

LogDoor User's Guide

Scheduling

By default, LogDoor tasks run in "real-time" mode. Real-time mode means that the task will attempt to process its input log file while that log file is being produced, but in such a way so as to minimize interference with the Web server or other applications that may be running on the same Macintosh as LogDoor. You can use the "Scheduling" item in the Task menu to change the processing behavior of a particular LogDoor task.

Alternate scheduling options to real-time mode include "straight-through" mode and "time-of-day" mode. In straight-through mode, a LogDoor task will try to process its input log in the quickest manner possible, while still yielding time to other applications on a periodic basis. In time-of-day mode, the task will only actively process its input log during the specific times specified in the Scheduling dialog box. While active in time-of-day mode, the task will process the input log in the same way as during real-time mode.

Time-of-day processing mode is intended to be used to defer log processing to hours when your server is less heavily accessed. Even though LogDoor's processing overhead is minimized in real-time mode, that overhead could be significant on a heavily utilized server. With time-of-day mode, you can still have near-real-time reporting without any noticeable affect on your server.

Time-of-day mode behaves slightly differently from other processing modes. At the end of the daily processing period, time-of-day mode automatically writes out summary reports to ensure that these files are up-to-date with respect to the processing which the task has performed. Additionally, time-of-day mode closes all output log files once daily processing has been completed. Other processing modes keep their output log files open while the task is running (although all files are closed when the task is suspended). Finally, if you select time-of-day mode in the Scheduling dialog box, the LogDoor task will be automatically placed in run mode after you return from that dialog box, so that time-of-day processing will begin at the next interval.

- NOTE: LogDoor also includes basic AppleScript support, so it is possible for you to write an AppleScript which schedules LogDoor in any way you desire, for instance twice a day or once every other day. LogDoor's AppleScript support is documented in its application dictionary.

The Scheduling dialog box also includes a field to indicate the interval at which summary reports should be written. If you have a number of sites, writing summaries could take some time, so you may wish to only have summaries written a few times a day. You can also indicate that you do not want summaries to ever be written automatically (in which case you will still be able to write them using the Write Summaries Now menu item).

