

# Facebook App



## Introduction.

If your company has a Facebook page this app will allow you to show live posts and updates being made to a Facebook timeline. Digital Signage projects can even be controlled by posting special commands to a Facebook timeline. This is achieved by defining special command words found within posts which will trigger specific actions, such as jumping to a specified page or playing a specific piece of media.

## Uses.

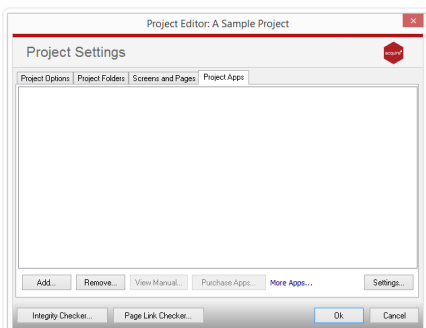
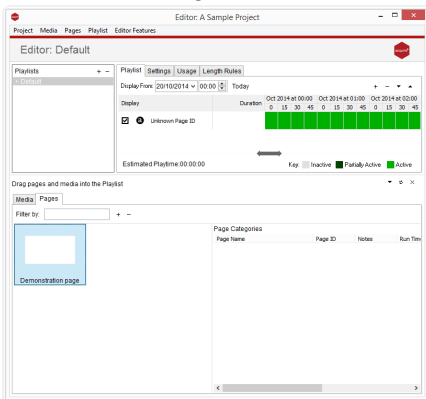
Effective uses of this app include in-store and in restaurants where customers are able to leave their feedback on a Facebook page and see their comments appear on the screens in real-time.

**Tip:** This app only reads Facebook posts. It does not write, alter or delete your posts.

**Tip:** Bear in mind that Facebook imposes certain rate restrictions on how many connections can be made to an account in a given time period.  
See Appendix 2 for more information.

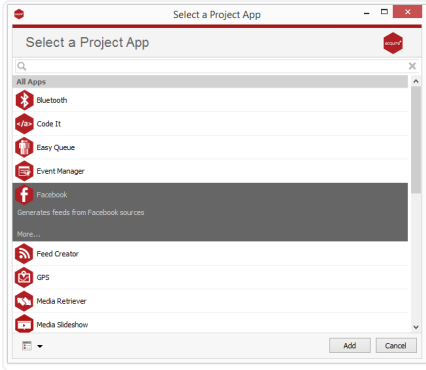
## Adding the app to your project.

From the Project Editor window navigate to the **'Project'** tab and select **'Settings'** from the drop down menu.



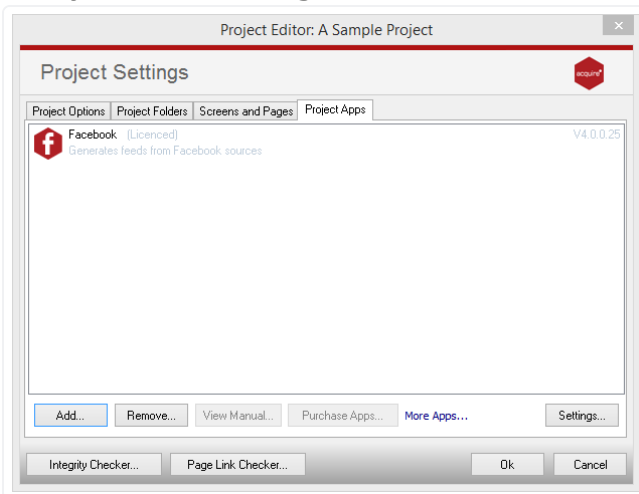
In the Project Settings go to the **'Project Apps'** tab and click the add button.

Select the Facebook app from the list.



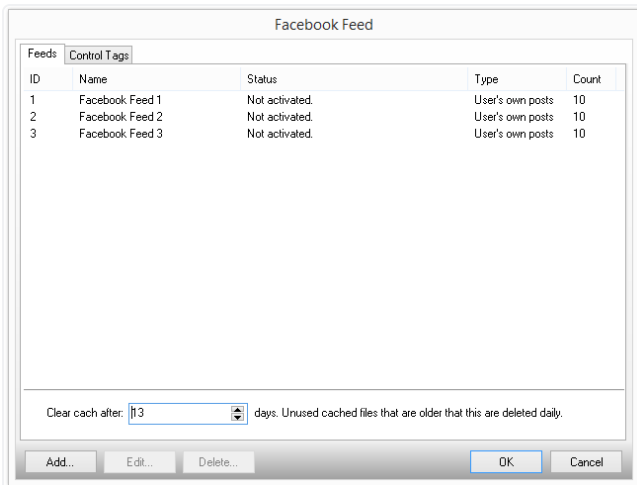
**Tip:** Unlicensed apps will be greyed out and can only be used during your 30 day trial. For more information about licencing apps go to [Licencing apps](#).

Once you have successfully added your app to the project it will appear in the list, as shown. The Project Apps tab of the Project Settings window will now show all apps that have been activated for this particular project that you are working on.



From this page select the Facebook app to highlight it and click on the **'Settings'** button to set up your app.

## App Options.

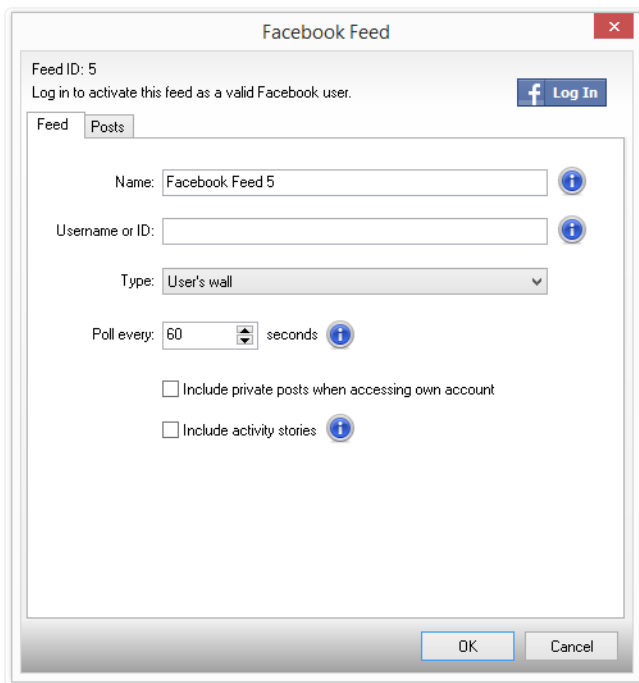


### Adding Feeds:

Use this tab to set up feeds from Facebook. Each feed uses a Facebook account to extract posts from a users' timeline.

Add a new feed by clicking on the **Add** button.

This will open the window below.



You must log in to a valid Facebook Account by clicking the **'Log In'**. The feed will then be able to read posts from timelines that the account has access to.

**Tip:** Logging in at this point will make feeds active.

**Name:** This is just for reference and will not appear on your project.

Add the **Username** or **ID** of the Facebook User whose timeline you wish to extract posts from.

Use the **'Type'** drop down menu to select what posts should be read from the timeline.

Select how many seconds the app **polls** or refreshes. This means that after a certain number of seconds the app will check a timeline for changes and display them.

**Tip:** We recommend making this as high as possible to avoid exceeding any limits imposed by Facebook. (See Appendix 2).

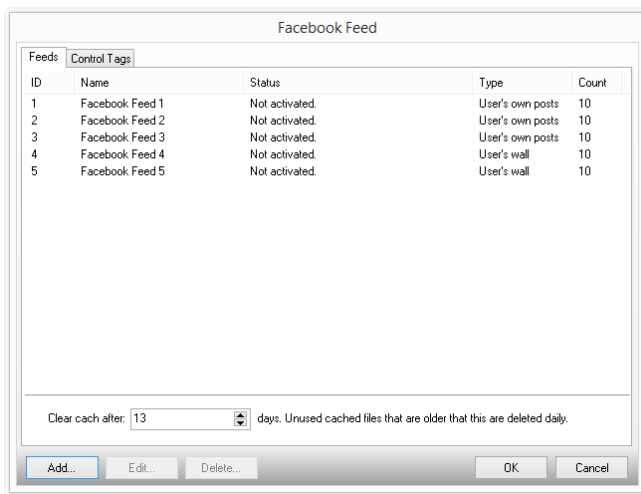
You can also choose to **add private posts** when accessing own account. This means the person logging into Facebook to activate the feeds will have access to private feeds marked as **'Only me'** on Facebook.

Check this if you wish to include private posts in your feed.

You can also choose to **add activity stories** such as new friend announcements, changes to relationship statuses etc.

Click **ok** to exist window.

All feeds will be listed in the main Facebook Feed window. Note that these are displaying as **'Not Activated'**. They will remain inactive until a Facebook account has been logged into.



as:lightbulb Facebook imposes a time-limit on any external applications that access accounts in this way. This means that the activation will expire after a certain period. Once expired you must go through the 'Log In' procedure again (see above) to re-activate the feed, and then re-deploy your project. (See appendix 2).

We recommend using a different Facebook account to activate each feed.

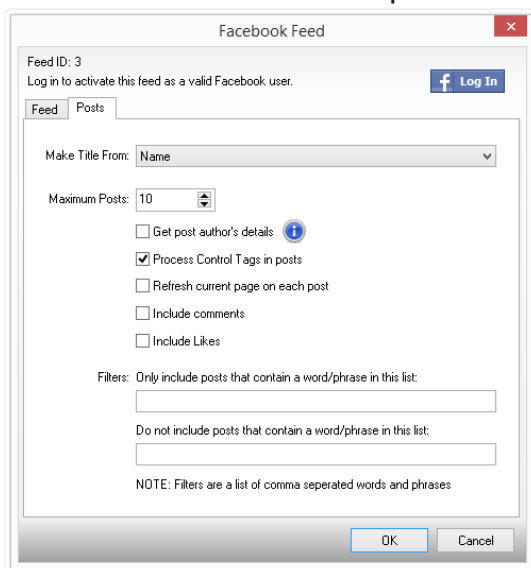
From this page you can also define how often you wish to clear cache files.

Feed data such as profile images and post media is cached to disk. Files that have not been used for longer than the number of days specified here will be deleted daily.

Once you have specified your feeds you can then **edit** and **add new** feeds from the main control panel (**see above**).

### Adding Posts.

Use the Posts tab to set up post options. You can do this for each individual feed. The feed you are working on can be identified at the top to this configuration window. **i.e. Feed ID:3**



1. Select how you want the title of the feed to be composed. You can choose to have the author's name, the date of the posts, or a combination of the two.
2. Set the maximum number of posts. This refers to the maximum number of posts that should be read from the time-line. Keep this as low as possible to avoid exceeding the Facebook limitation (see Appendix 2).
3. Define Post option by checking the boxes. Here is a quick explanation of each of these options.

**Get post author's details:** Reads extra information about the Facebook user that authored the post e.g. profile image. This requires more communication with Facebook and could impact on the limitations. (See [Appendix 2](#)).

**Process Control Tags in posts:** Allow Control Tags embedded in this feeds posts to control Acquire. You can restrict which Facebook users are allowed to use these in the Control Tags tab. See "Control Tags" section below.

**Refresh current page on each post:** The current Acquire page will be refreshed when a new post is added. This will force any page items that use the Facebook Acquire Variables (see [Appendix 1](#)) to update.

**Include comments:** Comments on posts will be included in the feed story i.e. the story will consist of the post message plus any comments.

**Included likes: 'Likes'** on posts will be included in the feed story i.e. the story will consist of the post message plus any Likes.

Use the **Filter boxes** to restrict what posts are used depending on their content. You can choose to find and include posts that include certain words or phrases or find and include posts that exclude certain words or phrases.

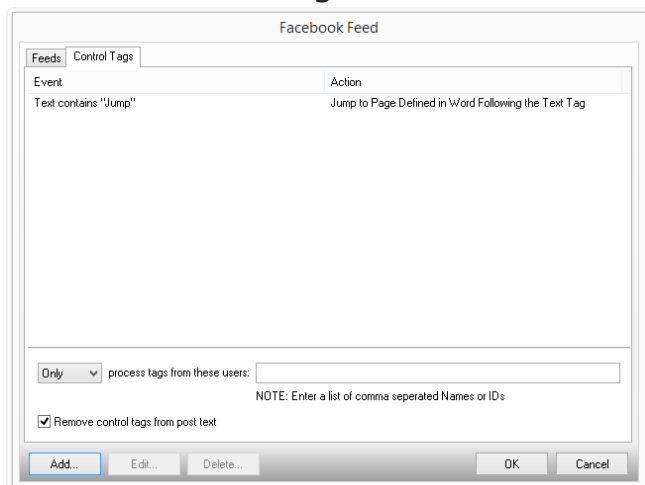
If these boxes are left **empty** no filtering will take place and all posts will be included.

## Control Tags.

Control Tags are special command words that the app will look for in Facebook posts.

When a control tag is found a specified action will be performed. This allows you to control your project by posting commands to your Facebook timeline.

From the main Configuration window select the '**Control Tags**'.



All of your controls are listed in this window. You can choose to only monitor and execute control tags from specific users by using the drop down menu. Add multiple users in the box by including comas.

Add a new control by clicking the **Add** button.

This will open the Control Tag window.

Control Tag

Event:  Name contains tag

Location contains tag

Text contains tag

Action:

Variable:

Value:

Ignore further events for  seconds

OK Cancel

**Add an Event:** An event is triggered when a new posts contain a specific tag work in the text.

**Choose the Action:** you wish to carry out, such as Quit Page, Timeout Page, Jump to Page. When the above event occurs this is the action that Acquire will perform.

Use the **Ignore further events** option to prevent another Control Tag from interrupting this Event too early.