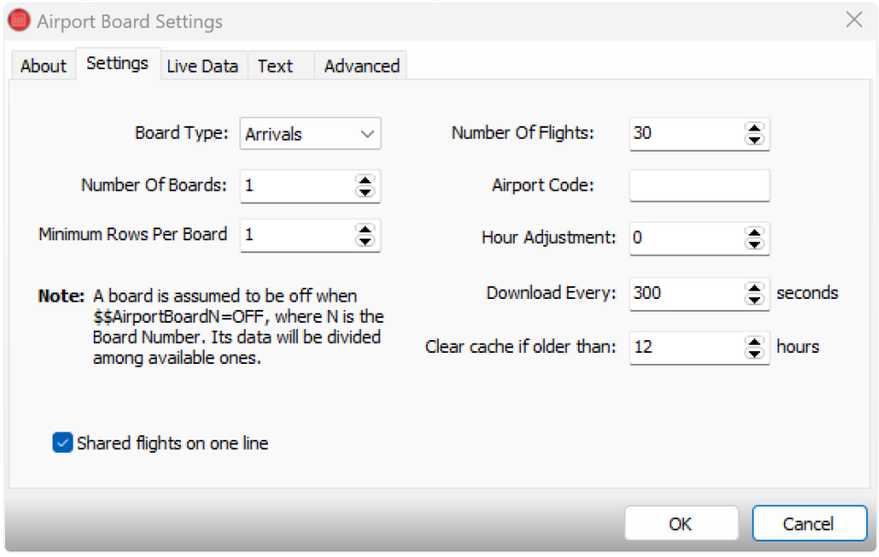
AirportBoard App

Purpose

This project plugin downloads airport arrival and departure data from FlightView.
It converts this data to CSV format data where each row is a flight containing Flight Number, Airport, Time, Status and Gate.
This data is sent to **“boards”**. A board is simply any page plugin that can interface with the AirportBoard plugin to request and display its flight data. E.g. DataTable.
If there are multiple boards requesting flight data an equal number of rows is sent to each board. If one of your boards becomes inactive the data can be shared between the other active boards in your project.
Data is cached in case of internet outage.

Configuration Window Settings.



Board type: The type of data to download - Arrivals or Departures.
Number of Boards: The number of boards to distribute the data between. Plugins must be numbered in their configuration to receive the correct information for that board. E.g. DataTable uses it ID setting.
Minimum Rows Per Board: The number of rows supplied to each board is the downloaded flight rows equally divided by the Number of Boards. If that that figure is less than the amount entered here then this amount is sent instead and the remainder is sent to the last board.
Shared flights on one line: When multiple flight numbers are shared with one actual flight these rows can be combined into one board line (CSV row). The flight number part will contain then contain the multiple flight numbers. Datatable etc. can be set up to cycle these numbers.
Number of Flights: The amount of data to download. This is the number of flight-numbers to download, some of which may share the same actual flight. So if you select **“Shared flights on one line”** (see 4. Above) you may end up with less actual rows in your data.
Airport Code: The three letter code of the airport.

Hour Adjustment: The data time range is 2 hours prior and 3 hours from the current local time. The data downloaded is Number of Flights from the start of that range. If this doesn't give you the desired results use this option to shift the time range.
Connection Timeout: The maximum time that the plugin should attempt to connect to FlightView, after which connection is assumed to have failed. See also Retry Connection below.
Download Every: The data will be downloaded at the intervals set here. If it changes then it is sent to your "boards" i.e. any page plugins that have registered with this plugin.
Retry Connection: If a connection to FlightView fails then the plugin will retry to connect at this interval until a connection has been made.
Clear cache if older than: Data is cached in case of internet outage. You can clear this if it gets out of date.

Live Data Tab.
This tab displays a live view of the downloaded CSV data.

Text Tab.
Use the options on this tab to translate the downloaded text.

DataTable Usage Example

You can use the DataTable page plugin as a **"board"**.

Firstly include and configure the AirportBoard project plugin and ensure that it is able to download some live data.

Next, place one or more DataTable plugins on your project page.

DataTable can use AirportBoard as its source when AirportBoard is found in the helpers folder.
DataTable registers itself with AirportBoard. AirportBoard then sends DataTable a number of rows from the flight CSV data for it to display. The range of rows sent depends on how many "boards" you selected in the AirportBoard settings and which "board" number DataTable identifies itself as (i.e. its ID setting).

If you set AirportBoard to download 50 flights and there are two boards then rows 1..25 are sent to the DataTable with ID 1 and 26..50 are sent to DataTable with ID 2.

If board 1 becomes inactive then 1..50 will be sent to board 2 instead.

AirportBoard uses the special "$$AirportboardN"Acquire Variable to determine if a board is **On** or **Off**, where **"N"** is the board number. So if **$$Airportboard1=Off** and **$$Airportboard2=On** then no data is sent to board 1 and all data is sent to board 2 instead.

Typically these variables will be set to "Off" when the monitor displaying it goes off, and to **"On"** when it comes back on. You can set these by using screen monitoring software.