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Tools for Radio

LogMerge for XStudio, DCS & Maestro

LogMerge for XStudio, DCS & Maestro

Printed: June 2011 in Eden Prairie, MN USA.

Publisher

Rich Habedank

Special thanks to:

All those who have offered insights and suggestions for enhancement of this product.

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June 2011 in Eden Prairie, MN USA

Table of Contents

Welcome to LogMerge!

Part I

LogMerge is the original traffic and music log merge utility for DCS, Maestro and XStudio. An audio inventory, if available at merge time, is used to validate the log for missing or out-of-date audio. LogMerge checks for items on the traffic log that did not make it to the finished log, and time-corrects logged elements, producing a list of unresolvable errors for operator attention. LogMerge supports most popular music scheduling and traffic systems.

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Introduction

Part II

LogMerge is a conversion and merge utility designed to provide the DCS, Maestro or XStudio user with a method of merging a music log (output by a music scheduling system) and a traffic log (output by a traffic system) into a single file that meets the structural requirements of the DCS Generic Log File specification v1.5, as published by Computer Concepts Corporation.

LogMerge supports most popular traffic and music scheduling systems and features advanced error-checking and control over the process of merging dissimilar source logs to produce a ready-for-airplay broadcast log.

The general sequence is: user exports a music log to a defined format, exports the traffic log to a defined format, and then runs LogMerge. LogMerge reads each of the source files (music log and traffic log). The two source files are then merged and output as DCS, Maestro or XStudio generic log file (all use the same file format). As the file is being written to the target directory in the DCS Generic Log File format, a separate file is created to document errors.

Supported Music, Traffic Systems

Music scheduling systems currently supported include Music Master (formerly MusicScan) Type 1 and Type 2, POWERGOLD, MusicPro, Music 1, Results 98 and Selector™.

Traffic systems supported include Computer Concepts and any other traffic system capable of exporting its log to the DCS Generic Log File format - most of the major traffic system vendors make available such an export.

2.1 Features

LogMerge, in addition to merging your music and traffic log files, provides additional features to make the process easier and more accurate:

- **Inventory checking** - the log contents are compared to DCS, Maestro or XStudio inventory to check for availability and date range.
- **Verification** of merged log versus original traffic log to ensure all original source traffic log commercials are on the finished log.
- Support of **direct cart calls** from the Music log file.
- Support of **Load Directives** from the Music log file.
- Support of **Execute Functions** from the Music log file.
- **Automatic macro conversion** of DCS, Maestro, and XStudio macro characters for day, hour, and voice number.
- The finished output file can be used without editing, although inspection is highly recommended.
- You can **re-merge the logs** and overwrite the previous log, even the current day log in-use.
- **Log preview** - view the log after merging in a built-in viewer. Information includes hourly content totals, helpful in determining whether or not a given log will perform as desired.
- Supported music scheduling systems include: Music Master (formerly MusicScan) Type 1 and Type 2, POWERGOLD, MusicPro, Music 1, Results 98 and Selector™.

2.2 What's New in LogMerge

Here are the latest changes, enhancements and corrections to LogMerge by version number and date. For information on less-recent changes and enhancements, see the Revision History topic.

Version 5.7.1.40 - 06/06/2011

1. Registration validation would fail when pasting the registration key into the Registration Code field. This problem has been corrected.

Version 5.7.0.35 - 10/4/2010

1. This version contains all changes, fixes and improvements since version **5.2**. LogMerge is now a 32-bit only application. 16-bit versions of LogMerge are no longer maintained.
2. RCS' Linker product is now supported with a separate custom identifier for Linker traffic records. LogMerge expects to see the characters "**^^**" as the first two characters in a combined music and traffic file exported by Selector when Linker is being used. In this scenario, LogMerge is basically used to reformat and validate the log for use with XStudio, DCS or Maestro. Review the topic Selector System Setup for additional information.
3. Conversion of cart numbers beginning with "**HC**" (HC??) is implemented for RCS' Linker traffic records. Matching cart numbers are converted to a log note that Maestro will interpret as a "live read" text file. The resulting file name is the original cart number plus the extension "**.DCR**". Linker traffic records are interpreted by LogMerge when the characters "**^^**" are the record identifier in the combined source Selector output file.
4. Selector output files that contain completely blank lines are now processed correctly. The blank lines are skipped by LogMerge.
5. A new record type ("**W**") has been defined for MusicMaster output files. This record type can be used by Wide Orbit traffic system users to ensure the traffic system's "Sequence Number" makes it through to the log file produced by LogMerge. This record type is used when MusicMaster is combining both the music and traffic logs before producing an output file used by LogMerge.
6. MusicMaster exported cart numbers beginning with the letter "**H**" (H???) is implemented. Matching cart numbers are converted to a log note that Maestro will interpret as a "live read" text file. The resulting file name is the original cart number plus the extension "**.DCR**".
7. The help documentation has been updated to work with Windows Vista & Windows 7. These operating systems do not, as a default, support the traditional help file (*.HLP). The help documentation is now supplied as a compiled HTML file (*.CHM).

Microsoft Security Update 896358 not only fixes a vulnerability in HTML Help, it prevents HTML Help files from execution if the CHM file is installed on a network drive. CHM files installed locally continue to work.

Symptoms: When you open a CHM file from a UNC path or from a network drive even if the network drive is mapped to a drive letter, the HTML Help viewer opens and instead of displaying the topic, it displays an error message "Action canceled" in the topic pane.

Solutions: Install the application on a local drive to avoid this problem. Alternatively, there are some registry changes that can be made manually to re-enable using CHM help files from a network drive. A free HTML Help Registration Utility is available at the EC Software web site.

8. Minor cosmetic improvements have been made, mainly for users running Windows XP, Vista or Windows 7.

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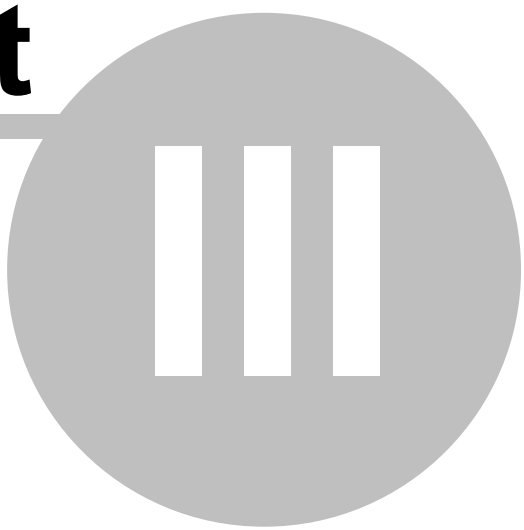
Installation

Part



Installing LogMerge is a fairly straightforward task and the system requirements are minimal. Review the topics in this section for details on what's required to run LogMerge and how to install, update or remove the software.

3.1 System Requirements

Here are the base hardware and operating system requirements to run LogMerge:

- **Operating System**: Windows 98, 98SE, Me, Windows NT4, 2000 Pro, XP Pro, Vista or Windows 7.
- **Computer**: an IBM-compatible Pentium™ personal computer with a hard disk and a floppy drive.
- **RAM Memory**: 32MB RAM for Windows 9.x, 64MB for NT or Windows 2000, 128MB for XP, 1GB for Vista & Windows 7.
- **Disk Space**: 7MB free disk space for this application and documentation.
- **VGA Display**: minimum 640x480 resolution, 800x600 is recommended.
- Microsoft mouse or compatible pointing device.
- A LAN connection for reading inventory information.

3.2 Installing, Updating or Removing LogMerge

The LogMerge installation program provides step-by-step instructions on every screen displayed during the installation. Follow the instructions on each screen to install LogMerge.

Before you install

1. Close all other programs, including any anti-virus programs.
2. If you are installing on Windows NT, Windows 2000, Windows XP, Windows Vista or Windows 7, log on to your computer with administrator privileges.

To install from a CD

1. Insert the CD into your CD-ROM drive. The installation program should start automatically. If it does not start, locate your CD-ROM drive in Windows Explorer and double-click on the **SETUP.EXE** program.
2. Follow the instructions on each screen to install the software.

To install LogMerge from a downloaded file

1. After you have downloaded the installation program to your computer, locate the setup program, **LogMerge5Setup.exe**, in the folder to which you downloaded the file. [**Double-click**] on the setup program to begin installation.
2. Follow the instructions on each screen to install the software.

The first time you run LogMerge v5.x, you will be prompted to enter registration information. This consists of your company identification and a registration code. If you choose not to enter registration information initially, you will be limited to 15 sessions and only one station may be configured for merging. See

the topic Registering LogMerge for more information.

Updating LogMerge

1. If you have downloaded or otherwise received a revision for LogMerge, the process for updating the software is virtually identical to the initial installation. However, the installation dialogs may be a bit different. When updating, you are not typically given an opportunity to select the target folder for installation, as that choice has already been made in a previous installation.
2. You may be prompted that an old version of LogMerge has been found and that it must be uninstalled (removed) before continuing with the update. If you see this prompt when updating LogMerge, you should answer "Yes" to remove the old version, and if prompted to confirm the removal of the old version, again answer "Yes".
3. On occasion, updating LogMerge may require some additional tasks be performed during the update. Such tasks might include validating and/or updating your registration and making adjustments to your preferences settings. If these tasks are needed, you will be prompted for any input required and notified if the update task could not be completed successfully.

You must have administrator privileges to perform an update when running on Windows NT, 2000 Pro, XP, Vista or Windows 7.

To Uninstall LogMerge

To remove LogMerge from your PC, select the Control Panel applet Add/Remove Programs. Select LogMerge and click on the [**Remove**] button. Follow the prompts to uninstall the software.

Only files originally installed are removed. Event log files and your preferences files are not removed. See the topic on application-created files for more information on files that are installed or created by LogMerge.

Included Files

There are number of files that are placed on your computer as a result of installing LogMerge. For those who are interested, here's a list, along with the location to which they are installed:

File Name	***Description***
LM32.EXE	The main LogMerge program. (**Application Directory**)
LM32.CHM	LogMerge on-line help. (**Application Directory**)
LVIEW32.EXE	File viewer application for error files, source files, etc. (**Application Directory**)
FV.HLP	File viewer help file. (**Application Directory**)

Files created by LogMerge during operation:

File Name	***Description***
LOGMERGE.INI	The LogMerge configuration file, located in your **WINDOWS** directory.
ERROR***x***.PRT	Error log files that LogMerge places in your defined **Work Directory**.
OUTLOG01.TXT	A troubleshooting file - produced if debug mode enabled. (**Application Directory**)
OUTLOG02.TXT	A troubleshooting file - produced if debug mode enabled. (**Application Directory**)
LM32_ERR.LOG	LogMerge application error log. (**Application Directory**)

IMPORTANT NOTE for upgraders from LogMerge v4.x:

The only file associated with LogMerge v4.x and prior that this version of LogMerge uses is the ***LOGMERGE.INI*** file, located in your WINDOWS directory. After installation, the new version allows you to convert existing merge settings. After conversion, the old ini file entries are no longer used.

Configuration

Part

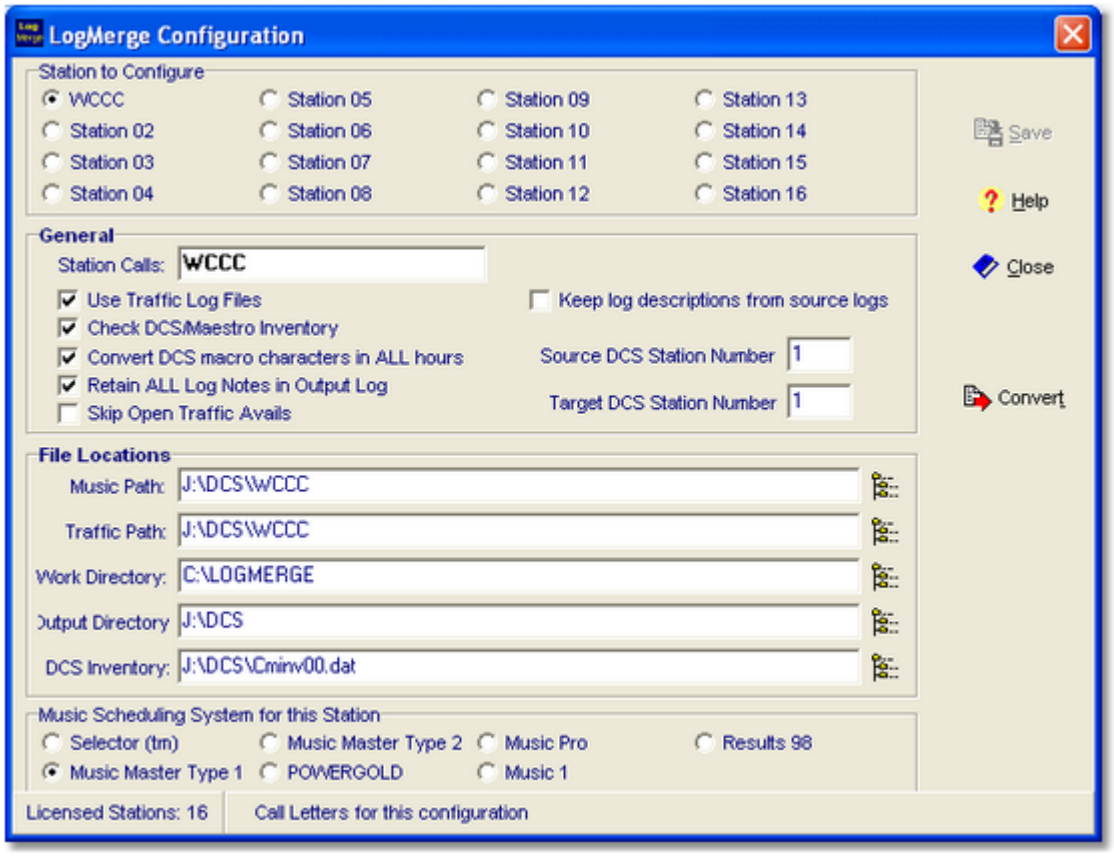
There are two main configuration areas for LogMerge - setting up station parameters for merged logs, and user preferences that control the overall behavior of LogMerge.

Of the two, you need only set up station parameters for a minimum of one station for which you will merge logs. The user preference settings need be changed only if you wish to change the default behavior of LogMerge.

4.1 Station Configuration

After starting LogMerge, the first order of business is to configure the program to merge your particular traffic and music logs. Select the menu item **Edit | Configure Stations** either by clicking on the menu item or using the [**Ctrl-C**] keystroke. Configuration selections for as many as sixteen (16) stations, depending on how many your company has licensed, will be presented in a list.

If you are upgrading from an older version of LogMerge, an additional button will be presented if you installed LogMerge on the same machine as the older version. This button enables you to convert your existing station setups to the newer version's scheme. After once converting, the additional button will no longer be displayed. See Appendix A for more information on the **LOGMERGE.INI** file, where station merge settings are stored.



Select the station you wish to configure. A number of fields will be displayed for entry of information, along with a music system selection button for the type of music scheduling system you're using. Here's a summary of the configuration options:

Property	***Description***
Station Calls	Enter the call letters of the station for which you'll be merging files.
Use Traffic Log Files	A check box. If you wish to use traffic log files in the merge process, "check" the box, otherwise, "uncheck" the box.
Check DCS/Maestro Inventory	A check box. If checked, all carts that appear on the finished (merged) log will be evaluated to see if the cart is in the audio inventory ***and*** whether or not the cart is valid for the log date. If the cart exists in the audio inventory and is valid for the log date, LogMerge will substitute the correct cart length (to AUX mark) for the scheduled length of the song coming from your music scheduling system and use the description from the inventory.
Convert DCS macro characters in ALL hours	This is a check box that when selected, causes LogMerge to convert all occurrences of DCS, Maestro & XStudio macro characters in cart numbers from either the music log or traffic log. If not "checked", only the music log will have macro characters converted.
Retain ALL log notes in output log	A check box, that when selected, will cause LogMerge to pass ALL log notes from the source logs, either music or traffic, to the finished output log. LogMerge's default behavior (if not checked) is pass log notes through from the source logs only when an hour is not defined as automated. The presence of **VOICE TRACK** flags in the music log dictates whether or not a log hour is automated. See the section on setting up your music log output for the music system you're using for more details.
Skip Open Traffic Avails	A check box. When selected, LogMerge will "skip" any source traffic log avail position that is considered "open" and not place it on the final output log. Depending on the traffic system you use, this option may have no impact. Computer Concepts traffic systems, for instance, will export unfilled log positions and insert a cart number of "****". If you want these open positions on the final output log, leave the option unchecked.
Keep log descriptions from source logs	This option will force LogMerge to pass the original traffic log and music log descriptions for carts through to the final output log. Note the default behavior (unchecked) is to replace the original description for a cart with the audio inventory description, if the cart exists in the inventory.
Source DCS Station Number	This is the "station number" you defined in your traffic system's log export configuration. This information is used to determine which log that's exported by the traffic system is to be used as the source traffic log for the merge. A typical entry would be: 1

Property	***Description***
	Valid entries are **1-9**, **A-F** (for stations 10-16). The generic DCS Generic Log File naming convention (as it comes from the traffic system) is in the form **mmddyySn.LOG** where: **mm** = Month **dd** = Day **yy** = Year (2-digit) **S** = Station (fixed letter) **x** = Station number (1-9, A-F for 10-16)
Target DCS Station Number	Enter the "station number" you wish this merged log file to be written to. This is the On-Air station number. An example would be: 1 Valid entries are **1-9**, **A-F** (for stations 10-16). The provision for a source station number and a target station is made to allow for differences in traffic system export capabilities and for situations where you may wish to actually change the station number of the log. Normally, the source and target station numbers would be the same.
Music Path	Enter the location where your music system's exported log files will be located. i.e.: C:\MSCAN\AMLOGS You can also use the directory picker adjacent to the field to select the music directory.
Traffic Path	Enter the location where your traffic system's exported log files will be located. i.e.: F:\DCS\TRLOGS You can also use the directory picker adjacent to the field to select the traffic directory.
Working Directory	Enter the location of your working directory. This would usually be the directory in which you installed LogMerge, but you may choose any valid directory location. Error files are placed in this directory. C:\LOGMERGE You can also use the directory picker adjacent to the field to select the music directory.
Output Directory	This is the location to which you want the finished, merged file to be sent (saved). Typically, this will either be the LAN (local area network) directory which is defined as DCS' working directory, i.e.: F:\DCS You can also use the directory picker adjacent to the field to select the

Property	***Description***
	output directory.

> **Hint** The 32-bit version of LogMerge will support UNC locations as a log output target. **It must be manually entered**. The older 16-bit version requires a drive letter and directory to function correctly.

DCS Inventory

Enter the directory location and file name from which you want LogMerge to retrieve inventory information (the cart numbers, lengths, dates, etc.). This would typically be the LAN directory you set up as the DCS working directory in the DCS configuration. The file names are a bit different than you might expect, as they are tied to the assigned DCS node number (again from the DCS configuration file). These are:

Node	File Name
1	CMINV00.DAT (those are zeros)
2	CMINV01.DAT
3	CMINV02.DAT
4	CMINV03.DAT
5	CMINV04.DAT
6	CMINV05.DAT
7	CMINV06.DAT
8	CMINV07.DAT
9	CMINV08.DAT
10	CMINV09.DAT
11	CMINV0A.DAT
12	CMINV0B.DAT
13	CMINV0C.DAT
14	CMINV0D.DAT
15	CMINV0E.DAT
16	CMINV0F.DAT

Here's an example entry for this field:

F:\DCS\CMINV01.DAT

You can also use the file picker adjacent to the field to select the inventory file.

Music Scheduling System for this Station

Select one of the available music systems, either Selector(TM), MusicMaster Type 1, MusicMaster Type 2, POWERGOLD, MusicPro, Music 1 or Results 98.

If you're using MusicMaster and are unsure whether or not it is what LogMerge defines as a Type 1 or Type 2, check the date stamp of the MusicMaster file named LOG2ASC.EXE. If the date is prior to October, 1993, select Type 1. If the date is later, select Type 2.

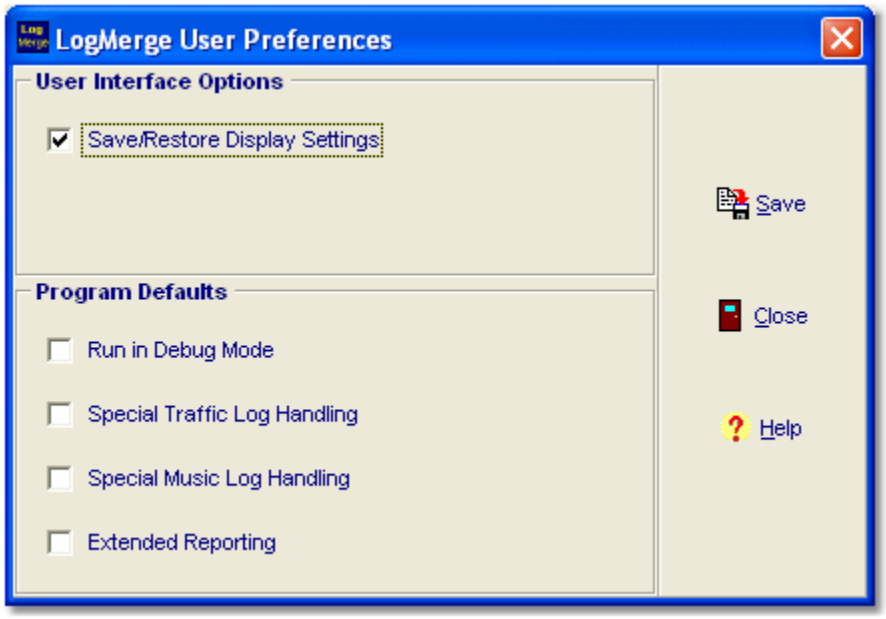
Once you've entered all the appropriate information for this station, click on the [**Save**] button to save

your configuration. If you have more than one station to configure, select each of the additional stations you need to configure, enter the appropriate information and save each of them.

After setting up LogMerge, you will need to setup up both your traffic system and music system to ensure both systems export (download) the correct information in the proper format for LogMerge to use. Refer the the sections that cover the traffic and music system setup.

4.2 User Preferences

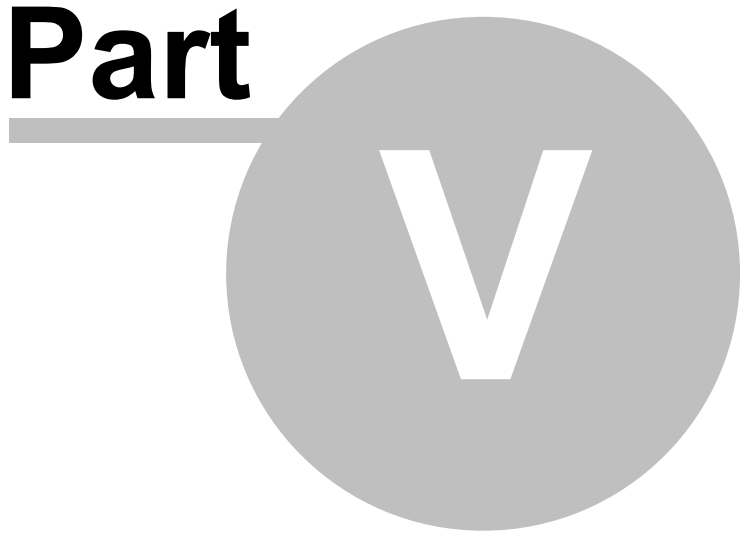
The user preferences dialog allows you to set certain preferences relating to general operation.



User preference settings reference

Setting	***Meaning***
Save/Restore Display Settings	If checked, LogMerge will "remember" the main display's size and restore it next time the program is launched. Default is "True" (checked).
Run in Debug Mode	If checked, LogMerge will set a special "debug mode" to provide more information about a merge process for troubleshooting purposes. Note that this setting is overridden by any command-line switches. Default is "False" (not checked).
Special Traffic Log Handling	If checked, LogMerge will read source traffic logs line-by-line rather than the normal method. This method is slower, but will typically handle traffic logs that do not conform to the published standard. Default is "False" (not checked).
Special Music Log Handling	If checked, LogMerge will read source music logs line-by-line rather than the normal method. This method is slower, but will typically handle music logs that do not conform to the published standard. Default is "False" (not checked).
Extended Reporting	If checked, LogMerge will place a larger amount of information in a station's merge error file. Can be useful for troubleshooting. Default is "False" (not checked).

Operation - Using LogMerge



After all setup is done, including your traffic and music system export utilities, you're ready to perform a merge of the logs.

Here is the general sequences of events necessary to successfully create and merge logs to produce a finished, audited broadcast log that contains all music and commercial content:

1. Create the music log and export it. (See export format sections)
2. Create the traffic log and export it.
3. Run LogMerge and merge the music and traffic log files.
4. Use the LogMerge Log Viewer ([**CTRL-F**]) to inspect the log for possible errors.
5. Use the log editor of your choice to edit the log or make any last minute changes.

Merge Process

Once you have both traffic and music logs available, launch LogMerge. From the main display, select the menu item **File**. A drop down list of station merge configurations will be presented. Select the particular station for which you wish to merge logs.

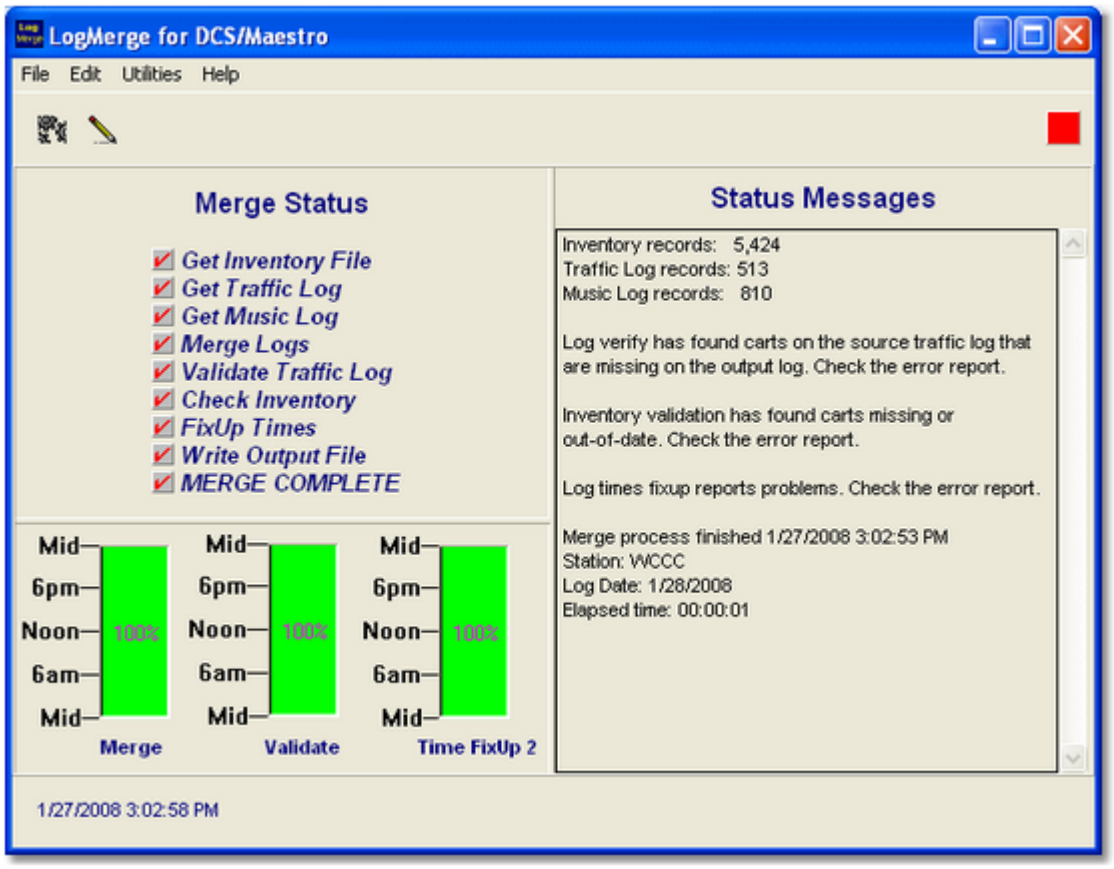
A calendar dialog will be presented, allowing you to select the date to merge. As a date is selected, the **File Status** panel will display information indicating whether or not the needed files exist for the date. Note the only file that may be required is the music log if you've elected not to use a traffic log or check the inventory.

Note that log dates must be the same for both music and traffic logs for a merge operation, unless you select a manual merge process. In that case, the dialog will be slightly different and you'll be able to select each of the logs and inventory file separately. The manual merge process is included for handling unusual, one-time merges or an emergency where the music log has not been prepared or has been lost and you wish to use an older music log to merge with the correct traffic log. See the section on Manual Merging of Logs for more information.

LogMerge will begin by retrieving the audio inventory file information (if enabled), the traffic log (if enabled) and the music log. On-screen gauges provide you with a visual indicator of progress each step of the way.

After merging, LogMerge checks the original traffic log to ensure all carts scheduled on the traffic log are contained in the final output log.

When a merge has been completed, the LogMerge display will look similar to the example shown here:



At completion, an error report may be viewed and/or printed, providing you with information about scheduled carts that were missing from the audio inventory, as well as out-of-date carts.

To leave LogMerge, select **File | Exit**.

The final step to ensure your log is as expected is to use a log editor and call the merged log up for inspection. This is where you'd make any adjustments for short or long hours, etc., by adding or deleting items.

Post-Merge Utilities

After merging logs for a given date, some items are enabled under the **Utilities** menu.

- **Current Merge Info** - presents a dialog describing the source log files used, the output file name and the music system type used for the merge process.
- **View Source Logs** - this option opens both the source traffic log and source music log in a two-windowed file viewer. It is useful for troubleshooting and/or informational purposes.

- **View Merged Log** - select this menu item to view the finished (merged) log. Hourly content totals are displayed, along with content totals by directive. See the Reference section for more information on the log viewer.
- **View Error Reports** - this menu item allows you to view the errors that occurred for the most recently merged log, or you may select a station of your choosing and view the merge errors for the last merge performed for that station.

Last-Minute Changes

It would be common that any late orders that required hand-writing the additional spot(s) on the log in the past would be handled by using a log editor, rather than re-merging the files. In fact, many traffic systems don't allow for re-exporting a traffic log once the traffic system has moved on to another day. This is particularly true if the change is to a log that is now being used by DCS, Maestro or XStudio on the air. Most of the available log editors can read and allow you to modify the log even while your on-air system is using that log.

Be aware that the on-air systems only looks at changes to the log that are entered for times ***after the current time of day*** if the log is presently being used by the system, i.e., the change is to today's log.

Troubleshooting a Merge

Most problems encountered with LogMerge will typically be the result of erroneous information entered in the music system log. Here are a couple of basic things to look for if you're having a problem merging logs:

- Check the traffic log output file to ensure that ALL breaks have an "**RTM**" entry (return to music). A missing RTM will cause LogMerge to follow the traffic log further than intended, in some cases several breaks, which will manifest itself as a very large break in the finished log.
- Check to ensure that each hour of the music log has the appropriate hour header information. The mechanics will vary among the various music scheduling systems, but the key is to ensure that ALL hours have the documented hour header information placed in them.

LogMerge can also produce additional information about the merge process to help further locate the source of merge problems. To enable additional troubleshooting information, modify your LogMerge shortcut and add to the command-line switch "**/debug**" (no quotes). A revised command-line to launch LogMerge with debug information enabled would look like:

```
C:\LogMerge\LM32.EXE /debug
```

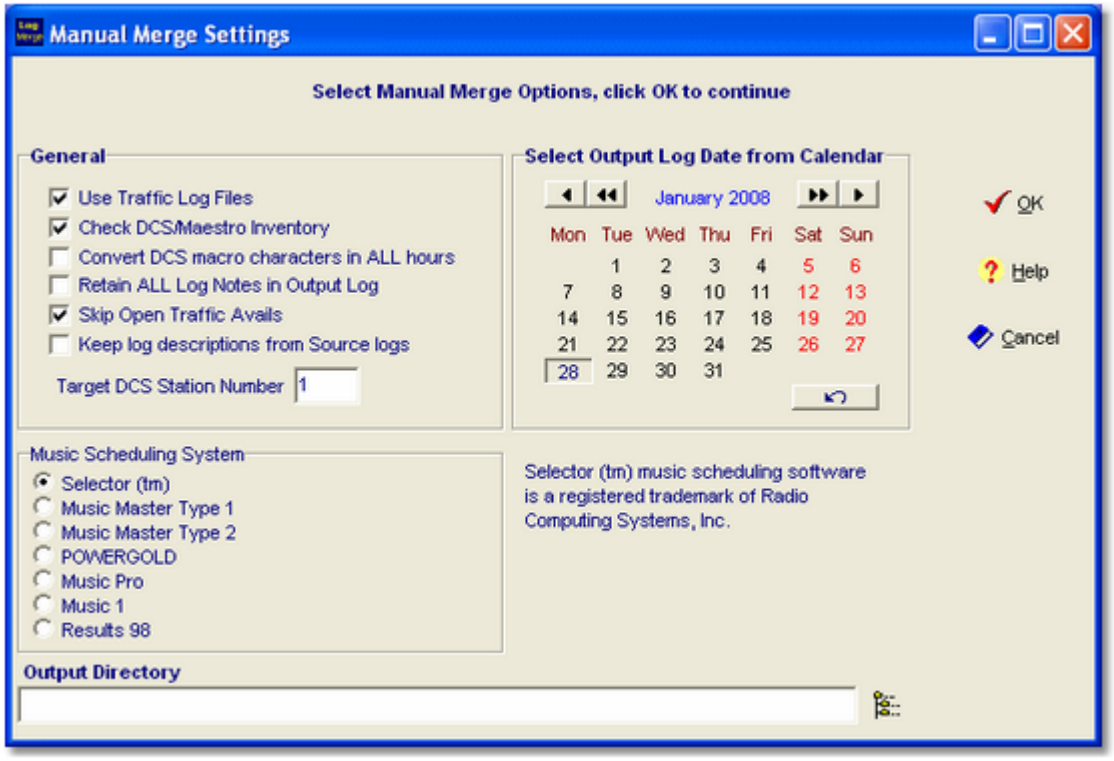
The effect of adding this command-line switch is that LogMerge will produce two text files that can be reviewed. The file names are ***OutLog01.TXT***, written right after the merge, and ***OutLog02.TXT***, written right after inventory validation. The latter will be created only if inventory validation is turned on in the merge configuration. Files are written to the application directory (the directory in which LogMerge is installed). Note that if debug mode is turned on, these files will be overwritten each time a merge is run.

See the topic on troubleshooting for additional help.

5.1 Manual Merging of Logs

The manual merge process option is included for handling unusual, one-time merges or an emergency where the music log has not been prepared or has been lost and you wish to use an older music log to merge with the correct traffic log. As such, the manual merge is a sort of ad-hoc merge process that requires the user to make several choices about the merge at the time the process is performed.

To perform a manual merge, select the menu item **File | Manual Merge**. A dialog similar to the example here will be displayed.



As you can see, several choices need to be made - choices that match the standard LogMerge station configuration properties. The main difference is that when you proceed, you'll be allowed to select the specific source music log, traffic log (if used) and an audio inventory file (if used). This allows the user the freedom to use files that are not matched, i.e., a music log from one station or date with a different date or station as the traffic source log. The only real requirement is the the source music log must be from the music system type chosen for the manual merge.

After the files are chosen, the merge process continues on exactly as the pre-configured merges.

For additional information on the meaning of the various options, see the section on Configuring LogMerge.

Reference

Part VI

This section contains more detailed background information on a number of key subjects that will help you to gain a better understanding of how LogMerge works.

Particularly important are the sections on traffic system setup and music system setup for exporting logs that LogMerge will use in the merge process.

6.1 Traffic System Setup

LogMerge is looking for an exported traffic log that your traffic system creates with a utility supplied by your traffic vendor. It is the export utility that supports a **DCS Generic Log** output. Your traffic vendor can supply this utility if you don't already have it. Ask for the `**DCS log export utility**'.

LogMerge doesn't require much in the way of special treatment of the traffic log. Since most, if not all, of the special DCS log directives (i.e., Load, Load Play, etc.) are handled on the music log, the traffic log exports commercial information and a key word telling LogMerge where to return to the music log for more information at the end of a stop set.

There are two keys to ensuring the traffic log will merge correctly; 1) ensuring the correct break start times; and 2) that there's a "Return to Music" flag at the end of each break.

NOTE: Consult your traffic system documentation for instructions on the correct entry of special DCS, Maestro or XStudio information.

Correct start time for the break

The commercial break start times on the traffic log must match the music system's scheduled break start time (typically handled by a `breaknote' on the music log). If the music log's break start time for the first break in the 6:00am hour is 6:12, the traffic log's first availability on the format must be 6:12. If this isn't done correctly, not all the commercial content will be merged properly.

As an example, if the music system's scheduled break is 6:12 and the traffic log's formatted break start is 6:11, all commercial content scheduled between 6:11 and 6:12 will not make it to the merged log.

LogMerge compares the merged log to the original traffic log as a part of the merge process to validate whether or not all of traffic's scheduled commercials are now on the final log. If not, an entry is made in the LogMerge error file is made.

RTM Program title at the end of the break

LogMerge looks for a special program title to tell it when to return to the music log from the traffic log during the merge process. The program title is the three (3) letters `**RTM**', which indicates ***Return to Music*** to LogMerge. This program title must be present at the end of each of the commercial stop sets in order for the merge to function properly. **RTM** is the text or description of the program title. Enter the program title in your traffic system as normal, but where the title text would go (i.e., News), type **RTM**.

LogMerge will recognize either a **Program Title** or **Log Note** containing the entry 'RTM' as the first three characters. No other traffic system record types are evaluated for the return to music flag.

Log Notes and Automation

LogMerge automatically strips out any **Log Notes** you may have placed on the traffic log during **automated hours** as a default. To pass all log notes through to the finished output log regardless of

whether or not a given hour is automated, set the configuration option Retain ALL Log Notes in Output Log.

Sample Log Format

Below is a sample log format for use with LogMerge (the comments are for information only and would not be a part of the format):

Log Item	***Explanation***
01:20 Availability 01:21 Availability 01:22 Availability	Standard avails in the traffic system. The first break element time for each commercial cluster must match the scheduled break start time from the music scheduling system.
01:23 Voice Track $VT01	This is a special program title that passes a cart number to the audio system (in this case) as a voice track cart number. This "hard-wired" cart number could be placed on the traffic log - or could be removed from here and placed on the music log.
01:24 RTM	This is the Return to Music flag for LogMerge.

01:36 Availability 01:37 Availability 01:38 Availability	Standard avails in the traffic system.
01:39 RTM	This is the Return to Music flag for LogMerge.

01:51 Availability 01:52 Availability 01:53 Availability	Standard traffic avails from the traffic system.
01:54 RTM	This is the Return to Music flag for LogMerge.

LogMerge will pass all meaningful material between the beginning of a break and the RTM marker, including program titles, log notes (non-automated hours), etc.

The traffic system's log export utility will generally have a setup or configuration portion that, among other things, allows the user to set where the exported log will be sent. In a LAN (local area network) environment, this would normally be the audio system's working directory. However, since these exported logs are now being further utilized to included music, another directory needs to be specified. The recommended location would be one under the audio system working directory named something like TRLOGS or LOGS. An example export directory would be: F:\DCS\TRLOGS

If this directory does not already exist, it will need to be created on the target drive before exporting your first traffic log.

If the exported log is to placed on floppy disk for transport to another PC, the typical export location would be A:\ or B:\ - one of the floppy drives.

Special Considerations

Some traffic systems will not export a DCS Generic Log file properly unless each break has a Directive associated with it. One such system is CBSI, which documents in it's DCS export utility that if a standard DCS Load Directive (D-LR in CBSI's Table of Event Names documentation) isn't present at a particular time for a cluster, the spots will be placed with the preceding DCS directive. In an hour-long

program block, this would result in all commercials being scheduled at the top of the hour, not spread properly throughout the hour.

To work around this, LogMerge provides for recognition of a directive (D-LR in CBSI's case) with text of "CBSI" as a "special case". If LogMerge finds a directive in the traffic log with the text "CBSI" in the first 4 characters of the directive description, it will skip the item. The effect is that this special directive serves as a place holder to ensure the commercials are placed in the correct place in the hour.

The CBSI traffic system is the only known vendor that places such a requirement on their DCS Generic Log export utility. If your traffic system has this requirement, too, then use the same technique described to have LogMerge discard the unwanted directives.

6.2 Music System Setup

This section contains information on setting up various music scheduling systems that are supported by LogMerge. If you do not find the music system you use listed here, check to see if your music system vendor has a log export that matches one of the supported systems.

Music System Links:

Supported music systems, listed alphabetically.

6.2.1 Music 1 Setup

To set up Music 1 to output a log for DCS, Maestro or XStudio, the user needs to set the **Automation Log Format** to DCS, and set the **Automation Log Directory** to the folder where the logs should appear. This second step can be done by double-clicking on the ***Directory*** text, locating the directory (with the file selection windows that appears), and clicking **Open**. Both items are on the **System Parameters** window under the **Options** menu.

Refer to your Music 1 documentation on setting up textual break notes, and to the LogMerge documentation section on setting up Selector™ for specific keywords, etc.

6.2.2 MusicMaster System Setup

The MusicMaster Archive File Conversion Utility can be used to convert any existing MusicMaster music schedule to an ASCII text file. The program file **LOG2ASC.EXE** and the optional configuration file **LOG2ASC.DEF** must be placed in your MusicMaster program directory. LOG2ASC will always look at the currently selected data set. To change the current data set, use the MusicMaster Datafile Manager (**DFM.EXE**). The utility will prompt you to select the music schedule you wish to convert. Once you have selected a date, you will see the progress of the conversion on the screen. When the conversion is finished, the program will exit immediately.

Customizing the Output File

The configuration file (LOG2ASC.DEF) controls the format and the destination of the output file. This is an ASCII text file which can be created and edited using any word processor (making sure to save the finished file as straight ASCII, not a word processing document). Once this file is created, it must reside in the same directory as the LOG2ASC.EXE file. A variety of command-line switches are also available for customizing the output file. However, these switches can also be included in the configuration file.

The specific file structure required for LogMerge is as follows:

LOG2ASC.DEF

File Item	***Meaning***
F:\MUSIC	This is the path to where the ASCII output file is stored.
99,C	Custom field to indicate a music record (type C to DCS/Maestro)
51	Airtime
1,2,4	Cart number field
2	Artist name
3	Song title
22	Runtime
5	Intro time
6	Ending type

The comments in the right column above are not part of the LOG2ASC.DEF file; they are for reference purposes only.

If you have existing cart numbers and current carts are 4 digits change the cart number line to read "1,1,4". The normal configuration when using the global update will place a leading zero and by selecting the starting position as 2 will remove it. However if the cart number is only 4 digits then the starting position should be 1.

For additional information on LOG2ASC refer to your MusicMaster manual under "Automation System Interface".

Keyword Flags

Non-music elements, including other carts - liners, jingles, voice tracks, etc.- and DCS-specific automation information can be entered in the music log as special log notes. A special syntax is used to tell LogMerge that these elements are not standard log notes. Each of the items available must start at the beginning of the note and be entered as documented in the table below.

Keyword / Explanation

CART_VT_????_MMSS

Direct Cart Call

where **????** = Cart Number
where **MMSS** = length of cart

Note: Cart numbers can include DCS macro characters, including:
% - Day of week (1=Monday, 7=Sunday)
^ - Current hour (1=1 o'clock, C=12 o'clock)
- Current Voice (01-99)

DIRECTIVE_LR_mm_????_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

Load Directive

where LR = type of DCS load directive "LR" OR "LP" (load break or load and play break)
where mm = minute value where the directive should occur
where ???? = minutes and seconds indicating the length of the load
DESCRIPTION = user description field.

Time approximate can be used by placing a ~ (tilde) character as first element in the description field, time update by placing a $ (dollar sign) character as the first element in the description field.

DIRECTIVE_LW_mm_rr00_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

Load Window Directive

where **mm** = minute value where the directive should occur
where **rr** = the relay number of window to load. For Set Voice, use 99
DESCRIPTION = user description field.

For Set Voice, use **$xx** in the description, where **xx** equals the voice number. For other windows, use **$xxxx**, where **xxxx** is the appropriate value for the window contents. Refer to your audio sytem documentation for more information.

FUNCTION_??_mm_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

DCS User Function Call Directive

where **??** = DCS function number 01-99
where **mm** = minute at which to execute function
where **DESCRIPTION** is descriptive only

MusicMaster Traffic Interface

To make MusicMaster logs ready to be merged with traffic, merge markers must be included in the

MusicMaster log. To add a traffic merge, move to the desired point on MusicMaster clock (or schedule). Then, touch the [**INSERT**] key and select a "**T**" element. MusicMaster will ask for a merge time (minutes). This must match with the traffic log. As an example, if the traffic island (stopset) on traffic starts at :20, then set traffic merge to :20.

If the traffic merge points to a non-existent time on the traffic log, an error will occur in the merge program. LogMerge will point to the time in the music log that called for the merge.

Traffic merges must exist for all 24 hours to include traffic records in the merged log.

Voice Tracks

Because non-music carts can be placed on the music log, precise placement is possible for voice tracks. Voice tracks can be placed according to the station's format. In addition the announcer preparing the voice tracks can identify the music exactly to intro, outro, etc. Voice track carts are placed in the music log using the keyword flag documented earlier.

To simplify placing these carts on the log DCS macro characters can be used. If you use these macro characters it must be consistent through-out. It is recommended that a grid be drafted showing precisely which cart plays in any given hour.

You may wish to refer to the sample voice track grid in this manual. It represents a chart or grid of a sample of 7 days. You will notice each of the four digits of the cart number has a unique value. Beginning at the left, Position #1 is used to identify these carts as voice tracks, Position #2 represents the day of the week (1=Monday; 7=Sunday). Position #3 is the current hour as a single digit (1=1 o'clock, 9 = 9 o'clock, A=10 o'clock, B=11 o'clock, and C=12 o'clock). The fourth digit represents the position within the hour.

Because the time of day can represent only 12 hours, it is generally accepted that the fourth digit is used to separate the voice tracks into 2, 12 hour groups. Position four can be A to Z and 1 to 9. Splitting these by 2 would allow up to 18 individual carts per hour for voice tracks. If additional carts are needed then by changing position one to a different letter would gain another 18 possible carts per hour.

Talent

LogMerge provides special features for times that are voice tracked. To enable these functions a soft switch is used called **VOICE TRACK??**.

By placing **VOICE TRACK??** on the talent title for any given hour, LogMerge will recognize that hour as a voice tracked hour.

The double question marks (**??**) represent the announcer voice number (01-99). This number should be assigned to each announcer that will be doing voice tracks and must be unique.

Examples:

11pm-3am = 01
3am-6am = 02

The talent lines would be written as:

Norman Konkwest VOICE TRACK01
Guy Weyer VOICE TRACK02

When LogMerge sees the soft switch, it will do the following:

1. Any time LogMerge sees ## in a cart number it will be replaced with the announcer voice number.
2. Cart length times will be replaced with the actual AUX length from audio inventory.

3. Log description will be read from audio inventory.
4. Any log notes will be stripped, unless the Keep All Log Notes flag has been set in configuration.

6.2.3 MusicPro System Setup

Setup Requirements

MusicPro **v5.07e** or greater is required for use with LogMerge. If you do not have the correct version, you must upgrade MusicPro to a current version. No special treatment is needed for music records, however, non-music content such as jingles, liners, voice tracks, DCS directives, etc., require special treatment.

Keyword Flags

DCS-specific keywords are entered in MusicPro via the Liner Codes section of the software. See the section on entering liner codes for specific instructions on how to create liner codes.

Be aware that MusicPro does not provide a time value for non-music records that are exported, and as a result, it is imperative that each hour of the log have as the first line of the format either a standard hour or automated hour marker. LogMerge "counts" hour markers to determine the current hour value. As a result, every hour of the day must be represented by the MusicPro log, even if hours that contain no music. Otherwise, LogMerge will "lose track" of the hours. Note that no "dummy" music records are required (as LogMerge v4.x and prior did) in order to keep track of the correct log hour - as long as each of the 24 hours is on the log and each hour has an hour marker Liner Code entered.

The table below is for MusicPro v6.05 or greater. For MusicPro versions less than v6.05, use "**/DCS66**" for the beginning of the entry, instead of the "/DCS68" listed in the table.

Keyword / Explanation

/DCS68DCS_HR

This is an hour marker that would appear as the first element of the format in a non automated (live-assist) hour.

/DCS68DCS_HR_VOICE_TRACK??

This is an hour marker that would appear as the first element of the format in an automated hour.

?? represents the voice number for the hour. Additionally, this value will be inserted in cart numbers containing **##**.

/DCS68DCS_TRAFFIC MERGE??

Traffic merge point

where **??** refers to traffic cluster start time in minutes. See the note below for further details on traffic merge points.

/DCS68DCS_CART_VT_????_MMSS

Direct Cart Call

where **????** = Cart Number
where **MMSS** = length of cart

Note: Cart numbers can include DCS macro characters, including:
% - Day of week (1=Monday, 7=Sunday)

Keyword / Explanation

^ - Current hour (1=1 o'clock, C=12 o'clock)
- Current Voice (01-99)

/DCS68DCS_DIRECTIVE_LR_mm_????_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

Load Directive

where **LR** = type of DCS load directive "LR" OR "LP" (load break or load and play break)
where **mm** = minute value where the directive should occur
where **????** = minutes and seconds indicating the length of the load
where **DESCRIPTION** = user description field (24-character max)

Time approximate can be used by placing a **~** (tilde) character as first element in the description field, time update by placing a **$** (dollar sign) character as the first element in the description field.

/DCS68DCS_DIRECTIVE_LW_mm_rr00_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

Load Window Directive

where **mm** = minute value where the directive should occur
where **rr** = the relay number of window to load. For Set Voice, use 99
where **DESCRIPTION** = user description field (24-character max)

For Set Voice, use **$xx** in the description, where **xx** equals the voice number. For other windows, use **$xxxx**, where **xxxx** is the appropriate value for the window contents. Refer to your audio system documentation for more information.

/DCS68DCS_FUNCTION_??_mm_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

DCS User Function Call Directive

where **??** = DCS function number 01-99
where **mm** = minute at which to execute function
where **DESCRIPTION** is descriptive only

/DCS68DCS_LN_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

Log Note. Log Notes will be included in the final log only in non-automated hours as a default. To force all log notes to be included in the final log, set the Keep All Log Notes setting in configuration.

The time value used in the Breaknote "**Traffic Merge**" must be the time the commercial break starts on the traffic log. If this value points to a time which does not exist on the traffic log an error will be generated in LogMerge, conversely if the time is beyond the first element LogMerge will miss the preceding spots.

Liner Codes Entry

The DCS-specific commands will be entered using MusicPro's Liner Codes entry. Liner Codes can be entered anywhere in the music log format. Liner Codes are a single, non-alphanumeric character (0-9, a-z,*,@ cannot be used). The program allows for defining the meaning of the liner code, which is where we'll place the DCS command information.

To enter a liner code in MusicPro, the user touches the [**F5**] key. A list of available liner codes (the single characters mentioned above) appears, and one is selected and inserted in the format.

To define a liner code, the user touches the [**F4**] key, select the code to edit and enters the appropriate text. For DCS-specific commands, use the information in the table above.

6.2.4 POWERGOLD System Setup

Setting up POWERGOLD for use with LogMerge requires some steps to ensure that your exported log file will reflect the information you need in addition to the music information.

1. Format Development - Clocks.
    a. Hour Opener Information must be modified.
    b. Break Notes are added to support special DCS commands.
2. Exporting the log is a two-step process.
    a. "Print" the log using POWERGOLD's Automation print option
    b. Converting the log to the proper format.

Setup Requirements

DOS Version

The POWERGOLD version needs to be v7.04 or greater - it supports multi-line Break Notes with an [**ALT-F7**] keystroke in format editor. By way of further explanation, the standard, older versions of POWERGOLD allow for a single line of break note information for each format element. With automation expanding and the need for sequences of events like "play jingle out of music into stopset, then play stopset, then play liner into music set" becoming more prevalent, POWERGOLD was enhanced to allow for multi-line break notes in v7.04. v7.04 allows the user to enter Break Notes two ways, but the multi-line approach should be used, as embedded DCS macro characters will be passed through.

Outside Events

You must use POWERGOLD's documented automation 'outside events' flags in order that any special commands for DCS are created and intended to be exported. If you don't, the information won't be exported. All DCS commands are issued via the Break Note

POWERGOLD documents the caret (**^**) as the character to tell the export this is an outside command. Further, once the command is issued in a break note, ONLY the text to the first space is exported, i.e., "**DCS_Break Note**" will be exported as "**DCS_Break**". Therefore, all commands issued to DCS must be non-space characters. The underscore (**_**) is used to accomplish this. POWERGOLD also documents the **@** character followed by a value will cause the export to place a duration for the event in the Total Duration field of the exported file (expressed in seconds).

Any Break Notes not flagged with the **^** symbol will not be exported by POWERGOLD!

Music Cart Numbers

The music cart number must be placed in the first 4 characters of the ***Miscellaneous*** field of the song record. Either numbers or letters may be used. Examples would be: "1000", "M100", "123Z" (no quotes). This is the field recommended by POWERGOLD to ensure that existing CD ID's, etc., are preserved.

Exporting the Log

The finished music log needs to be printed, using POWERGOLD Automation print option from the **Print Playlists** menu. Once 'printed', the output file needs to be converted from either **System | Automation** menu, or by exiting POWERGOLD and running TRAY.EXE from the command line (launch from POWERGOLD directory). The reason for two methods is that some implementations of POWERGOLD don't make the menu option available - as in the case of TM's UDS setup, where POWERGOLD assumes the export will be to UDS.

Keyword Flags

Non-music elements, including other carts - liners, jingles, voice tracks, etc.- and DCS-specific automation information can be entered in the music log as special log notes. A special syntax is used to tell LogMerge that these elements are not standard log notes. Each of the items available must start at the beginning of the note and be entered as documented in the table below.

Keyword / Description

^DCS_TRAFFIC MERGE??

where **??** refers to traffic cluster start time in minutes

^DCS_CART_VT_????_MMSS

Direct Cart Call

where **????** = Cart Number
where **MMSS** = length of cart

Note: Cart numbers can include DCS macro characters, including:
% - Day of week (1=Monday, 7=Sunday)
^ - Current hour (1=1 o'clock, C=12 o'clock)
- Current Voice (01-99)

^DCS_DIRECTIVE_LR_mm_????_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

Load Directive

where **LR** = type of DCS load directive "LR" OR "LP" (load break or load and play break)
where **mm** = minute value where the directive should occur
where **????** = minutes and seconds indicating the length of the load
where **DESCRIPTION** = user description field. (24-character max)

Time approximate can be used by placing a **~** (tilde) character as first element in the description field, time update by placing a **$** (dollar sign) character as the first element in the description field.

^DCS_DIRECTIVE_LW_mm_rr00_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

Load Window Directive

where **mm** = minute value where the directive should occur
where **rr** = the relay number of window to load. For Set Voice, use 99
where **DESCRIPTION** = user description field (24-character max).

For Set Voice, use **$xx** in the description, where **xx** equals the voice number. For other windows, use **$xxxx**, where **xxxx** is the appropriate value for the window contents. Refer to your DCS or Maestro documentation for more information.

Keyword / Description

^DCS_FUNCTION_??_mm_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

DCS User Function Call Directive

where **??** = DCS function number 01-99
where **mm** = minute at which to execute function
where **DESCRIPTION** is descriptive only (24-character max)

The time value used in the Breaknote "**Traffic Merge**" must be the time the commercial break starts on the traffic log. If this value points to a time which does not exist on the traffic log an error will be generated in LogMerge, conversely if the time is beyond the first element LogMerge will miss the preceding spots.

BE SURE YOU SAVE YOUR WORK WHEN EXITING THE POWERGOLD Multi-Line BREAK NOTE EDITOR!

Here's an example of a Break Note that tells DCS to perform a liner out of the song, a break at :20 past the hour, then a jingle into the music set:

^DCS_Cart_VT_^%##_0015_VoiceTrack_to_Brk
^DCS_Traffic_Merge20_Goto_TR_LOG
^DCS_CART_VT_J200_0003_Jingle_to_music

Hour Opener

This information is entered in the **Format Development | Clocks | Update Clocks** section of POWERGOLD.

Use the second header line (the one labeled by POWERGOLD as used to appear before the first song of the hour) to indicate whether or not the hour is to be automated (voice-tracked) and to embed a load or load play directive if necessary. Each format clock MUST have the basic hour opener information included in this second line. LogMerge uses the hour opener information to determine whether or not the hour will be voice-tracked. The syntax for the this line to include both automation (voice-tracking) and a LoadPlay directive would be as follows:

^DCS_HR_VOICE_TRACK01 @00 ^DCS_DIRECTIVE_LP_00_6000_LoadPlayHR

The "01" on the voice track statement means voice **##**, the "00" on the LoadPlay directive means place the directive at the 00 minute mark of the hour, and the "6000" value means 60 minutes, 00 seconds of duration for the directive. The syntax for a non-voice tracked hour is simple and provides only the hour marker. Note that you can also include additional directives, as with a voice-tracked hour, if desired. A standard hour - non-voice-tracked - would have the syntax:

^DCS_HR @00

Note the real difference between a voice-tracked hour and a standard hour is the text following the keyword **^DCS_HR**. If blank, it's a standard, live-assist hour. If the text is **^DCS_HR_VOICE_TRACK??**, then it's recognized as a voice-tracked (automated) hour.

The effect of an hour defined as an automated hour is that all log notes are stripped from the output log unless the Keep All Log Notes option in configuration is set. If an hour is not automated, log notes by default are passed through to the finished log.

Creating the Export File

The file name of the finished file will be **mmddyy.ASC**, which is a standard file extension for POWERGOLD on their standard automation output.

Note that creating the export file is a two-step process.

Printing the Playlist

Once you've completed format work and entered the cart numbers in the music database, you can generate a play list as usual.

To create the export file, select **Print Playlists** from the **PlayList Generator** menu. You'll be prompted for the number of days to print (select 1) and Log Design Assignment Grid (select your choice). Press [**ENTER**] and you'll be prompted for the date to print. Select the date. You'll be prompted to select the output - choose **A)utomation**.

Next, you'll be prompted to enter a filename. Type the file name as ***mmddyy*.TXT** where **mm**=month, **dd**=day, **yy**=year. An example is 061495.TXT. Press [**ENTER**] and you'll get the normal prompting for beginning and ending hours to print. Take the defaults - 12:00am to 12:00am to produce a 24-hour log. The log will then be printed to a file that will need to have a final process applied.

Touch the [**ESC**] key to return to the Generate Playlist menu and [**ESC**] again to the Main Menu.

Use Automation Utilities

There are two ways to access POWERGOLD's Automation utilities menu. If you can select **System | Automation** from the menu, do so. Otherwise, use this alternative method:

1. Exit POWERGOLD to the DOS prompt. Make sure you are in the POWERGOLD application directory, typically C:\POWER or C:\PGOLD.
2. Type "**TRAY**" (no quotes) and the automation utilities menu appears.

From the **Automation Utilities** menu, select **A-Standard Automation**. You'll be prompted for the text file name to convert. This would be the filename you entered when printing the playlist - i.e., "061495. TXT" (no quotes) - and press the [**ENTER**] key. The file will be converted and stored in the same directory as **TRAY** was launched from.

You'll next get a prompt that indicates you may copy the file to a diskette. If you wish to copy the file to a diskette, enter the drive name (i.e., **A:**) and press the [**ENTER**] key. If you want to skip copying the file to a floppy, press the [**ESC**] key and you'll be returned to the Automation Utilities menu. Press [**ESC**] to exit the Automation utilities.

DOS File Layout Reference

These file layouts are provided for information and troubleshooting purposes.

Music Record

Field Name	***Col***	***Width***	***Usage***
Title	1	25	The song title
Artist	27	25	The artist
Machine	53	02	Machine number

Field Name	*Col*	*Width*	*Usage*
Magazine	55	01	No. in index field
Slot	56	03	No. in Slot field
Field Miscellaneous	60	32	***** This is the DCS CartNo field, as recommended by POWERGOLD. Use the 1st 4 characters only! *****
Number	94	04	No. in Number field
Track	99	02	No. in Track field
Minutes	102	02	Duration in MM
Seconds	105	02	Duration in SS
Total Duration in Seconds	108	04	0-3600 seconds
Intro Time	113	02	0-99 seconds
Ending	116	01	Any character
Air Day of Week	118	01	1=7 (Sunday =1, which is different than DCS)
Air Year	120	02	0-99
Air Month	123	02	0-12
Air Day	126	02	0-31
Air Hour	129	02	0-24
Air Minute	132	02	0-60
Air Seconds	135	02	0-60

Break Note Record

Field Name	*Col*	*Width*	*Usage*
Blank	1	52	Not Used
Break Note / DCS Flag	53	40	DCS keywords, etc.
Total Duration in Seconds	108	04	0-3600 seconds
Air Day of Week	118	01	1=7 (Sunday =1, which is different than DCS)
Air Year	120	02	0-99
Air Month	123	02	0-12
Air Day	126	02	0-31
Air Hour	129	02	0-24
Air Minute	132	02	0-60
Air Seconds	135	02	0-60

6.2.5 Results 98 System Setup

Setup Requirements

No special treatment is needed for music records, however, non-music content such as jingles, liners, voice tracks, DCS directives, etc., require special treatment. Review the Keyword Flags section below for details.

Be sure that the **Music Path** and **Traffic Path** in your LogMerge setup for a station are ***different locations***. This is because the actual filenames of the source music log and source traffic log will be identical.

Keyword Flags

DCS and Maestro-specific keywords are entered in Results 98 via the Liner Notes section of the software. See the section on entering liner notes for specific instructions on how to create liner notes.

Keyword / Explanation

@HMxx

This is a marker that can be placed in the format to tell LogMerge whether or not a given period of time is automated (voice-tracked).

For non-automated periods, the **xx** value is '00' (two zeroes).

For automated times, the **xx** value is the voice number - 01, 02, etc. The voice number is used in DCS and Maestro macro character conversion. This value will be inserted in cart numbers containing **##**.

Note: The ***default*** value used for a merge process is to assume that all hours (periods) are automated.

@TMxx

Traffic merge point, where **xx** refers to the traffic cluster start time in minutes.

Note: The time value used in the liner note "Traffic Merge" must be the time the commercial break starts on the traffic log. If this value points to a time which does not exist on the traffic log an error will be generated in LogMerge, conversely if the time is beyond the first element LogMerge will miss the preceding spots.

@VTxxxxmmss

Direct Cart Call

where **xxxx** = Cart Number
where **mmss** = length of cart in minutes, seconds

Note: Cart numbers can include DCS macro characters, including:
% - Day of week (1=Monday, 7=Sunday)
^ - Current hour (1=1 o'clock, C=12 o'clock)
- Current Voice (01-99)

@DDttmm????Description (Description up to 12 characters)

Keyword / Explanation

Load Directive

where **tt** = type of DCS load directive "LR" OR "LP" (load break or load and play break)
where **mm** = minute value where the directive should occur
where **????** = minutes and seconds indicating the length of the directive
where **Description** = user description field. (12-character max)

Time approximate can be used by placing a **~** (tilde) character as first element in the description field, time update by placing a **$** (dollar sign) character as the first element in the description field.

@DWmmrrDescription (Description up to 16 characters)

Load Window Directive

where **mm** = minute value where the directive should occur
where **rr** = the relay number of window to load. For Set Voice, use 99
where **DESCRIPTION** = user description field

For Set Voice, use **$xx** in the description, where **xx** equals the voice number. For other windows, use **$xxxx**, where **xxxx** is the appropriate value for the window contents. Refer to your audio system documentation for more information.

@DF??mmDescription (Description up to 16 characters)

User Function Call Directive

where **??** = DCS/Maestro function number 01-99
where **mm** = minute at which to execute function
where **DESCRIPTION** is descriptive only

Log Notes Liner Notes - No special keyword is needed. Liner Notes are viewed as a DCS/ Maestro/Studio Log Note.

Liner Notes will be included in the final log only in ***non-automated hours*** as a default. To force all log notes to be included in the final log, set the Keep All Log Notes setting in configuration.

Liner Notes Entry

The DCS and Maestro-specific commands are entered using Results 98's **Liner Notes** entry. Liner notes are scheduled using Results 98's feature called "scheduled stopset liners". Creating a liner note is a two part process:

1. The Results 98 Daypart clock is used to build a list of music categories. By designating **Category 16**, "Stopset" in the daypart clock, you are telling Results 98 not to schedule music in that time slot, instead it should select a 'Stopset Liner". Editing the daypart clock is done in Results 98 on the **Setup** menu by selecting "**Edit Daypart Clocks**".

2. Part two of the process is creating the actual liner note. Liner notes are created on the **Setup** menu by selecting **Stopset Liners**. Results 98 has "rotating liners" and "scheduled liners". ***To create Liner Notes to be exported to DCS, use only "scheduled liners"***. Scheduled liners are created by selecting first the day, then hour you are scheduling. Results 98 will display each time slot of the daypart clock and prompt you for the liner you want to scheduled. When you add a liner that is to be one of the DCS/Maestro keywords in Results 98, be sure that each character is in the appropriate

position. Each character in the liner must meet the special requirements of the DCS/Maestro keywords. For specific commands (keywords), use the information in the table above.

6.2.6 Selector System Setup

Selector™ music scheduling software is a registered trademark of Radio Computing Systems, Inc.

Setup Requirements

The following items are required to be setup in the Selector software system.

1. Log Format
2. Song Design
3. Breaknote Design
4. Header/Footer Design
5. Keyword Flags (done within Breaknotes)

Log Format

For the merge process to work properly, it is necessary to provide a separate ASCII file for merging. This ASCII file differs from the normal printed log in that printer control codes, visual printed items, etc., need to be excluded in the ASCII log file. Selector provides for several different Log Formats. Choose one of the unused formats to be solely for the purpose of log exporting in order to be able to use your current formats for printed output.

Within the log format there are several items that must be configured for correct merge operation.

Song Design

Song design will determine the format in which the music records are output in the log file, the fields must be placed exactly as follows for the merge process to locate and process them correctly.

ITEM	***LINE***	***COL***	***LENGTH***	***FONT***
CUSTOM ADDRESS	1	1	2	P
SONG ID	1	3	7	P
ARTIST	1	10	12	P
TITLE	1	22	12	P
ENDING	1	45	2	P
INTRO 1	1	34	2	P
INTRO 2	1	36	2	P
INTRO 3	1	38	2	P
RUNTIME	1	40	5	P
LOG:AIRTIME HOUR (MILITARY)	1	47	2	P
LOG:EXACT TIME MIN/SEC	1	49	5	P

DO NOT ALTER OR ADD ANY FIELDS FROM ABOVE.

The custom address field should be added to all records in the database. The value to enter is "**&&**" (no quotes). This provides a unique identification of music records to the merge program. This can be done globally to all records via the mass changer.

Breaknote Design

ITEM	***LINE***	***COL***	***LENGTH***	***FONT***
TITLE	1	1	30	P
LOG:AIRTIME (MILITARY)	1	31	2	P
LOG:EXACT MIN/SEC	1	33	5	P

DO NOT ALTER OR ADD ANY FIELDS FROM ABOVE.

Header/Footer Design

Header

For versions 12.40 and earlier, the header should read:

STARTHOUR@M@D@Y@LL_@WW_@TTTT (47 T's)

For versions 12.41 and later, the header should read:

STARTHOUR@M@D@Y@8__@WW_@TTTT (47 T's)

Footer

No footer is required.

Log Parameters

Parameter	***Data***
Format Name	Export Merge Format
PRINT UNSCHED POSITIONS	"NO"
FONT	P
PRINT ANNIV NOTES	0 + 0
PRINT FOOTER	HOUR
ARTIST NOTES	NO ARTIST NOTES
# OF LINES AFTER SONGS	0
PRINT SONG NOTES	"NO"
ROTATE	EVERYWHERE
# OF HOURS PER PAGE	0

Parameter	***Data***
BREAKNOTE/LINE DESIGN	SAME DESIGN FOR STOPSET
PRINT CLUSTER HEADER/FOOTER	NON-SONG/SONG
AUTOMATION FILE OUTPUT NAME	PATH\@M@D@Y.ASC (i.e., F:\DCS\@M@D@Y.ASC)

Keyword Flags

The following keyword flags are placed as **Breaknotes**. Each has a specific function and syntax must be exact. These keywords must be the first elements in their line with no spaces unless shown in the example.

Keyword / Explanation

TRAFFIC MERGE??

Traffic merge time, where **??** refers to traffic cluster start time in minutes.

CART_VT_????_MMSS

Direct Cart Call

where **????** = Cart Number
where **MMSS** = length of cart (minutes, seconds)

Note: Cart numbers can include DCS macro characters, including:
% - Day of week (1=Monday, 7=Sunday)
^ - Current hour (1=1 o'clock, C=12 o'clock)
- Current Voice (01-99)

DIRECTIVE_LR_mm_????_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

Load Directive

where **LR** = type of load directive, "LR", "LS", "LP", etc.
where **mm** = minute value where the directive should occur
where **????** = minutes and seconds indicating the length of the load
DESCRIPTION = user description field.

Time approximate can be used by placing a **~** (tilde) character as first element in the description field, time update by placing a **$** (dollar sign) character as the first element in the description field.

DIRECTIVE_LW_mm_rr00_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

Load Window Directive

where **mm** = minute value where the directive should occur
where **rr** = the relay number of window to load. For Set Voice, use 99
DESCRIPTION = user description field.

For Set Voice, use **$xx** in the description, where **xx** equals the voice number. For other windows, use **$xxxx**, where **xxxx** is the appropriate value for the window contents. Refer to your audio system documentation for more information.

FUNCTION_??_mm_DESCRIPTION (up to 24 characters)

Keyword / Explanation

DCS User Function Call Directive

where **??** = DCS function number 01-99
where **mm** = minute at which to execute function
where **DESCRIPTION** is descriptive only

The time value used in the Breaknote "Traffic Merge" must be the time the commercial break starts on the traffic log. If this value points to a time which does not exist on the traffic log an error will be generated in LogMerge, conversely if the time is beyond the first element LogMerge will miss the preceding spots.

Talent

Several functions of LogMerge are active only during automated time periods. To switch these features in and out we have chosen to use the **Talent** description as the location for the necessary keywords. By placing the words **VOICE TRACK??** on the talent info line, LogMerge will know that hour is automated. Additionally the **??** directly after the word track will represent the announcer voice number and will be inserted anytime LogMerge finds a cart with **##** as the last 2 digits. This forms part of the DCS wild card macros and can simplify creation of logs.

Note that LogMerge as a default will convert DCS/Maestro wild card characters only during automated hours. A configuration option of LogMerge will force the conversion in ALL hours.

Additional Wild cards

Although covered in some detail in the DCS operations manual, DCS wild cards are fully supported for cart numbers in LogMerge. The **^** (caret) represents the current hour, **%** represents the day of week, **##** represents the current announcer.

By placing these in your cart number specs LogMerge will replace the wild card values with the correct values and then be able to obtain the correct audio times. By using these wild cards a minimum number of hour formats can be created and copied without having to know the exact cart number. This becomes extremely handy when voice tracking is done. A sample Voice Track grid is included for reference in this manual.

Using Linker to Create a Combined Log for Export and Use by LogMerge

If you use Linker to merge the traffic and music logs prior to using LogMerge, you can configure Linker to include the special characters "**^^**" for each traffic record. When set up this way, LogMerge can distinguish between music and traffic records and handle them accordingly.

When setting up the Linker traffic record structure, the key traffic log element fields, and their locations in each line of the exported file, are as follows:

1. **Cart Number**. Starts at position 3 for 7 characters. Only the first 4 characters are used.
2. **Log Description**. Starts at position 10 for 24 characters. Trailing spaces are removed.
3. **Intro**. Starts at position 38 for 2 characters.
4. **Length**. Starts at position 40 for 5 characters. LogMerge expects the time to be in the format "MM:SS".

5. **Fade**. Starts at position 45 for 2 characters.

For more information on troubleshooting when using Linker, see the Selector - Linker TroubleShooting topic.

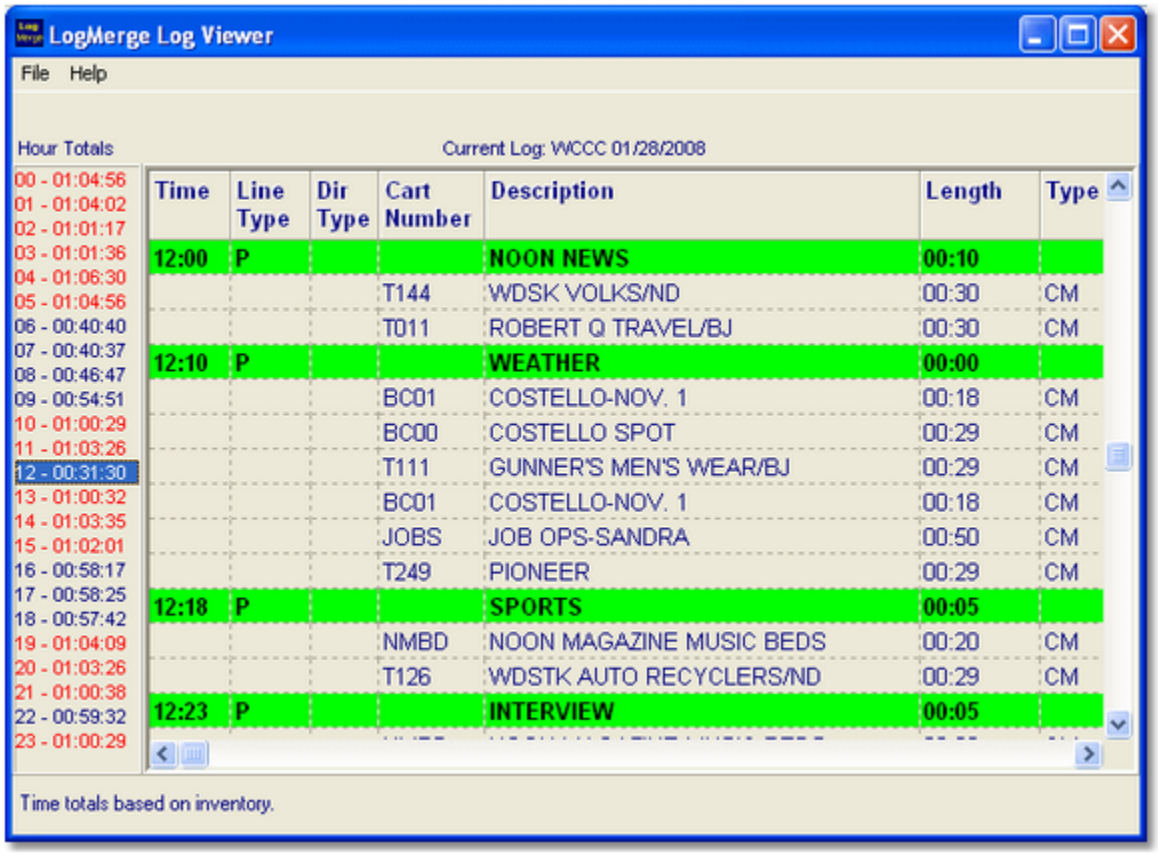
Summary

If you choose to implement all of the available tools using the Selector export utility, the requirements for the traffic system export are reduced to the commercials (at the correct, synchronized times) and the RTM (return to music) key word. All other material - jingles, liners, voice tracks, direct cart calls, etc., call be controlled directly from the Selector export.

6.3 LogMerge Utilities

Log Viewer

LogMerge has a built viewer for the finished (merged) log. Once a log has been merged, you can invoke the viewer from the **Utilities | View Merged Log** (**CTRL-F**) menu item. When invoked the viewer will look similar to this display:



The left column of information is the hours of the day and the total amount of audio time for the hour. The total time for the hour is calculated based on the audio inventory AUX mark time (if the inventory file is used during the merge) or is calculated based on the logged time (if no inventory file is used). The hourly total displays in red for hours that are more than 60 minutes elapsed time.

[**Double-Click**] on an hourly total to move the log display to the start of the hour selected.

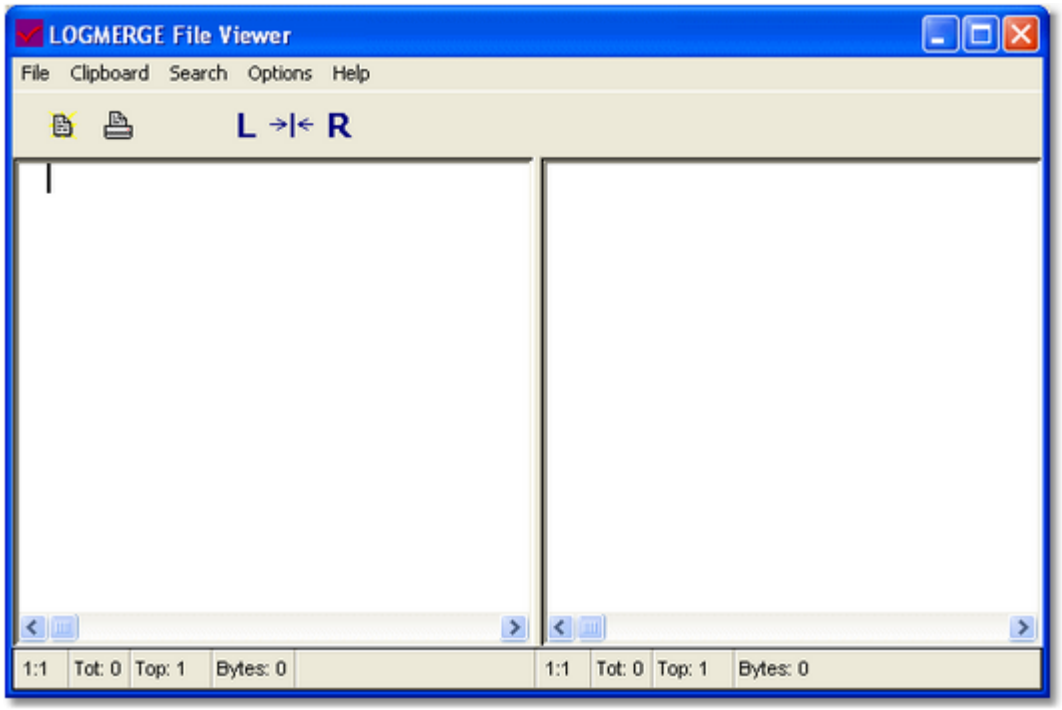
The log display panel shows the time for Directives, Log Notes and Program Titles in different colors to make these items easier to find. For Directives, the total audio time of the directive is displayed. If the calculated time is more than the directive's time, the total is displayed in red.

File Viewer

Included with LogMerge is a simple file viewer application that is utilized for viewing merge error reports, source logs and the application error log. This is a standalone application that may be used for other file viewing tasks as well. When needed in LogMerge, the viewer application is automatically launched with the correct files to view.

To learn more about the File Viewer application, see the viewer help file, which can be launched any time the program is active.

The LogMerge File Viewer will look similar to this display:



The LogMerge File Viewer can be run as a standalone application for viewing files for other purposes.

This application opens the file you're viewing in a read-only mode, so a file you're viewing in the viewer application cannot be edited by another application while you have the file open for viewing.

6.4 Voice Track Sample Grid

This sample grid is for reference purposes only. The structure chosen to accommodate voice track cart numbering can be any you choose, although this particular scheme will allow for use of the DCS macro characters and reduce the amount of work involved in setting up the music log. If you use these macro characters you must be consistent throughout.

Concept

You will notice each of the four digits of the cart number has a unique value. Beginning at the left, Position #1 is used to identify the carts as voice tracks, Position #2 represents the day of the week, (1=Monday; 7=Sunday). Position #3 is the current hour as a single digit (1 = 1 o'clock; 9 = 9 o'clock, 10=A, 11=B and 12=C). The fourth digit represents the position within the hour.

Because the time of day can represent only 12 hours, it is generally accepted that the fourth digit is used to separate the voice tracks into two 12-hour groups. Position four can be A to Z and 1 to 9. Splitting these by 2 would allow up to 18 individual carts per hour for voice tracks. If additional carts are needed then by changing position one to a different letter would gain another 18 possible carts per hour.

Sample Grid

MON	*TUE*	*WED*	*THU*	*FRI*	*SAT*	*SUN*	*HOUR*
V1Cx(A-K)	V2Cx(A-K)	V3Cx(A-K)	V4Cx(A-K)	V5Cx(A-K)	V6Cx(A-K)	V7Cx(A-K)	MIDNIGHT
V11x(A-K)	V21x(A-K)	V31x(A-K)	V41x(A-K)	V51x(A-K)	V61x(A-K)	V71x(A-K)	1 AM
V12x(A-K)	V22x(A-K)	V32x(A-K)	V42x(A-K)	V52x(A-K)	V62x(A-K)	V72x(A-K)	2 AM
V13x(A-K)	V23x(A-K)	V33x(A-K)	V43x(A-K)	V53x(A-K)	V63x(A-K)	V73x(A-K)	3 AM
V14x(A-K)	V24x(A-K)	V34x(A-K)	V44x(A-K)	V54x(A-K)	V64x(A-K)	V74x(A-K)	4 AM
V15x(A-K)	V25x(A-K)	V35x(A-K)	V45x(A-K)	V55x(A-K)	V65x(A-K)	V75x(A-K)	5 AM
V16x(A-K)	V26x(A-K)	V36x(A-K)	V46x(A-K)	V56x(A-K)	V66x(A-K)	V76x(A-K)	6 AM
V17x(A-K)	V27x(A-K)	V37x(A-K)	V47x(A-K)	V57x(A-K)	V67x(A-K)	V77x(A-K)	7 AM
V18x(A-K)	V28x(A-K)	V38x(A-K)	V48x(A-K)	V58x(A-K)	V68x(A-K)	V78x(A-K)	8 AM
V19x(A-K)	V29x(A-K)	V39x(A-K)	V49x(A-K)	V59x(A-K)	V69x(A-K)	V79x(A-K)	9 AM
V1Ax(A-K)	V2Ax(A-K)	V3Ax(A-K)	V4Ax(A-K)	V5Ax(A-K)	V6Ax(A-K)	V7Ax(A-K)	10 AM
V1Bx(A-K)	V2Bx(A-K)	V3Bx(A-K)	V4Bx(A-K)	V5Bx(A-K)	V6Bx(A-K)	V7Bx(A-K)	11 AM
V1Cx(L-Z)	V2Cx(L-Z)	V3Cx(L-Z)	V4Cx(L-Z)	V5Cx(L-Z)	V6Cx(L-Z)	V7Cx(L-Z)	NOON
V11x(L-Z)	V21x(L-Z)	V31x(L-Z)	V41x(L-Z)	V51x(L-Z)	V61x(L-Z)	V71x(L-Z)	1 PM
V12x(L-Z)	V22x(L-Z)	V32x(L-Z)	V42x(L-Z)	V52x(L-Z)	V62x(L-Z)	V72x(L-Z)	2 PM
V13x(L-Z)	V23x(L-Z)	V33x(L-Z)	V43x(L-Z)	V53x(L-Z)	V63x(L-Z)	V73x(L-Z)	3 PM
V14x(L-Z)	V24x(L-Z)	V34x(L-Z)	V44x(L-Z)	V54x(L-Z)	V64x(L-Z)	V74x(L-Z)	4 PM
V15x(L-Z)	V25x(L-Z)	V35x(L-Z)	V45x(L-Z)	V55x(L-Z)	V65x(L-Z)	V75x(L-Z)	5 PM

MON	*TUE*	*WED*	*THU*	*FRI*	*SAT*	*SUN*	*HOUR*
V16x(L-Z)	V26x(L-Z)	V36x(L-Z)	V46x(L-Z)	V56x(L-Z)	V66x(L-Z)	V76x(L-Z)	6 PM
V17x(L-Z)	V27x(L-Z)	V37x(L-Z)	V47x(L-Z)	V57x(L-Z)	V67x(L-Z)	V77x(L-Z)	7 PM
V18x(L-Z)	V28x(L-Z)	V38x(L-Z)	V48x(L-Z)	V58x(L-Z)	V68x(L-Z)	V78x(L-Z)	8 PM
V19x(L-Z)	V29x(L-Z)	V39x(L-Z)	V49x(L-Z)	V59x(L-Z)	V69x(L-Z)	V79x(L-Z)	9 PM
V1Ax(L-Z)	V2Ax(L-Z)	V3Ax(L-Z)	V4Ax(L-Z)	V5Ax(L-Z)	V6Ax(L-Z)	V7Ax(L-Z)	10 PM
V1Bx(L-Z)	V2Bx(L-Z)	V3Bx(L-Z)	V4Bx(L-Z)	V5Bx(L-Z)	V6Bx(L-Z)	V7Bx(L-Z)	11 PM

The **X** value would be replaced by the values in parentheses for the number of voice tracks you might use in a given hour.

Sample Entries

Here are some sample voice track entries, using macro characters for the day-of-week and hour-of-day. The first set of samples would be used for the Midnight through 11AM hours, the second set for Noon through 11PM hours. You would have to define at least two clocks in your music scheduling system - one for the first 12 hours of the day and one for the last 12 hours of the day and enter one set of Direct Cart Calls in each of the clocks.

Midnight through 11AM

V%^A
V%^B
V%^C
V%^D

Noon through 11PM

V%^L
V%^M
V%^N
V%^O

In the examples, we've constructed a total of 8 unique voice-track cart numbers that when entered as a ***Direct Cart Call*** in your music scheduling system would yield unique cart numbers (4 per hour) for every day of the week and every hour of the day.

6.5 LogMerge Sequence Description

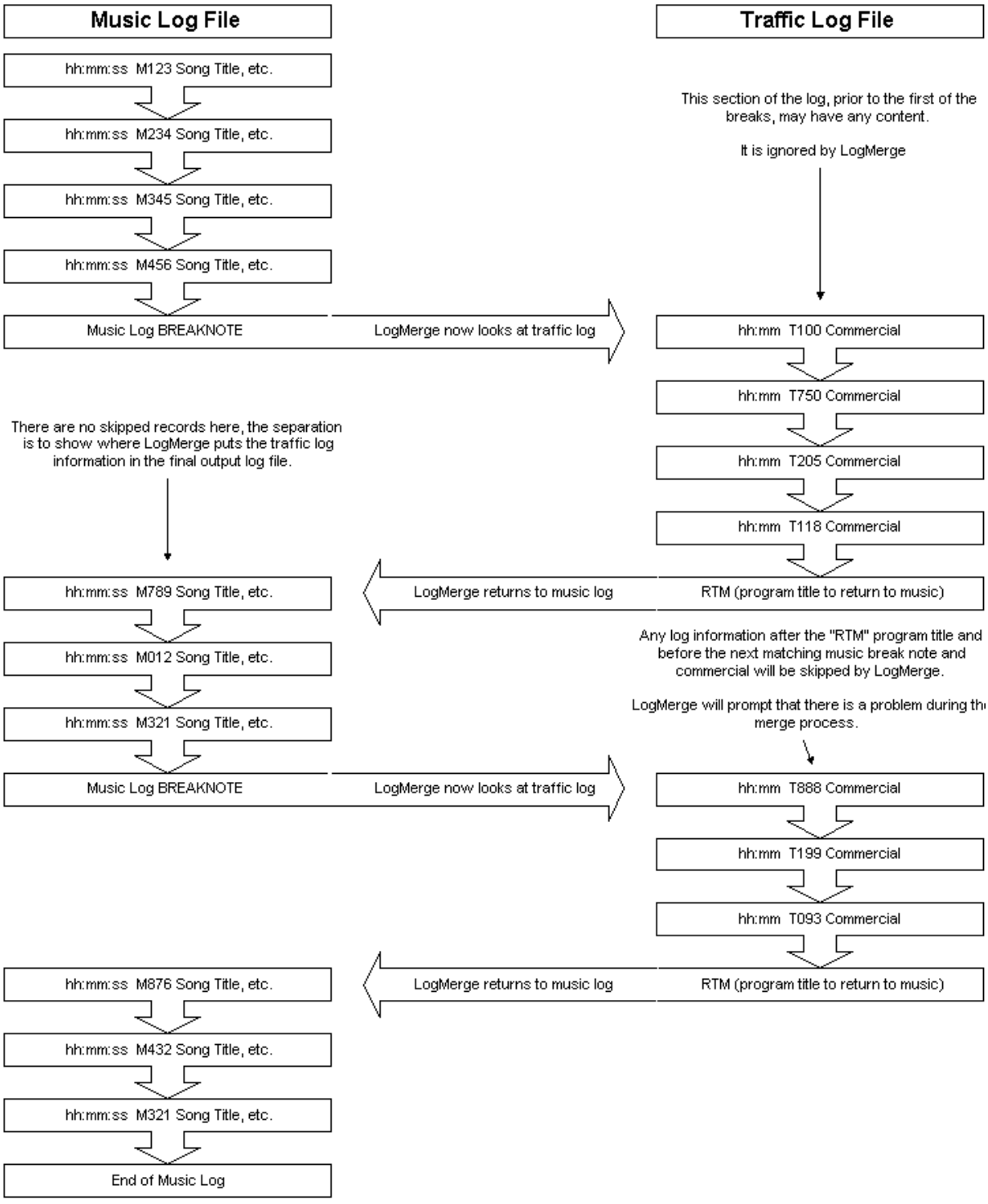
Concept

LogMerge uses the music log as a starting point, reading from the beginning of the log and converting the necessary records until a breaknote is encountered. Then the traffic log is searched for the matching log time. The matching time must exist on the traffic log. The merge then reads the traffic log and converts the records until it encounters the keyword RTM, which causes a return to the music log and conversion of records there until another breaknote is encountered.

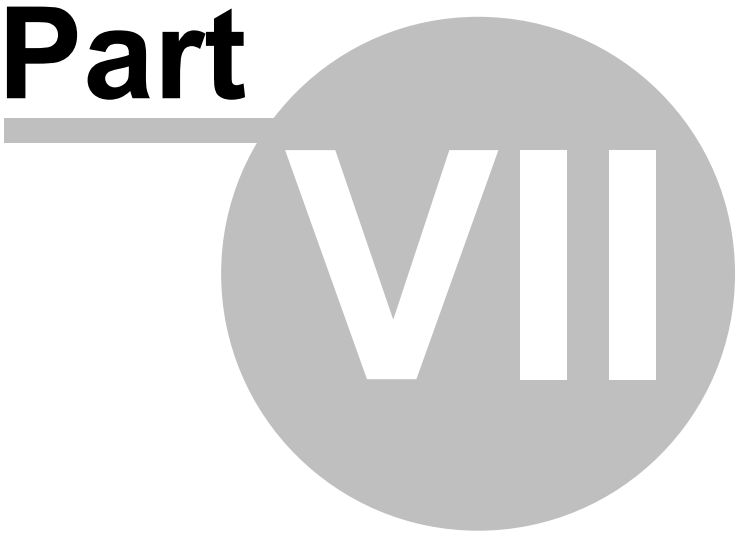
This process continues, moving back and forth between the music log and traffic log until the end of the music log is encountered.

Diagram

Following is a block diagram outlining the process:



TroubleShooting



LogMerge has been designed to be as trouble-free as possible and has been thoroughly tested. However, not every usage scenario can be anticipated. This section is intended as a starting point diagnosing and solving problems, but should not be viewed as an all-encompassing source of problem resolution.

If the difficulty you're experiencing is not covered here, contact the dealer who provided you with LogMerge first. Alternatively, you can contact dcsTools.com - see the topic on technical support.

Application Bugs or Errors

Bugs and errors generally fall into one of two categories - a bug, which is the application not doing something as you might have predicted it would, or; an error, which is the failure of the application to run or perform a specific task altogether.

If you find a bug, report it. Every effort is made to ensure LogMerge performs as expected, but there may be circumstances that were not predicted in the development of the software. See the section on Technical Support for information on reporting a bug.

If you encounter an error, you will get an error message indicating a severe failure and LogMerge may terminate. Provisions are made to "catch" such errors and log the error information to a file in the LogMerge application directory. The filename is **LM32.exe.Elf**. Again, report any application errors you encounter. You may be asked to send the appropriate log file for analysis.

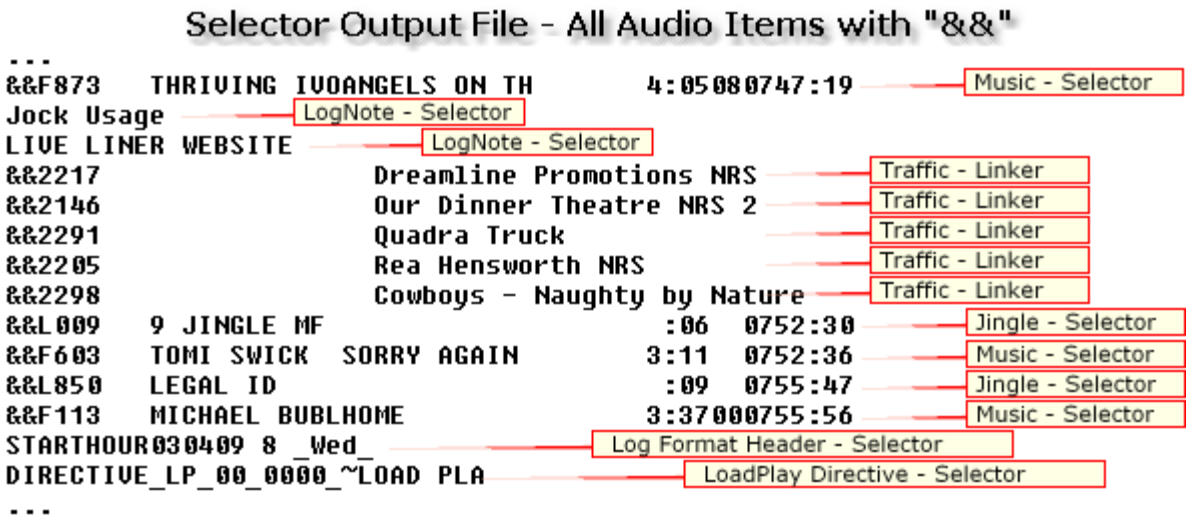
Basic Troubleshooting Steps

Before getting too far down the road in trying to find your problem, check these items to be sure your environment for running LogMerge is correct and functioning properly:

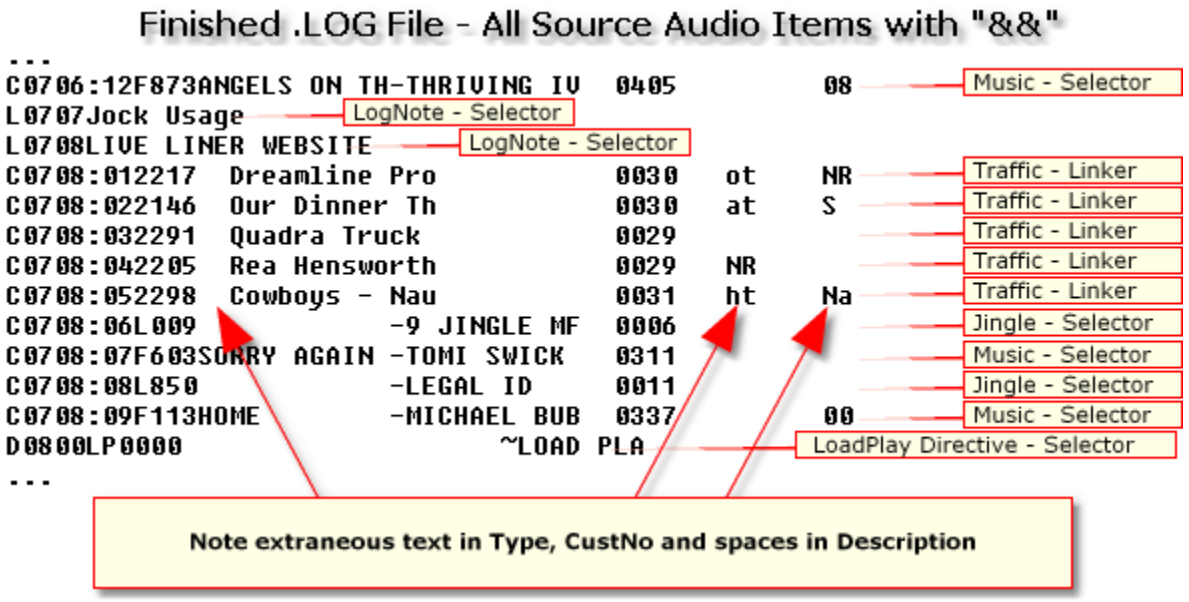
1. Make sure your PC (the one on which you are running LogMerge) meets the minimum hardware requirements for this application. See the section on system requirements for more information.
2. Make sure your PC is functioning properly. This is a broad statement, but suffice it to say that if your PC is suffering from "blue-screens" or is "locking up" for no apparent reason, the PC may be a part of the problem.
3. Ensure that the pathways to retrieving log files, and, if applicable, inventory files, are correct and "reachable" from your PC. If you are retrieving files from a LAN (local area network), make sure you are correctly connected to the LAN and can "see" the host file server.

7.1 Selector - Linker Output Formatting

When using the combination of Selector and Linker to pre-merge the music and traffic content and not making a distinction between the two record types, the output .ASC file looks similar to the example fragment shown.



In this example, the double-ampersand (&&) is used as the fixed-character prefix for both music and traffic records in their respective print format setup. As Linker places the various bits of traffic log record information in different positions within the output file as a default, handling both record types the same way produces a finished traffic log similar to the example fragment shown below.



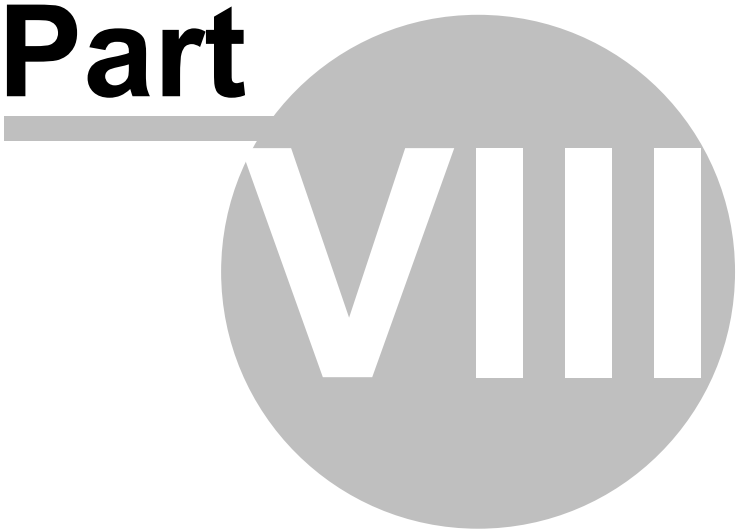
While a log with content like the example generally works OK, particularly if LogMerge is using a DCS, Maestro or XStudio inventory file during the merge process, you can see from the example that there is extraneous information in some fields and the traffic item descriptions have leading spaces and in some cases are truncated (incomplete).

The description part of the record can be cleaned up a bit if the option "Keep log descriptions from source logs" in unchecked and an inventory file is used. In this case, LogMerge would do a lookup of

each cart number in the inventory file and use the description from the inventory rather than what came from the original source log(s). The technique will not clear up the extraneous characters in the Type and Customer Number fields, though.

In LogMerge versions 5.3S and above, you can use a different technique by changing the traffic print format to use the characters "^^" (double-caret, line positions 1 & 2). Then, LogMerge will handle the two record types differently, for the most part eliminating the leading spaces and extraneous characters issues.

Contacting dcsTools.com



If you need to contact dcsTools.com, you can do so using one of the following methods. We are here to help, so do not hesitate to communicate with us when needed.

Mailing Address

C-R Media
8494 Saratoga Lane
Eden Prairie, MN 55347
USA

Telephone Information

Sales and Technical Support can be reached from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, U.S Central Time.

Voice: 952-949-9450

FAX: 952-949-9448

Email Information

To contact us via email, use our on-line contact form. If you wish to use a standard email client, send correspondence to: rich@c-rmedia.com.

Technical Support

To contact technical support for our products, use the telephone numbers or email information provided above. You can also send an on-line product-specific email.

Web Site

Visit our web site for information on product updates and other products we offer.

http://www.dcsTools.com

Appendices

Part

9.1 Registering LogMerge

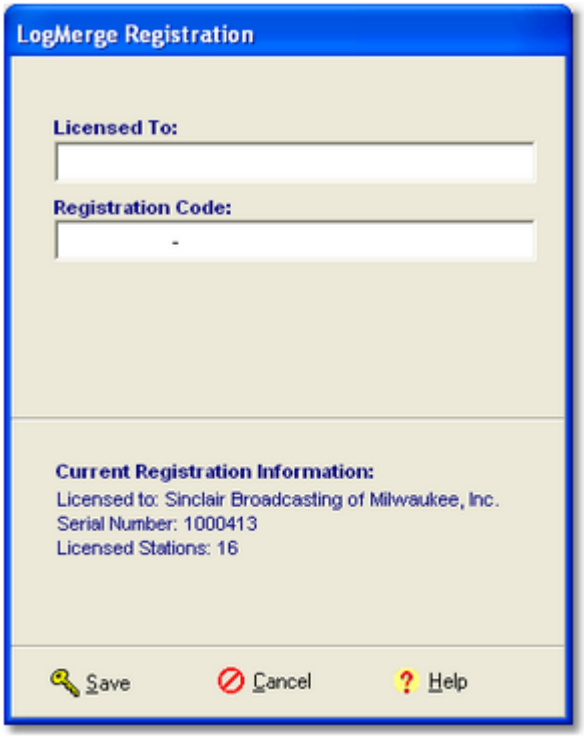
LogMerge requires a valid registration code to enable unlimited usage and support merging of more than one station. The first time you run LogMerge v5.x after installing, you'll be prompted to enter the registration information. You should have received a registration code with your LogMerge installation materials.

If no registration code is entered or available, you will be able to run LogMerge 15 times. The application will not launch after 15 trial runs. An unregistered copy of LogMerge will allow configuration and merging of just one station.

LogMerge registration information can be entered in either of two ways:

1. Select "Yes" when prompted to register at program startup, or;
2. Select **Help | Register LogMerge** from the main menu after starting up.

A dialog similar to the following example will be shown:



Enter the company name and/or call letters in the "***Licensed To***" field. Then, enter the code you were supplied with in the "***Registration Code***" field.

If you received the registration code electronically, you may use standard Windows cut and paste methods to paste the code in the field.

After entering the information, click on the [**Save**] button to save the information.

If you wish to change your company name and/or call letters at a later date, you will need to re-enter the registration code.

9.2 LogMerge INI File

The LogMerge INI file is located (as a default) in the WINDOWS directory on your computer, typically **\WINDOWS** (for Windows v3.x and Windows 95 & 98) or **\WINNT** (for Windows NT family). All of the station merge settings are stored in this file. The more traditional ini file type was selected over the current standard of storing this information in the operating system's registry file in order to ensure compatibility among operating systems.

The LogMerge INI file (**LOGMERGE.INI**) can also be located in the application directory if desired and called from that location with a command-line switch. This facilitates the installation of LogMerge on a LAN drive surface and use of a "common" INI file. The command-line syntax to enter as a part of the LogMerge shortcut is:

"**/LAN**" (no quotes). This switch follows the normal path and filename in the shortcut.

This technique is also useful when LogMerge is installed on recent operating systems that enforce stronger security measures with respect to user access to files in certain folders, most notably the operating system and Program Files folders.

Sample .INI File

Here is a sample of the contents of the LogMerge.INI file:

```
[General]
Registration=Your registration code
Licensed To=The Station or Company using LogMerge
SDoW=0
DayNames=2
CalPanel=False
LM4xCvt=True
Ver=5.1c
Update=08/04/2000 12:13:20 PM
TLSpecial=False
MLSpecial=False
Debug=False
MoreInfo=False

[UI]
SaveSettings=True
MainHeight=434
MainWidth=622
MainState=0

[Stations]
Calls 01=WWWW-FM
Calls 02=KKXX-FM
Calls 03=KXXK-AM
Calls 04=CCCC-FM

[Station 01]
UseTRLog=True
ChkInv=True
MacroConvert=True
```

```
Target Stn=1
Music Path=J:\DCS\KXXX
Traffic Path=J:\DCS\KXXX
Work Directory=C:\LogMerge
Output Directory=J:\DCS
DCS Inventory File=J:\DCS\Cminv01.dat
Music System=1
Source Stn=1
KeepLogNotes=True
SkipOpenAvails=False
KeepLogDesc=False

[Station 02]
UseTRLog=True
ChkInv=True
MacroConvert=True
Music System=2
Source Stn=1
Target Stn=1
Music Path=J:\DCS\KXYZ
Traffic Path=J:\DCS\KXYZ
Work Directory=C:\LogMerge
Output Directory=J:\DCS
DCS Inventory File=J:\DCS\Cminv03.dat
KeepLogNotes=True
SkipOpenAvails=False

[Station 03]
UseTRLog=True
ChkInv=True
MacroConvert=True
Music System=0
Music Path=J:\DCS\WXXX
Traffic Path=J:\DCS\WXXX
Work Directory=C:\LogMerge
Output Directory=J:\DCS
DCS Inventory File=J:\DCS\Cminv04.dat
Target Stn=1
Source Stn=1
KeepLogNotes=True
SkipOpenAvails=True

[Station 04]
UseTRLog=True
ChkInv=True
MacroConvert=True
Target Stn=1
Music Path=J:\DCS\WXYZ
Traffic Path=J:\DCS\WXYZ
Work Directory=C:\LogMerge
Output Directory=J:\DCS
DCS Inventory File=J:\DCS\Cminv02.dat
Music System=3
Source Stn=1
Target Stn=2
KeepLogNotes=True
SkipOpenAvails=True
```

INI File Section Reference

The following tables document each significant setting (property) stored in the LogMerge INI file.

[General] Section

Entry Key	***Meaning***
Registration	Registration Key for this installation. Sets the serial number and number of stations supported.
Licensed To	The licensee of this software.
SDoW	Start day of week for calendar date picker display
DayNames	The display setting for calendar day names.
CalPanel	A flag to display calendar options on the date picker display.
LM4xCvt	A flag that represents whether or not a previous version of LogMerge has been detected and it's .INI file converted to LogMerge v5.x.
Ver	The version number of LogMerge. This is updated automatically when LogMerge is launched.
Update	The date and time that the main program was changed/updated.
TLSpecial	Default is False. This value determines whether the source traffic log is handled normally or gets special handling (line-by-line).
MLSpecial	Default is False. This value determines whether the source music log is handled normally or gets special handling (line-by-line).
Debug	Default is False. This value determines whether or not LogMerge stores additional debugging information in special files. See the section on merge troubleshooting for more information.
MoreInfo	Default is False. If set true, additional information is placed in the station merge error file.

[Stations] Section

This section of the LogMerge .INI file shows the stations that have been configured. The value stored is the call letters or other description by which a set of options for merging will be recognized.

[Station *xx*] Section

The ***xx*** value represents the station number configured and matches the defined call letters with the balance of settings for a particular merge configuration.

Entry Key	***Meaning***
UseTRLog	True = use a traffic log False = do not use a traffic log
ChkInv	True = Check audio Inventory False = Do not check Inventory
MacroConvert	True = convert all DCS macros

	False = Do not convert DCS macros
KeepLogNotes	True = Keep all log notes and pass them through to the output log False = Keep log notes only in live-assist (non-automated) hours.
SkipOpenAvails	True = Do not pass commercial avails that are "open" (**** cart numbers) through to the output log False = Pass all all avails from traffic log to output log.
KeepLogDesc	True = Pass original log descriptions for carts to final output log False = **DEFAULT** behavior. Cart descriptions from the audio inventory are used if the item exists in the inventory.
Source Stn	The station number of the source traffic log.
Target Stn	The station number of the finished output log.
Music Path	The location of the source music files.
Traffic Path	The location of the source traffic logs.
Work Directory	The working directory for LogMerge. Error files are stored here.
Output Directory	The location where the finished (merged) log is to be placed.
DCS Inventory File	The name of the audio inventory file to be used for validation of carts.
Music System	The music system type for this configuration. 0=Selector™ 1=MusicMaster Type 1 2=MusicMaster Type 2 3=POWERGOLD 4=MusicPro 5=Music 1 6=Results 98

9.3 Command-Line Switches

There are a few command-line switches that can be used with LogMerge to aid in trouble-shooting and/or solving source log problems. The switches and their usage is described in the following table:

Switch	***Description***
/debug	Invokes LogMerge debug mode, which will create additional data files for evaluation. These files are named OUTLOG01.TXT and OUTLOG02.TXT and are placed in the LogMerge application directory.
/LAN	Forces LogMerge to store it's ini file in the application directory rather than the PC's Windows directory. This provides for a LAN installation of LogMerge, with different PC's able to launch the application and use the same ini file.
/TLS	"Traffic Log - Special". Invokes special handling of the source traffic log to attempt to overcome problems with source log files. The source log file problem most prevalent is the traffic vendor's failure to write a full 69-byte record for the "I" record (the first record in the log file). Other problems may include the source traffic log having extraneous empty lines (records) at the end of the source log file.
/MLS	"Music Log - Special". Invokes special handling of the source music log file in an attempt to overcome problems in loading the source music log. Most often the problem with a source music log file is that the end of the log has extraneous empty lines (records).
/MORE	Causes LogMerge to place more information in the merge error log for the merge process. Might also be described as "verbose mode".

9.4 Revision History

This topic contains historical information on changes, enhancements and corrections to LogMerge by version number. For the most recent changes and enhancements, see the What's New topic.

Version 5.2

1. Support for the Results 98 music scheduling system has been added to LogMerge. See the topic Results 98 System Setup for more information.

Version 5.1e

1. A bug was corrected that would cause a merge to run if the user closed the log date selection dialog by clicking on the close icon (**[X]**) of the form.
2. LogMerge will now warn Maestro users when a log date that is about to be merged already exists and there are voice track modifications to the log. Maestro's Voice Tracker module creates a *.MOD file when modifications are made and if LogMerge detects the presence of the file for a log date, will warn the user that these changes will be lost. The user may also cancel the merge, preserving the original log and mod files.
3. A bug in the file viewer has been corrected. Previously, trying to copy text from a viewed file using the popup menu would fail. It now works as expected.
4. Minor additions have been made to the help file to include information on available Utility Menu items after a merge has been completed.

Version 5.1d

1. Corrected a bug that occurred when using a MusicPro source music log and not validating carts from the inventory. The length value of an audio element was incorrect.

Version 5.1c

1. Logic has been added to the log time fix-up routines to prevent "**orphaned**" carts that were the result of LogMerge having to move log notes around to protect directive times. Now, a second scan of the log is made immediately prior to writing the log out to file. Any "**orphaned**" cart times are corrected at that time.
2. A "**warning light**" has been added to the main display. If critical merge errors occur, the indicator will flash, indicating the merge error file should be looked at. Items that will cause this "critical error warning" include:

   a) Carts from the original traffic log that did not get on the finished log.

   b) A log Directive with a bad time entry that must be corrected.

   c) A Program or Directive that's out of time sequence and cannot be moved.

   d) A log note that cannot be placed on the log.

   e) A missing RTM or "nested" RTM.

   f) A missing merge point.

   If a critical merge error as defined above occurs, an error dialog is presented at the end of the merge process in addition to the "warning light".
3. Logic has been added to trap missing RTM's. LogMerge now will "remember" the last traffic log time it processed in a merge and compare it with the next called time from the music log. If the

music log time is earlier than the last traffic log processed time, an error message is displayed. You may continue the merge or abort it.

4. Users may now set certain preferences from a User Preference dialog, available on the menu (**Edit | Preferences**) and as a toolbar button. Preference settings include:

   a) Save/Restore main application size and state (normal, maximized, minimized).

   b) Setting the debug mode, special traffic log handling and special music log handling as a preference. These preferences apply to all merge operations. Note the command-line switches available for these items will override the users preferences.

   c) Setting a flag to place more information than is standard in the merge error file.

5. Additional logic has been added to prevent log notes, when they need to be moved, from creating an out-of-time-sync log.

6. The File Viewer application has been updated to include corrections in copy to clipboard routines.

7. A problem with users running Windows 95, version A (the original), has been resolved. Under Win95a, LogMerge would report there wasn't enough disk space on the target disk for the merged (finished) log. Turns out Win95a doesn't support an extended API call to GetDiskSpaceEx and would report back 0 bytes available. This has been corrected. Now, if the extended call fails, the standard method is used. Note that the standard method will not support UNC addresses, so if using Win95a and your output location is a UNC address, LogMerge may still report a problem with inadequate disk space. If this happens, map a drive to the target location to correct the problem.

Version 5.1

1. A new configuration option, "**Keep Log Description from Source Logs**", has been added to allow the user to force LogMerge to keep log descriptions from the source log(s) instead of the description being replaced by the DCS or Maestro inventory information during the check inventory process.

2. A command-line switch is now available to force LogMerge to store it's ini file in the application directory rather than the PC's Windows directory. This provides for a LAN installation of LogMerge, with different PC's able to launch the application and use the same ini file. See Appendices - Command-Line Switches for more information.

3. A viewer for the merged log has been added. After merging, you may view the finished (merged) log, complete with hourly time totals. If a DCS or Maestro inventory file is used in the merge process, the calculated times will be based on the AUX mark from the inventory so long as the log item exists in the inventory. If the log item does not exist, or no inventory file is used, times are calculated based on the logged length of the item.

4. Improvements were made in the inventory lookup routine to make it quite a bit faster.

5. Error-trapping in the log times fix-up routine has been improved to eliminate LogMerge stopping when a bad time is found. The bad time is usually the result of an incorrect entry in the music log which, when evaluated, is not a valid time for a directive or other keyword entered.

6. A command-line switch has been added to handle source traffic logs that do not conform to the General Log File specification published by Computer Concepts. Most often, problems occur when the initial "I" record, which is the first record in the file, fails to meet the required 69-byte length. Other problems that occur include the addition of one or more blank lines at the end of the log file. If such a problem is encountered, adding the switch "**/TLS**" (no quotes) to the LogMerge command-line may resolve the problem. The "**/TLS**" is indicative of "traffic log - special" for special handling of the source traffic log. See Appendices - Command-Line Switches for more information.

7. A command-line switch has been added to handle problems a user may encounter in loading the

source music log. If errors in loading the source music log occur, you can now place the switch "/MLS" (no quotes) on the LogMerge command-line. The "/MLS" switch is indicative of "music log - special" for special handling of the music log. See Appendices - Command-Line Switches for more information.

8. UNC path locations for source logs, inventory and the target output location can be used in the 32-bit version of LogMerge. Previously, the output location would be accepted but LogMerge would report that there wasn't enough disk space to save the file. Note that UNC locations must be manually entered instead of using the picker buttons in configuration.
9. If the user's PC is equipped with a sound card that is properly set up, any error dialogs in LogMerge are now accompanied with the user's default error sounds.
10. A bug has been corrected that prevented users from using a UNC location for the finished log file. Previously, the output location would be accepted but LogMerge would report that there wasn't enough disk space to save the file. Note that UNC locations must be manually entered instead of using the picker buttons in configuration.
11. A bug in the 16-bit version LogMerge that cause the application to report that a directory location did not exist has been corrected. The problem manifested itself mainly when trying to set a location like "A:\" (no quotes), but may have appeared with other types of paths, too. Note that the directory pickers for the paths in the configuration may still complain that a drive only entry is invalid. Selecting "Yes" for the option to create the root directory will work. Note that if you wish to use drive A: as a location, you must have a floppy disk inserted. If not, LogMerge will report an invalid location.
12. A bug in the handling of DCS function records in POWERGOLD music logs has been corrected.
13. A documentation update has been made for MusicPro users, covering entry syntax for various versions of MusicPro. See the MusicPro System Setup chapter for details.

Version 5.03

1. LogMerge was not handling the CBSI traffic log "skip directives" properly. It has been fixed.

Version 5.02

1. Additional intelligence has been added to better handle log notes that come from the music source log and because of scheduling, end up with a scheduled time that's later than a break that immediately follows the log note in the music log. This applies to segments of programming that LogMerge evaluates as non-automated times.

   If the music log has a sequence like:

   ```
   PROMO-4.DLR            0541:53
   TRAFFIC MERGE35        0542:08
   CART_VT_PWWW_0030      0542:08
   WEATHER.DWR            0542:38
   ```

   LogMerge would read the time of the first line as 05:41, then pick up the timed merge point from the traffic log and merge the traffic elements in. If the traffic log has a directive associated with the break, it would likely have a time of 05:35, which would be preserved as is - because directives and program titles are treated as time absolutes in LogMerge - they must happen at the scheduled time.

   Now, we have a Log Note scheduled for 05:41 and the next elements on the log would be scheduled for 05:35. This means the log is out of time sequence, but in correct event sequence. That is, it appears the intent was that the PROMO-4.DLR item is intended to run before the break. DCS will not read time values earlier than those already encountered on the log and the break would not appear on the DCS display and therefore not get played.

While reviewing every merged log with a log editor is recommended and could be caught at that point, not every user does review every log.

LogMerge now evaluates the log to see whether or not there's a time slot available immediately prior to the 0:535 directive in this example, and if so, will set the PROMO-4.DLR log note time to 05:34, thus preserving the intended sequence and maintaining a correct time sequence.

If LogMerge cannot find a time slot prior to the new directive or program title time that fits it in between the previous fixed time element and the new element, the Log Note will be skipped and so noted in the merge error file. An example would be if we had a directive or program title at 06:40, the Log Note at 06:45 and new directive at 06:41(from a traffic merge command). Since Log Notes require an hh:mm value, not seconds, there's no available one-minute slot between 06:40 and 6:41 and this Log Note would be discarded and noted in the error file.

2. A documentation error in the Selector™ area has been corrected. Previously, the Header Design for v12.41 and greater was incorrect. It has been corrected to read:

   STARTHOUR@M@D@Y@8__@WW_@TTTT (47 T's)

   Note the 2 underscore characters following the @8 portion of the line. Originally, the documentation reflected only one underscore, which was incorrect.

Version 5.01

1. Support for DCS "**Load Window**" directives has been added.
2. A "debug mode" is available. When enabled, diagnostic files are created for troubleshooting.
3. Some POWERGOLD users use a special song to mark time in non-music hours. This song has a title of "**--**" (dash-dash) and artist of "**--**" (dash-dash). LogMerge recognizes this song and strips it from the finished output log.

Version 5.00

1. LogMerge can now be installed either as a 16-bit application for Windows 3.x and above, or as a 32-bit application for Windows 95, Windows 98 and Windows NT only. The 16-bit version will work on all 4 Windows platforms. The installation program will detect the operating system you're running on and install either the 16-bit (Windows 3.x) or 32-bit (Windows 95, Windows 98, NT v4.0) on your PC.
2. LogMerge has been completely rewritten and is supplied as a single executable file with a help file and file viewer application. VBX's and DLL's are no longer required to run LogMerge. All files relating to LogMerge are installed in the application directory, making it easier to identify files related specifically to LogMerge.
3. Error-trapping has been improved, with more meaningful error messages.
4. The merge process has been simplified with a calendar dialog for selecting the log date to merge. Additionally, the user gets on-screen feedback to verify that needed source log files and the inventory file are present BEFORE the merge process begins.
5. Log times fix-up has been improved to created an output log that does not require the use of the DCS Log & Format Editor to view and save prior to usage by either DCS or Maestro. It is recommended, however, that users audit the final log with the Log Editor.
6. LogMerge will now overwrite an existing output log that's in use by DCS or Maestro. Previous versions of LogMerge would not overwrite a log that was opened and in use by DCS or Maestro.
7. Logging of LogMerge's actions is more complete. The log file generated by each merge has more

information about what was done during the merge process than was previously the case.

8. LogMerge supports as many as 16 stations, depending on your licensed station count. Previously, LogMerge would support a maximum of 4 stations.
9. Configuration of each station offers more options and is more fool-proof, utilizing directory and file selection dialogs to reduce errors in setup.
10. The Music 1 music scheduling system is now supported.
11. The on-line manual and help file have been rewritten to correct documentation errors and describe new features.
12. LogMerge now supports a Manual Merge process for ad-hoc or emergency situations. In a Manual Merge, you select each source log from a dialog, enabling mix and match of source logs. This would be useful in a case where a music log was not produced for a given day and you wished to use one produced, say, a week ago, to merge with the traffic log.
13. The File Viewer application has been improved to be more intuitive to use.
14. The merge process is speedier, reducing the time required to merge a log.
15. In a 32-bit environment, UNC file locations can be used if desired.

Index

- / -

- A -

- C -

- D -

- F -

- H -

- I -

- L -

- M -

- P -

- R -

- S -

- T -

- U -

- V -

- W -