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# Sending Metadata to Radio Data System (RDS) Encoders or Streaming/Social Network Providers From WireReady32 Automation

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WireReady32 can send metadata to 3<sup>rd</sup> party RDS systems and streaming/social network providers, based on the category of the song/spot, for each audio file as it plays on the air. WireReady32 can send metadata via serial port, text-based file, URL, and XML output. WireReady32 can send one of each of the formats at the same time. If you have two or more of the same output format, you will need to purchase RDSReady, which is an expansion product that can do an unlimited number of inputs/outputs for multiple stations/automation systems and can also switch between satellite fed and automation computer metadata feeds.

## Configuring WireReady32 to Send Metadata

To enable the sending of metadata from WireReady32 in any format, edit the user's INI file (wire\users\[username]\[username].ini, where [username] is the name used to start WireReady32), and do a search for "[RDS]". The following lines need to exist and be configured to enable metadata to be sent.

```
[RDS]
Master Enable=Yes
DefaultCategory={category}
Categories={category1,category2...}
Enable1=Yes
```

Items in { } brackets are to be replaced with configuration information specific to your needs, as described below.

The group may exist in the configuration file, but the lines may not be organized in alphabetical order. The group can exist anywhere in the \*.ini file, and the lines do not need to be in any set order, as long as they exist under the [RDS] group.

The DefaultCategory= line is used to assign a category to any playing audio file that does not have a category assigned to it. If a category is set here, and the same category is listed in the Categories= line, then all files that play and do not have a category assigned will have their information sent out the serial port. Leave this line blank if you do not want the metadata for carts with blank categories to be sent to RDS Encoders or streaming/social network providers.

The ability to assign which category of audio files will have its metadata sent is configurable. Edit the Categories= line to include any category of audio that should be sent. Multiple categories can be sent, as long as commas separate them. For example, this line allows the system to send metadata on music and programs, but no metadata on commercial spots. If the Categories= line is blank, no metadata will be sent. The Categories cannot contain spaces. The audio files that are played should have the Category assigned thru the F4 Info screen in the MediaLog. This information is not specific to a deck, but applies to all Automate Decks that are configured to send metadata.

Each of the 8 automation decks can be configured to send RDS metadata. The Enable#= line controls which deck will output metadata for audio files played. To have metadata sent out for another automation deck (deck number "#"), change or add the corresponding lines (where the # sign is replaced with the deck number):

Enable#=Yes

## **Sending Metadata via Serial Port**

To enable the sending of metadata out the serial port, edit the user's INI file (wire\users\[username]\[username].ini, where [username] is the name used to start Wireready32), edit the following group and keys (the below information includes the main lines that need to be configured for any data to be sent):

```
[RDS]
Master Enable=Yes
DefaultCategory={category}
Categories={category1,category2...}
Enable1=Yes
Format1={format type}
Port1=0,{com port},{baud},{parity},{data bits},{stop bits}
Output Folder 1={drive and folder path}
```

Items in { } brackets are to be replaced with configuration information specific to your needs, as described below.

The group may exist in the configuration file, but since the file may not be organized in alphabetical order, it is best to do a search for "[RDS]" to see if the group exists before adding it. The group can be added anywhere in the \*.ini file.

The DefaultCategory= line is used to assign a category to any playing audio file that does not have a category assigned to it. If a category is set here, and the same category is listed in the Categories= line, then all files that play and do not have a category assigned will have their information sent out the serial port. Leave this line blank if you do not want the metadata for carts with blank categories to be sent to RDS Encoders or streaming/social network providers.

The ability to assign which category of audio files will have its metadata sent is configurable. Edit the Categories= line to include any category of audio that should be sent. Multiple categories can be sent, as long as commas separate them. For example, this line allows the system to send metadata on music and programs, but no metadata on commercial spots. If the Categories= line is blank, no metadata will be sent. The Categories cannot contain spaces. The audio files that are played need to have the Category assigned thru the F4 Info screen in the MediaLog. This information is not

specific to a deck, but applies to all Automate Decks that are configured to send metadata.

Each of the 8 automation decks can be configured to send RDS metadata, and each deck can send data in a different format. The Enable, Format and Port lines each contain a number (1-8) that correspond to that automation deck number. The above example will work for Automate Deck 1.

The format of the metadata to be sent via serial port can be configured as TBE, ANDO, FTLTA, ABACAST, ABACAST2, INOVONICS, INOVONICS\_DPS and AZTEC. Use the Format#= lines to configure the metadata format for each deck. See the *Supported RDS Formats* section below for a description of the outputted metadata.

The format of each Port line for **Version 9** and earlier is:

Port#=0,com#,baud,parity,databits,stopbits.

(The first character after the = has to be 0, the number zero.)

If you have

Port1=0,1,9600,n,8,1

Wireready32 is set to send metadata out serial port 1 at 9600 n81, based on audio playing from automation deck 1. To change the com port number, change the second item on this line. For example, to use com4, make this line Port1=0,4,9600,n,8,1. (In our experience, 9600,n,8,1 are the most-common settings.)

The format of each Port line for **Version 9.5** and later is:

Port#=com#,baud,parity,databits,stopbits.

(The first character after the =, the number zero, is no longer required in the string)

If you have

Port1=1,9600,n,8,1

Wireready32 is set to send metadata out serial port 1 at 9600 n81, based on audio playing from automation deck 1. To change the com port number, change the first item on this line. For example, to use com4, make this line Port1=4,9600,n,8,1. (In our experience, 9600,n,8,1 are the most-common settings.)

The Output Folder 1= line is used when sending metadata to DBCapture for publishing to a web site. By specifying a drive and folder path, a HHMMSS.txt and HHMMSS.dat are sent to that path with the following lines:

Command=ReplaceTextOnly

User1 = Artist

User2 = Description

User3 = Filename

The output file also includes the audio file in a bracketed reference.

If the Output Folder #= line is left blank, no DBCapture files are created for audio played from that deck number.

To have metadata sent out for another automation deck (deck number "#"), change or add the corresponding lines (where the # sign is replaced with the deck number):

Enable#=Yes

Format#= set to the desired format (TBE, ANDO, AZTEC, ABACAST, INOVONIVCS, FLTLA)

Port#= set to 0,com#,baud,parity,databits,stopbits.

Output Folder#= set the drive letter and folder path

### Supported RDS Formats for Serial Output

There are many RDS encoders and streaming/social network provider systems out there, and the format can be changed if your system requires different fields or a different metadata order. The following information is the format of the metadata that will be sent out via the serial/COM port.

The format of the metadata output for **AZTEC** is:

Artistname=ARTIST\r\nSongtitle=DESCRIPTION\r\nDuration=LENGTH\r\n

Example: Artistname=Kimberly Locke

Songtitle=Over The Rainbow

Duration=00:03:01

The format of the metadata output for **TBE** is:

^Filename~Category~Artist~Title~Length|

Example: ^511611~Music~Kimberly Locke~Over The Rainbow~3:01|

The format of the metadata output for **ANDO** is:

^Title~Artist~Length~Category~Filename|

Example: ^Over The Rainbow~Kimberly Locke~00:03:01~Music~511611|

The format for the metadata output for **FTLTA** is:

Filename~T~Length~Title~Artist^

Example: 511611~T~3:31~ Over The Rainbow~Kimberly Locke ^

The format for the metadata output for **ABACAST** is:

^Description~Tag1~Length~Category~Filename~Outcue~ISCI|

Example: ^Over The Rainbow~ Kimberly Locke

~00:03:01~Music~511611~BMI~123456|

The format for the metadata output for **ABACAST2** is:

Description~Artist~Length~Category~album~year~isrc~label~tag1\r\n

The format for the metadata output for **INOVONICS** is:

DPS=[description][artist]CRLF

TEXT=[description][artist]CRLF

The format for the metadata output for **INOVONICS\_DPS** (version 9.039 and higher) is:

DPS=[description][artist]CRLF

^ is the metadata begin marker  
~ is the metadata separator marker  
| is the metadata end marker  
\r\n is a carriage return/line feed.  
**Album** is the *Album* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.  
**Artist** is the *Artist or Advertiser* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.  
**Category** is the *Category* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.  
**CutID** is the filename, without the .WAV extension.  
**Description** is the *Description or Title* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.  
**Filename** is the *Filename* field from the Ctrl-I window of the MediaLog.  
**ISCI** is the *ISCI* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.  
**ISRC** is the *ISRC* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.  
**Label** is the *Outcue, Outro, or Label Text* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.  
**Length** is the length in the format minutes:seconds (M:SS) or hours:minutes:seconds (HH:MM:SS)  
**Outcue** is the *Outcue, Outro, or Label Text* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog. This field is where the Record Company Name should be stored.  
**Tag1** is the *Tag 1* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog. This can be used to store the Artist name when using the ABACAST format.  
**Type** is the *Category* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.  
**Title** is the *Description or Title* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.  
**Year** is the *Year* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.

## Live365

Beginning with version 7.501, information can be outputted for Live365. When Live365 output is enabled, this will occur along with any other enabled RDS features currently supported.

The following lines were added to the user's ini file under the [RDS] group:

```
Url Enable=Yes
Url Mode=Live365
Url User Name={user name, supplied by Live365}
Url Password={password, supplied by Live365}
URL Album Field=Album
```

The fields for **Live365** are in a different format than the others, since it is sent directly to the reporting agency via a URL. The URL is hard-coded and not configurable. Each field includes the equal sign (=) and is separated by an ampersand (&). There are no leading or ending metadata markers.

The format of the metadata for **Live365** is:

```
http://www.live365.com/cgi-bin/add_song.cgi?
member_name=&password=&version=&artist=&album=&title=&seconds=&filename=
&category=&status=&outcue=&year=&ISRC=&ISCI=
```

## File-based Text Output

Beginning with WireReady32 version 8.502, the ability to output a text file every time a play command runs was added to the existing RDS supported list of output options. When file-based output is enabled, this will occur along with any other enabled RDS features currently supported.

The following lines are added to the user's ini file under the [RDS] group:

```
enable-file-based-output=yes/no (default is no)
file-based-output-filename-offset=1
file-based-output-category-offset=1
file-based-output-duration-offset=1
file-based-output-description-offset=1
file-based-output-artist-offset=1
file-based-output-album-offset=1
file-based-output-path=
file-based-output-name=output.txt
file-based-output-add-timestamp=no
```

If the enable-file-based-output= line is set to yes, then a file will be created with one line, terminated with a CRLF (carriage return/line feed), with the fields above at those position offsets. If a field is longer than the next highest offset it will be truncated to fit. If any field offset is 0 then that field is not written to the output file.

If the file-based-output-path= line is null, the file is written to a subfolder called RDS under the user path (w:\wire\users\[username]\). The file is named output.txt unless someone changes it.

IF someone changes the add-timestamp to yes we do a YYYY-MM-DD-HH-MM-SS- prefix to the file name.

## XML File Output

Beginning with version 9.503, additional user INI lines have been added in the [RDS] section to allow XML files to be sent out. The lines are:

file-based-output-format= (defaults to OFFSET; supports SECURENET and ORBAN)  
AffiliateID= (defaults to blank)  
prepend-time-to-filename=Yes

When the file-based-output-format= is set to OFFSET, file based output is the same as the File-based Text Output described above.

## SECURENET

When file-based-output-format= is set to SECURENET, then the current offset lines in the [RDS] section of the user's INI file will NOT be used. The file-based-output-path= and file-based-output-name= lines will be used. The output file is always overwritten, unless prepend-time-to-filename= is set to Yes.

The file that is created will look like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<NowPlaying>
  <Current>
    <AffiliateID>KXEN</AffiliateID>
    <Artist><![CDATA[Beatles]]></Artist>
    <Title><![CDATA[Come Together]]></Title>
    <Album><![CDATA[Abbey Road]]></Album>
    <Duration>3:51</Duration>
    <Category><![CDATA[60s]]></Category>
    <RecordLabel><![CDATA[Apple]]></RecordLabel>
    <Composer><![CDATA[Lennon/McCartney]]></Composer>
  </Current>
</NowPlaying>
```

**AffiliateID** is taken from the new *AffiliateID*= line in the [RDS] section of the ini file.

**Artist** is the *Artist or Advertiser* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.

**Title** is the *Description or Title* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.

**Album** is the *Album* field from the Ctrl-I window of the MediaLog.



**Duration** is the length in the format minutes:seconds (M:SS).

**Category** is the *Category* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.

**RecordLabel** is the *Outcue, Outro, or Label Text* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.

**Composer** is the *ISRC* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.

If any of the Info fields in the audio file have no metadata, the output file keeps the same format and leaves that field blank. The file looks like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<NowPlaying>
  <Current>
    <AffiliateID></AffiliateID>
    <Artist><![CDATA[]]></Artist>
    <Title><![CDATA[]]></Title>
    <Album><![CDATA[]]></Album>
    <Duration></Duration>
    <Category><![CDATA[]]></Category>
    <RecordLabel><![CDATA[]]></RecordLabel>
    <Composer><![CDATA[]]></Composer>
  </Current>
</NowPlaying>
```

## ORBAN

Beginning with version 9.511, when file-based-output-format= is set to ORBAN, then the current offset lines in the [RDS] section of the user's INI file will NOT be used. The file-based-output-path= and file-based-output-name= lines will be used. The output file is always overwritten, unless prepend-time-to-filename= is set to Yes.

The file that is created will look like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<event>
  <Artist><![CDATA[Beatles]]></Artist>
  <Title><![CDATA[I Want to Hold Your Hand]]></Title>
</event>
```

**Artist** is the *Artist or Advertiser* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.

**Title** is the *Description or Title* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.

If any of the Info fields in the audio file have no data, the output file keeps the same format and leaves that field blank. The file looks like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
  <event>
    <Artist><![CDATA[]]></Artist>
    <Title><![CDATA[]]></Title>
  </event>
```

## URL Passing RDS for SAM Broadcaster

The URL passing feature in RDS was set up to work with Live365. Starting in version 10 of WireReady32, a separate format for additional providers was added with a little more configurability.

The new format for URL passing (RDS) is for the SimpleCast (SAM) broadcaster. Additional settings were added to the user's configuration file to act like a live365 server with a different HTTP address, port number and field formation. These settings can be used by other service providers if they use the same metadata format.

The following lines are used to configure SimpleCast under the [RDS] group. These are in addition to the lines that are needed to enable the RDS output as described in the *Configuring WireReady32 to Send RDS Metadata* above.

Url Mode=SAM

Url Address=http://localhost:8181/ (default)

The Url Address= line should be edited with the IP address (replacing localhost) and port number (replacing 8181) of the computer that is receiving the metadata.

The format of the metadata for **SAM** is:

http://localhost:8181/?artist=myartist&title=mytitle&songtype=S&duration=240000

**artist** is the *Artist or Advertiser* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.

**title** is the *Description or Title* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.

**songtype** is the first letter of the Category from the *Category* field from the Ctrl-I Info window of the MediaLog.

**duration** is the time in milliseconds.

## Tune Genie

The URL passing feature in RDS is able to send metadata to Tune Genie starting in version 11 of WireReady32. The new format for uses the following lines under the [RDS] section of the user's ini file, in addition to the lines that are needed to enable the RDS output as described in the *Configuring WireReady32 to Send RDS Metadata* above.

Url Mode=Tune Genie

Url Address= the URL path where the metadata is to be sent

Url Source=1 this is always set to "1" for Tune Genie

Url User Name= supplied by Tune Genie

Url Password= supplied by Tune Genie

AffiliateID= supplied by Tune Genie as the Station Id

The output format is:

```
https://username:password@ws.tunegenie.com/m2g-web/ws/InsertSong?
stationId=WWWW&songName=The%20End&artistName=Avril
%20Lavigne&timestamp=2007-10-15%3A15%3A33%3A00&length=185&source=1
```

## File-based RDS Output for Stream My Station Encoder

The ability to send now-playing information to the Stream My Station streaming encoders has been added. To enable this output, edit the user's ini file ([drive]:\wire\users\[username]\[username.ini]). Search for the "[RDS]" group, and find the following lines under this group:

```
enable-file-based-output=
file-based-output-format=
file-based-output-name=
file-based-output-path=
prepend-time-to-filename=
```

Set enable-file-based-output=Yes, and file-based-output-format=StreamMyStation.

Enter nowplaying.txt as the file name in the file-based-output-name= line.

Enter the drive letter and path where Stream My Station will look for the file into the file-based-output-path= line.

Set the prepend-time-to-filename= line to be No. When this is set to Yes, the date and time will be added to the file name, and Stream My Station requires the file name be just nowplaying.txt.

When the format is StreamMyStation, then current offset lines in the [RDS] section of the user's INI file (file-based-output-artist-offset=, etc) will not be used. Save the changes to the file and restart WireReady32.

When set with the StreamMyStation format, the file is written with two fields (artist and title, separated by a space dash space), and the resulting file will look like this:

```
Dixie Chicks - I Believe In Love
```

## URL Passing RDS Metadata for TuneIn

The TuneIn broadcaster accepts information similarly to Live365, with the metadata passed to a URL. The ability for the metadata to be sent to a configurable URL has been added to the RDS functions in the Automate decks.

Under the [RDS] group in the user's ini (configuration) file, the following lines will need to be added if they do not exist:

```
Url Enable=Yes
Url Mode=TuneIn
AffiliateID= (used for the Station ID)
PartnerID= (as provided by TuneIn)
PartnerKey= (as provided by TuneIn)
```

When the Url Enable= line is set to Yes, and the Url Mode= line is set to TuneIn, the program will use a set path for the Url Address to send the metadata for the specified audio files playing in the Automate decks.

The format of the string is:

http://air.radiotime.com/Playing.ashx?  
partnerId=<id>&partnerKey=<key>&id=<stationid>&title=<title>&artist=<artist>

**artist** is the *Artist* field from the Info screen in the WireReady32 MediaLog  
**title** is the *Description* field from the Info screen in the WireReady32 MediaLog

## Sending to Multiple Providers with RDSReady

WireReady32 can send one of each type of metadata outputs (serial, text-file, URL, XML). When you need your system to output to several of one type of metadata, RDSReady can be used. WireReady32 will still generate the metadata, but RDSReady can take that metadata and refeed it in several formats. When using RDSReady, WireReady32 can still output metadata via serial port, URL and XML. The following lines under the [RDS] group need to be configured for RDSReady to refeed the metadata:

```
[RDS]
Master Enable=Yes
DefaultCategory={category}
Categories={category1,category2...}
Enable1=Yes
enable-file-based-output=yes
file-based-output-filename-offset=1
file-based-output-category-offset=1
file-based-output-duration-offset=1
file-based-output-description-offset=1
file-based-output-artist-offset=1
file-based-output-album-offset=1
file-based-output-path=
file-based-output-name=output.txt
file-based-output-add-timestamp=no
```

The lines are described in the sections above (*Configuring WireReady32 to Send Metadata* and *File-Based Text Output*). The "offset" lines for each field will need to match the 'offset' lines configured in the RDSReady's wcapture.ini file. The text file that is generated will be read by RDSReady and metadata from the fields will be used in the output format configured in RDSReady.

## Configuring Categories for the MediaLog

The Categories are stored in the \$cart.cat file that is found in the folder specified in one of the configuration files for each WireReady32 user. Each user that logs into WireReady32 has a folder to hold its configuration files. The folder is located at [drive letter]:\wire\users\[username]\, where [username] is the WireReady32 login; and [drive letter] is the drive you run WireReady32 from, usually w:\.

In the user's folder is the file "\$config.wr". Open this file for editing using either WordPad or Notepad. The second and third lines of this file begin with "AG" and "AL".

Both paths should be the same, and these tell WireReady32 where to look for the configuration file that holds the category list for the MediaLog (\$cart.cat).  
Navigate to the folder specified in the "AG" line of the \$config.wr file.  
Open the \$cart.cat file for editing using Notepad. The \$cart.cat file contains an alphabetical listing of lower case letters. Each letter is a line for a category, as shown below in a partial list:

- a Comedy
- b Commercial
- c Music
- d Rock
- e VoiceTrack
- f Weather

Add the new categories to the next available letter line, and then save and close the file. The categories cannot contain spaces when used for RDS. Restart WireReady32 to allow the program to display the categories for the files in the MediaLog.

### **Mass Update of Categories for the MediaLog files**

If categories have not been assigned to the audio files in the MediaLog, or if there is a need to do a change to a large group of files, this can be done as a Mass Update from within the WireReady32 program.

Open the folder in the MediaLog that contains the files to be assigned categories. Highlight the files that will be changed to the same category. This can be done by clicking on individual files while holding the Ctrl key down on the keyboard; or highlighting one file, then holding the Shift key down on the keyboard, and then clicking on another file to choose all the files in between these two.

From the main menu above the yellow buttons, click on the Edit menu, and then choose Mass Update Information.

Click on the box next to the Category field to put a check mark into it. This will allow the user to choose the Category from the drop-down list.

Choose the category to assign to the highlighted audio files.

Click the Save Changes button. The Mass Update Information window will close, and the selected audio files will have that category assigned to them. When doing large amounts of files, it may take several minutes to modify the category for the files.

**Note:** If you do a mass update on a large number of files, you run the chance of pausing audio playing on the air from the Automate decks. If you are running automation, it is best to only try and mass update small groups of files (50-100).