

# AircastDB Multi-Station Setup

In this tutorial, you will learn how to set up multi-station scheduling in AircastDB.

Multi-station scheduling allows you to schedule and store playlists for multiple stations/channels inside a single AircastDB. It is often used together with [Multi Instance Payout](#) to build a multi-channel streaming payout server.

## General Notes

In a multi-station AircastDB, all stations share the following data:

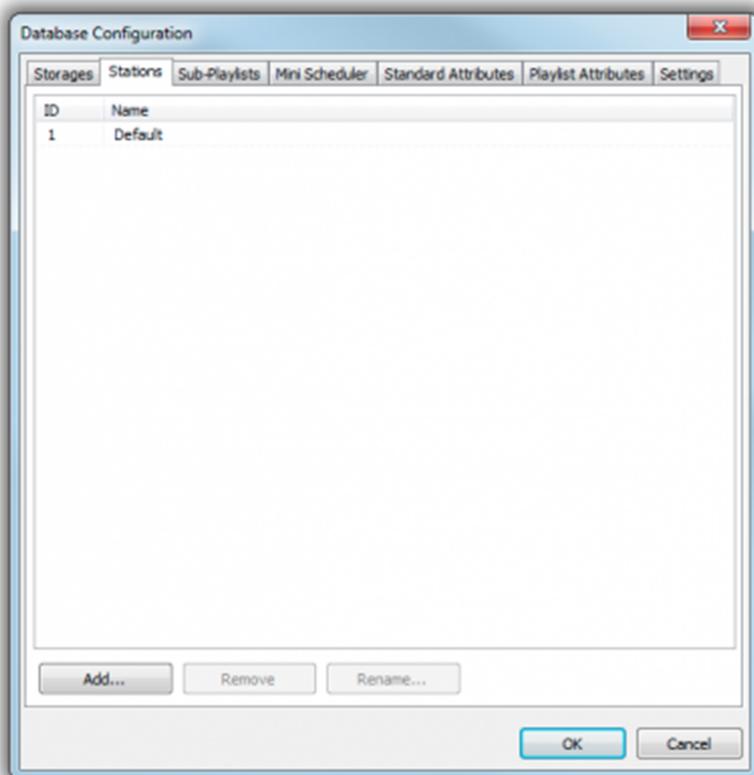
- Audio library and storages
- Available hour/music templates

The following data/settings are managed separately for each station:

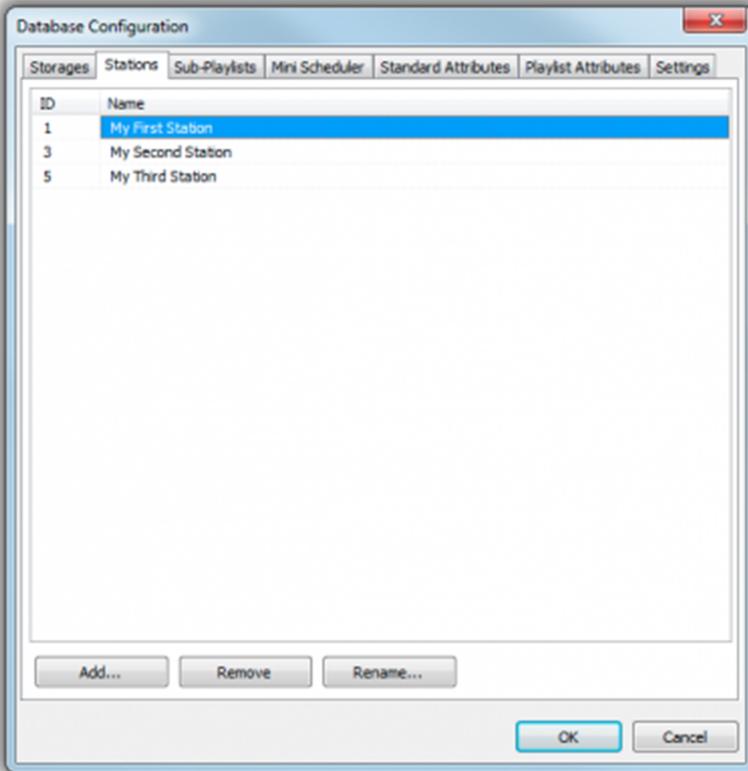
- Hour/music template assignment
- Advertising settings
- Playlist

## Add stations in AircastDB

To define multiple stations, open the AircastDB app and go to *Administration* → *Configuration* → *Stations*. You will see that there is currently only one “Default” station defined:

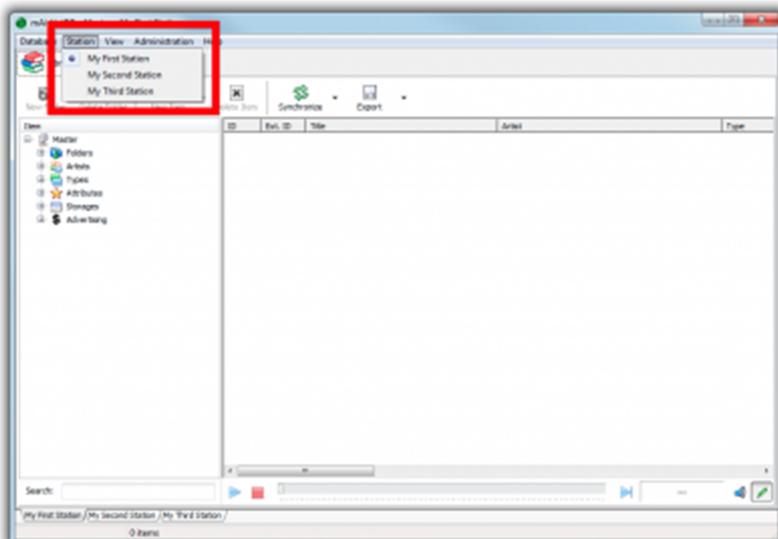


Now click “Add” and add as many stations as you require. You can also click the name of an existing station and change its name:



Please note that a new ID is assigned everytime you add a new station; the ID is not reused when you delete a station. In the screenshot above, the IDs 2 and 4 had been used for stations that have been deleted again in the meantime.

Don't forget to click OK to save the new configuration. You will be prompted to restart the AircastDB app and all running Aircast instances. When you re-open the AircastDB app, you will notice that a new item *Station* appeared in the the menu. Use this menu to switch between stations when doing scheduling work. Alternatively, use the small tabs at the bottom of the window.



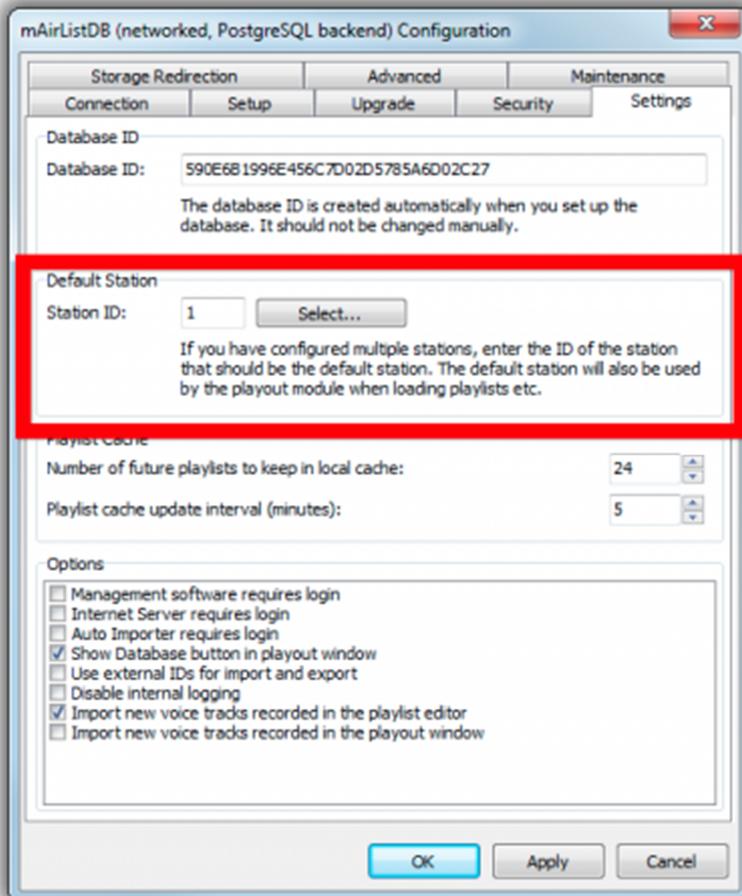
**Note:** The *Station* menu is only visible when you run the AircastDB app as a separate process (from the Windows Start Menu, or using the AircastDB.bat batch file). On the contrary, when you open the AircastDB window from the playout window (through the *Database* button in the toolbar), you can only access the “default station” for that instance (see next section).

## Select the Default Station

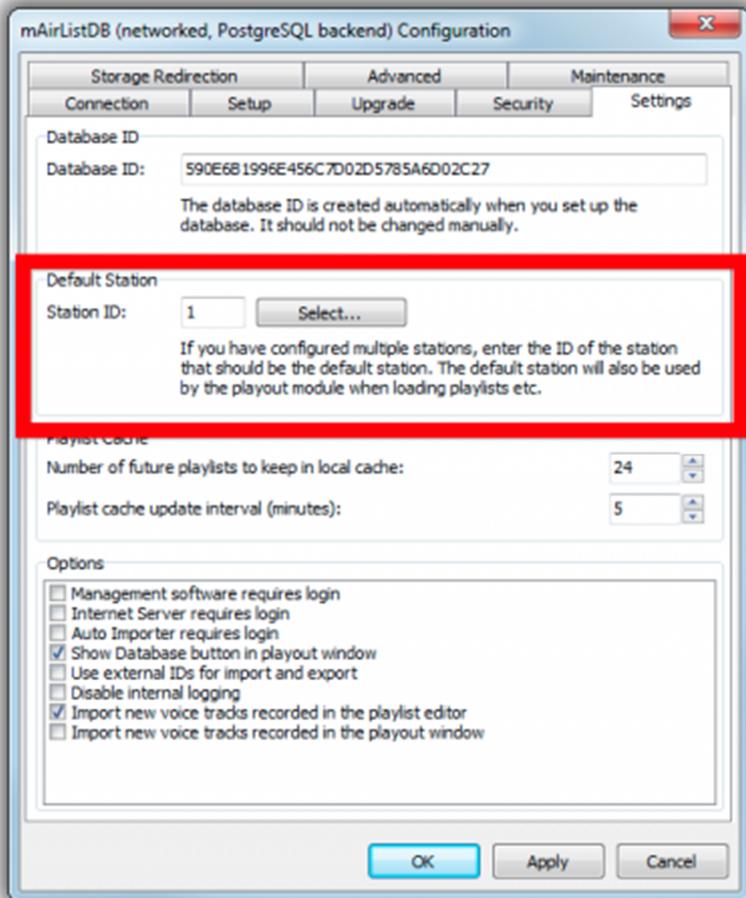
Each AircastDB connection has a **Default Station** setting. As the name suggests, this is the station that is selected by default when you open the AircastDB app from that Aircast installation (or playout instance, for **multi-instance setups**).

The Default Station is also the one that is used by the playout process to access playlists, e.g. during the hourly *Load database playlist* event. It is fixed and cannot be changed unless you close the playout and open the config app to alter the Default Station setting. **Likewise, when you open the AircastDB app from the playout window (clicking the Database button in the playout toolbar), there will be no Station menu or tabs – you can only work within the Default Station.**

To change the Default Station for a particular installation/instance, open up the Aircast configuration, go to *Databases*, edit the AircastDB connection and switch to the *Settings* tab;



Note that only the ID is displayed here – when you click *Select*, a list of available stations with the names and the IDs is presented:



Just select the appropriate station, click *OK* and save.