- **Fully Automated FTP transfer** with login and file transfers performed on a timed and "when available" basis
- Optional **email and instant text message notification** of station personnel for transfer confirmation or any errors encountered
- **Custom cart numbering** for each segment which can be read from an instructional file or directly from the program log for proper segment placement in schedule
- **FTP File Dates** are checked to see that **programs have truly been updated** since the last visit - preventing downloading the same media.
- **All files double checked in automation after download** to verify that they are the latest version of the program.
- **Local Backup files** made for quick restore of media files in the event a needed media file is accidentally erased or otherwise is missing
- **Custom time windows for each show** so that shows can be downloaded well prior to airing as per their availability
- **Unlimited number of shows** can be configured - each with it's own FTP Login, time windows, personnel notification, cart numbering and metadata updating parameters
- **Media metadata can be custom modified** for better clarity of events' description and show placement for both WAV and MP3 files including "scot chunk" needed for WideOrbit Automation
- **CPU efficient** continual running 32 bit Windows console application performs the work around the clock
- **FTP File times reports** helps determine when show media is truly ready to be downloaded.
- **Download Hotkeys** (F1, F2 etc) to **force a download** when needed.

Views of the program and its messages

Here is the program running awaiting the next program's time window

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PLFetch Version 2.0 Started at 10:58 am 04/19/22 - 8 sweeps
At 06:09 am 04/21/22 - American Top 40 fetched 13 files of 13 Files Expected for 04/21
[F1] NOT Active - John Tesh Show           Activates at 04:00 - Fri 04/22 to air at 10:00 - Fri 04/22
[F2] NOT Active - Mario Lopez Show        Activates at 14:30 - Thu 04/21 to air at 15:00 - Thu 04/21
[F3] NOT Active - Ryan Seacrest Show      Activates at 15:30 - Thu 04/21 to air at 19:00 - Thu 04/21
[F4] NOT Active - American Top 40        Activates at 06:00 - Thu 04/28 to air at 09:00 - Sat 04/30
[F5] NOT Active - Paul Shaffer Show      Activates at 09:00 - Sat 04/23 to air at 08:50 - Mon 04/25
[F6] NOT Active - John Tesh -Best Of- Show Activates at 08:00 - Sat 04/23 to air at 13:00 - Sat 04/23

Current Config File - : C:\PLFetch\PLFetch.cfg
Current Activity Log  : C:\PLFetch\PLFetch_App_220421_Activity_Log.TXT
-----
Next Process time is at --> 14:30 - Thu 04/21 For Mario Lopez Show
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Press Q to Quit, K to toggle Email - else any other key to run a process
-----
Next Fetch Attempt in 04:50:20 - 00:20 until next final file check - Messages active

Most Recent Verify Process Results . . .
For John Tesh Show           @ 09:19 - Final Files Mod D/T Success: 30 of 30 Files - No Time Issues!
For Mario Lopez Show         @ 09:19 - DL window opens at 14:30, show starts at 15:00
For Ryan Seacrest Show      @ 09:19 - DL window opens at 15:30, show starts at 19:00
For American Top 40         @ 09:19 - Final Files Mod D/T Success: 13 of 13 Files - No Time Issues!
For Paul Shaffer Show       @ 09:19 - Fetch not scheduled today
For John Tesh -Best Of- Show @ 09:19 - Fetch not scheduled today
    
```

Below is a portion of a confirmation email to personnel

The file sizes are highlighted in cyan because they are correct, if there was a file size discrepancy, it would be highlighted in yellow and the title of the email would indicate an error.

New Download for Mario Lopez Show for Date 08-30-21 - No Errors...

PL-Fetch Program To: rick@proofofplay.com, dturecki@dougallmedia.com - Cc: Power-Link Support

8/30/21, 12:58 PM

Mario Lopez Show for date 08-30-21 at 12:57 pm 08/30/21

The Expected 26 files were found on the Server!

Files Downloaded and Processed

FTP File Name	FTP Size	Local File Name	Local Size	Target File Name	Target Size
MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 1A).mp3	351617	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\08-30-2021\MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 1A).mp3	351617	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\AvAir\6015.MP3	351617
MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 1B).mp3	2350393	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\08-30-2021\MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 1B).mp3	2350393	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\AvAir\6016.MP3	2350393
MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 1C).mp3	433842	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\08-30-2021\MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 1C).mp3	433842	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\AvAir\6017.MP3	433842
MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 1D).mp3	219531	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\08-30-2021\MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 1D).mp3	219531	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\AvAir\6018.MP3	219531
MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 1E ALT).mp3	1523461	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\08-30-2021\MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 1E ALT).mp3	1523461	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\AvAir\6019.MP3	1523461
MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 1F).mp3	408571	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\08-30-2021\MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 1F).mp3	408571	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\AvAir\6020.MP3	408571
MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 2A).mp3	789943	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\08-30-2021\MARIO LOPEZ <u>08-30-2021</u> (SEG 2A).mp3	789943	C:\PLFetch\Downloads\AvAir\6022.MP3	789943

Here is what the technical station personnel have have sent to then via text message for confirmation and potential errors.

The first confirm that the files found on the FTP site are indeed new
and are not merely the last version of the program

**PLFetch File Check for Ryan
Seacrest Show for 04-21-22**
As of 03:34 pm 04/21/22,
Found ALL 24 files in place for
Ryan Seacrest Show for date
04-21-22!

**No FTP File Modify Time
Issues**

The second optional message come moments after once the automation playout system has imported the media files. This confirms that the file found INSIDE the automation are properly updated and have the expected size.

**Success: Final Files for Ryan
Seacrest Show has No
Modify Time Issues!**
24 of 24 files found OK
Folder Checked - \\ax-
core\AvVol1\SHO\

These messages are designed to be read in an instant for quick verification of transfer.

Here is the assignment of title values from FTP file names to the desired cart number for the local automation. It also demonstrates how a potential typo in a “Title to Cart Number” **look up error** would be detected. Below is a text view of a CSV file with the file name’s search criteria on the left and the resulting quotation cart number on the right.

Here instead of “SEG 1B” we find a problematic typo.

Line	Segment / Cart Number
1	SEG 1A, 6015
2	SEGG 1B, 6016
3	SEG 1C, 6017
4	SEG 1D, 6018
5	SEG 1E, 6019
6	SEG 1F, 6020
7	SEG 2A, 6022
8	SEG 2B, 6023
9	SEG 2C, 6024
10	SEG 2D, 6025
11	SEG 2E, 6026
12	SEG 2F, 6027
13	SEG 3A, 6029
14	SEG 3B, 6030
15	SEG 3C, 6031
16	SEG 3D, 6032
17	SEG 3E, 6033
18	SEG 3F, 6034
19	SEG 4A, 6036
20	SEG 4B, 6037
21	SEG 4C, 6038
22	SEG 4D, 6039
23	SEG 4E, 6040
24	SEG 4F, 6041
25	TODAY PRODUCED, 6915-12
26	TODAY DRY, SKIP

Below would be the error received in an email when the show is fetched. Any downloaded files that do not match a cart number changing search criteria are shown similarly to get the attention of station personnel.

Errors! Transfer Info for Mario Lopez Show for Date 08-30-21 - ...

☆ PL-Fetch Program ▾ To: rick@proofofplay.com - Cc: Power-Link Support

8/30/21, 4:44 PM

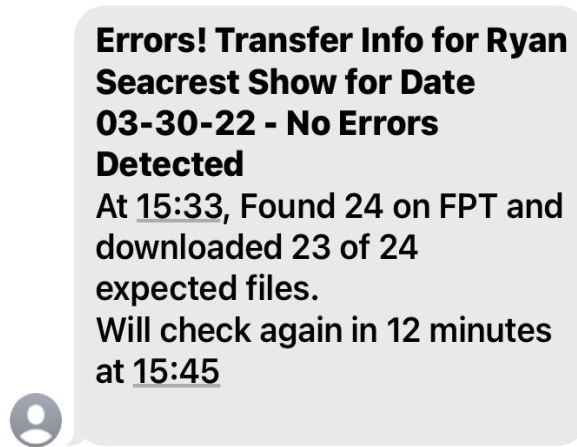
Mario Lopez Show for date 08-30-21 at 04:41 pm 08/30/21

The Expected 26 files were found on the Server!

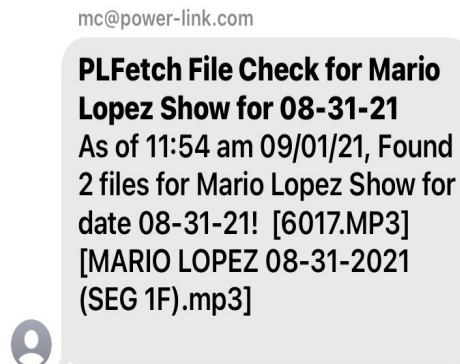
Files Downloaded and Processed

FTP File Name	FTP Size	Local File Name	Local Size	Target File Name	Target Size	Deletable File Name	Deletable Size
MARIO LOPEZ 08-30-2021 (SEG 1A).mp3	351617	C:\PLFetch\downloads\08-30-2021\MARIO LOPEZ 08-30-2021 (SEG 1A).mp3	351617	C:\PLFetch\downloads\AvAir\6015.MP3	351617	C:\PLFetch\downloads\AvAir\DropBox\6015.MP3	351617
MARIO LOPEZ 08-30-2021 (SEG 1B).mp3	2350393	C:\PLFetch\downloads\08-30-2021\MARIO LOPEZ 08-30-2021 (SEG 1B).mp3	2350393	Xref Not Found	---	Xref Not Found	---
MARIO LOPEZ 08-30-2021 (SEG 1C).mp3	433842	C:\PLFetch\downloads\08-30-2021\MARIO LOPEZ 08-30-2021 (SEG 1C).mp3	433842	C:\PLFetch\downloads\AvAir\6017.MP3	433842	C:\PLFetch\downloads\AvAir\DropBox\6017.MP3	433842
MARIO LOPEZ 08-30-2021 (SEG 1D).mp3	219531	C:\PLFetch\downloads\08-30-2021\MARIO LOPEZ 08-30-2021 (SEG 1D).mp3	219531	C:\PLFetch\downloads\AvAir\6018.MP3	219531	C:\PLFetch\downloads\AvAir\DropBox\6018.MP3	219531

In the unforeseen event that expected files are missing from the transfer, the station personnel will immediately receive a text message similar to the one below.



In the event that a certain predesignated time has elapsed and the show transfer has not occurred or has a file error, the station personnel can get a message similar to the message seen below. This message is telling you the original file name and the renamed file name to the cart number for the playout system.



Last Comments

This program was written for and with the help of David Turecki at Dougall Media in Thunder Bay, Ontario using Audio-Vault for 4 stations. During the testing period we experienced a LOT of exceptions including the following:

1. By looking over the “FTP file times report” we learned the day and **times to safely to fetch the programs**.
2. We experienced files on the FTP site that were **erroneously named by the producer** and the program gave us the warnings in ample time to manually intercede to rectify the problem by air time.
3. We also were warned about **files not processed** due to the supplied import program from the automation vendor required a restart to thoroughly process the awaiting files. This occurred about once a month.
4. We learned that it is great to have a **hot key** available so that for whatever reason, we could simply force a “re-fetch” of the files at any moment.