

This presentation will review the WebSphere Data Interchange Version 3.3 Export Import subsystem.



The presentation will give an overview of the export / import subsystem, provide a description of the record format codes and what each of the three character codes mean, and provide a description of the flow of data through the Export / Import subsystem. After this, an example relating the record format codes to the DB2 tables will be given.

A brief description identifying some internals of the Export / Import system will also be shown.



The Export / Import subsystem allows a WebSphere Data Interchange user to extract data from WebSphere Data Interchange tables, or insert data into WebSphere Data Interchange tables in a batch mode. The structure of the Export Import records is such that they are independent of WebSphere Data Interchange version, and they convert the DB2 data into a format that can be handled and viewed easily.

The format of the data is proprietary. WebSphere Data Interchange allows 3 basic formats for data. Tagged, fixed, and comma delimited. Older versions use a format called "native", but was dropped in WebSphere Data Interchange v3.2.

The Export / Import service is available from the Utility using, PERFORM EXPORT ... or PERFORM IMPORT ...

Data conversion from and to Export Import formats is done by the Structure-to-structure (STS) service, and hence is "table-driven", using the WebSphere Data Interchange Format service and definitions in EDIRDEF H and EDIFDEF H



Tagged format is a keyword format, like XML data is presented as TPNICKN(Sears), where TPNICKN is the tag and Sears is the data. Fields are optional in tagged format. Fixed format is a static record format. Layouts including field order and sizes are described in the WebSphere Data Interchange Programmers Reference.



Data may be exported or imported in a selective manner, that is, all data in the file does not need to be exported or imported at the same time. In the Utility, a control record allows the specification of the objects to be processed. The control record is in the control file, EICTLFIL. Data is usually written to a file named userid.TExx.EIFILE for the Utility.



Each Export / Import Data Record Format starts with an ID. The pattern is xyz, always in columns 1-3, where x is a character for an originating format group. For example, 1 for EDI standards and y is a character for the format group in EDIRDEF. Another example is 1S for standards prior to WebSphere Data Interchange v3.2, and z is the record type in the format group. The data record format 1S1 is the EDI standards header record information.

Following the record format identifier is the record data in tagged, fixed, or comma delimited format



A complete list of originating format codes is shown. Some are not implemented – designated as "future use".

The import all value (9) is used only for import and means that all records in the import data file are to be imported.



A complete list of the format group codes is shown.



This diagram shows the relationship of the WebSphere Data Interchange DB2 tables to the Export / Import files which correspond. For each grouping of WebSphere Data Interchange DB2 tables, for example Data formats (tables named EDIADFxxx) or Maps (tables named EDIMAPxxx), there is a flat file into which data is exported or import data is read.

The corresponding names are:

Data formats - EDIEIADF		
Control Strings	- EDIEICST	
Profiles	- EDIEIPRF	
Maps		- EDIEITPT
Maps Standards	- EDIEISTD	- EDIEITPT

Security objects and Command Dictionary objects are written to EDIEIPRF.



A typical Import flow uses module EDIEIIM. The input formats in the EDIEIxxx input files are read. Based on the formatter service definitions in edirdef.h and edifdef.h the data is formatted into structures that are passed to the WebSphere Data Interchange Repository Services modules (for example edirssu.cdb2) and written to the appropriate DB2 table.

Similarly for export, a control file indicates what is to be exported and appropriate DB2 rows are retrieved. Module EDIEIEX uses the formatter service to create the Export / import record layouts and writes them to the appropriate EDIEIxxx file.



This example attempts to show the relationship between WebSphere Data Interchange DB2 tables and the record format codes of the Export / Import subsystem. The tables shown are the EDI Standards tables. Each of the data objects within EDI standards is housed in a specific DB2 table. When a standard is exported, the standard header information is written to a xY1 record. The x may be a 1 if standards are exported standalone or 3 is exported as an associated object of a map. All standard transactions are exported as xY2 records, segments as xY4, and Data Elements as xY6. The position of a segment in a transaction is the xY3 format, and the position of a segment in a transaction is a xY5 format. There is a format for all the tables shown.

Thus the standard can be "flattened" for subsequent import.



Repository modules are used to read DB2 tables and to update or insert rows into DB2 tables. In WebSphere Data Interchange, the DB2 tables are grouped by function. Some of the groups and their respective repository modules are shown here.



EDIEIIM is the primary Import module. EDIEIRW contains the primary format routines used by EDIEIIM. EDIEICV and EDIFMT are the primary modules for the formatter service. Most subroutines are contained in EDIEICM.



EDIEIEX is the primary Export module. EDIEIIO contains the primary format routines used by EDIEIEX. EDIEICV and EDIFMT are the primary modules for the formatter service. EDIRDEF.H and EDIFDEF.H contain the record and field definitions used by the formatter service.



Modules of the Formatter service. EDIEICV are also used.



Export Import moves object definitions used for processing into and out of WebSphere Data Interchange database tables. There are 3 formats, tagged, fixed, and comma delimited. The export and import of the objects can be accomplished with PERFORM commands and using WebSphere Data Interchange Client.

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