This guide will take you through a conversion of an .EIF produced by Adage ERP into an X12 document suitable for EDI using Altova Mapforce. I am not an expert on this software, in fact I have only been using it for a few weeks so I am sure there are things that I will do in this guide that need refinement. Let me know if you know better ways! Please email me (Michael) at mellerbeck@gmail.com

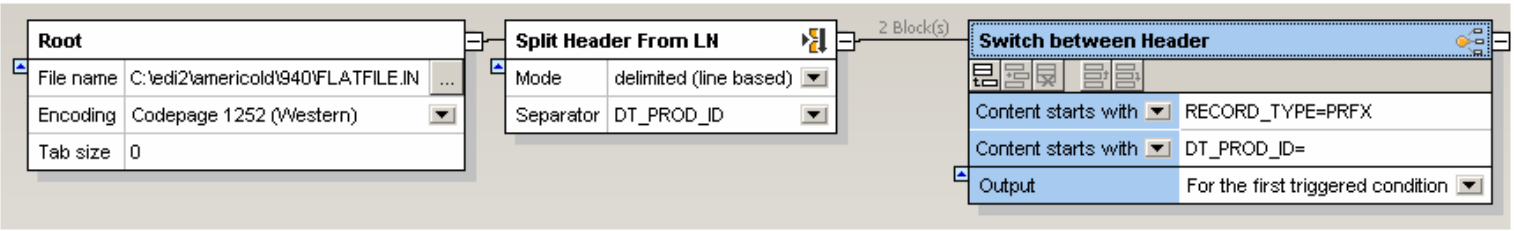
So first, download the sample.EIF file and then fire up Altova Mapforce. Click to add a text file (It's a square symbol with lines in it) you will then be given the choice of whether you want to use FlexText, or if you want to use simple text file processing. Choose FlexText. When it asks what file you want to work with select the sample.EIF file.

Examining a generic .EIF file we can see that it is generally split into two sections.

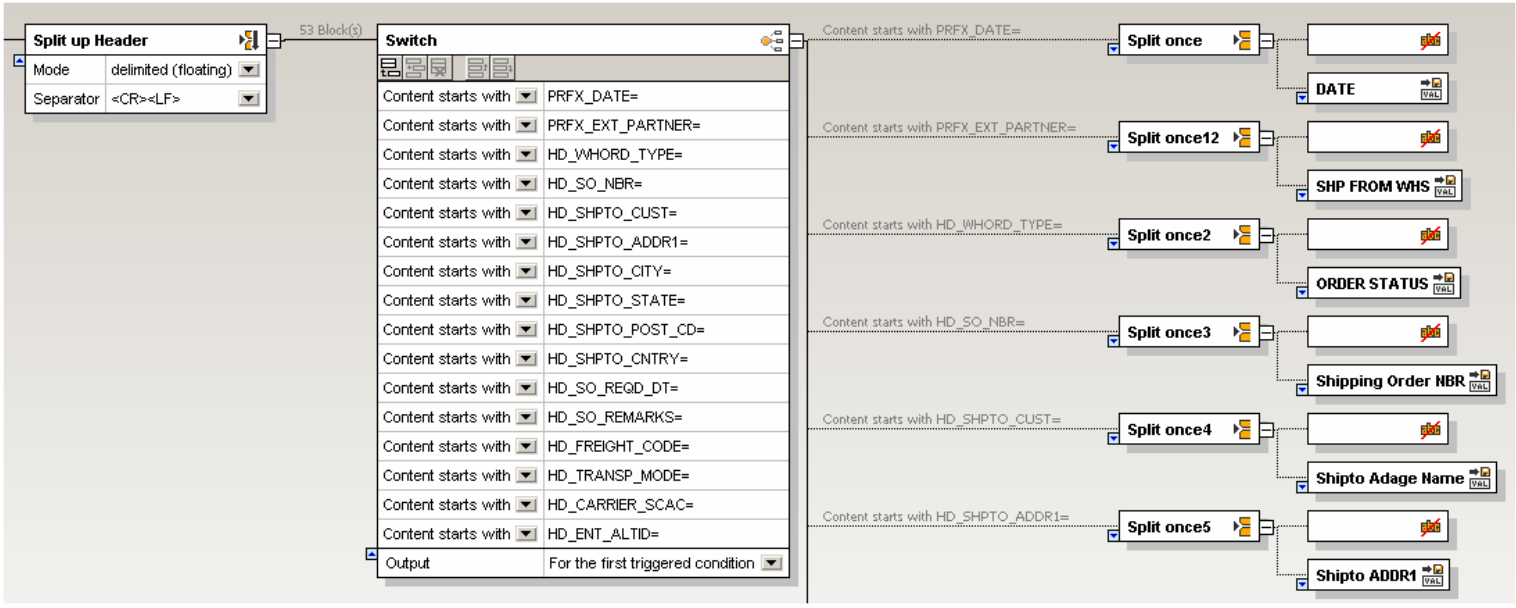
The header section, and the detail section.

The header section is fairly easy to parse using Mapforce Flextext. In order to do that we need to separate off the header from the rest of the detail lines so do a split, delimited, based on DT_PROD_ID

Now we want a switch to send the data that starts with RECORD_TYPE=PRFX to our header section, and another switch with DT_PROD_ID to catch the line data. It should look something like this



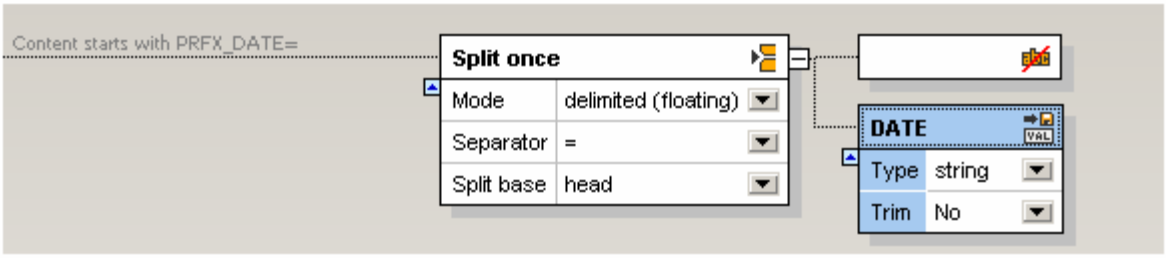
Next we want to split the header up into line by line, delimited (floating) with a separator of <CR><LF>



Then we run a switch identifying each element we want to capture.

Now we want to split the data from the identifier. For an example lets take PRFX_DATE=2007-11-09

So put another split, delimited (floating) and use the = as the Separator (Should look like this)



Now the root descriptor we can ignore, so use the drop down and select ignore. And then, for the data use the drop down and select 'Store as Value'

Here is what I selected, and what I stored the value as

PRFX_DATE=	DATE
PRFX_EXT_PARTNER=	SHP FROM WHS
PRFX_DOC_NBR=	DOC_NBR
HD_WHORD_TYPE=	ORDER STATUS
HD_SHPTO_CUST=	Shipto Adage Name
HD_SHPTO_ADDR1=	Shipto ADDR1
HD_SHPTO_ADDR2=	Shipto ADDR2
HD_SHPTO_ADDR2=	Shipto ADDR3
HD_SHPTO_CITY=	Shipto City
HD_SHPTO_STATE=	Shipto State
HD_SHPTO_POST_CD=	Shipto Postal Code
HD_SHPTO_CNTRY=	Shipto Country
HD_SO_REMARKS=	HD_SO_REMARKS
HD_FREIGHT_CODE=	FREIGHT_CODE
HD_TRANSP_MODE=	TRANSPORT MODE
HD_CARRIER_SCAC=	CARRIER SCAC
HD_ENT_ALTID=	DUNS

There is the HD_SO_REQD_DT= Which is split off into Day Month Year but I will get to that a little bit below.

So that is most of our header. Now Lets Handle the detailed line info. If you remember above we split off 'Content that starts with DT_PROD_ID' We need this to be at the same hierarchical level so the only way I could figure out how to do this was saving it as a CSV. It needs to be at the same hierarchical level so that when the for-next loops happens (on a looping segment) it will populate correctly into the EDI segment. (I'll try to explain that better later)

Anyways for the DT_PROD_ID I used no record separator, and the <CR><LF> as the Field separator.
I then named the Fields to identify the contained data. So it looks like this

ITM ID	ITM_PACK_CODE	ORD QTY	ORD UOM
DT_ITM_ID=TER99-14974	DT_ITM_PACK_CODE=CS20LB	DT_ORD_QTY=1960.000000	DT_ORD_QTY_UOM=CS

Here is what I selected, and what I stored the value with.

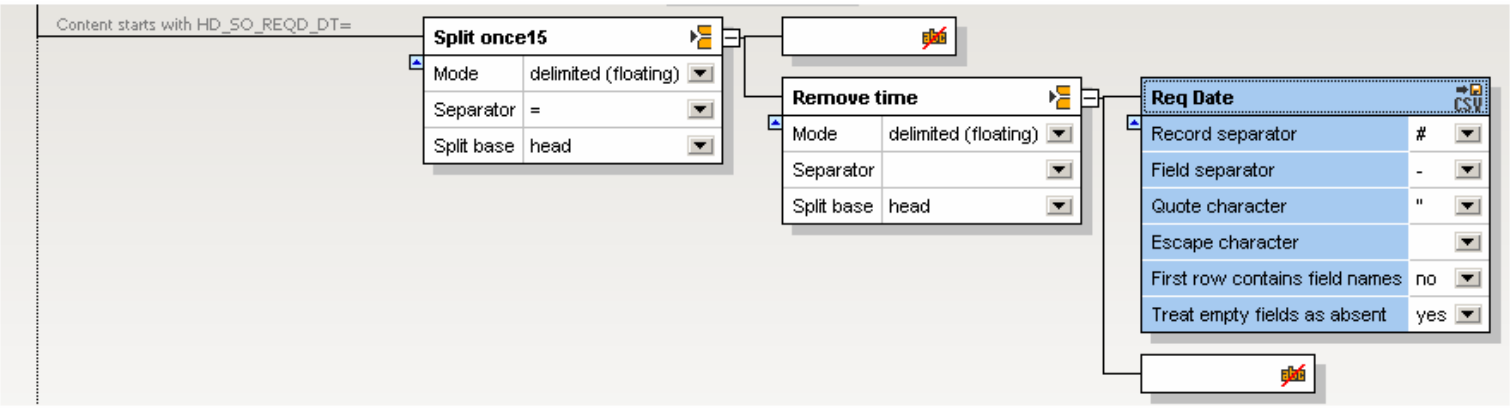
Field 2	PROD DESC
Field 5	ITM ID
Field 6	ITM_PACK_CODE
Field 7	ORD QTY
Field 8	ORD UOM

So now we are done with the detailed line data. Now lets go back and look at that HD_SO_REQD_DT=

This one is different, lets examine it. HD_SO_REQD_DT=14-nov-2007 00:00:00

We need to split off the time from the end since it is not needed.

So this time split it twice, the first using a ‘space’ as a separator. The second we will need to save using store as CSV.



Using the ‘–‘ as a field separator.

This gets us data that looks like this. (You will need to click and rename each column though)

Name	Day
Type	string

	Day	Month	Year
1	14	nov	2007

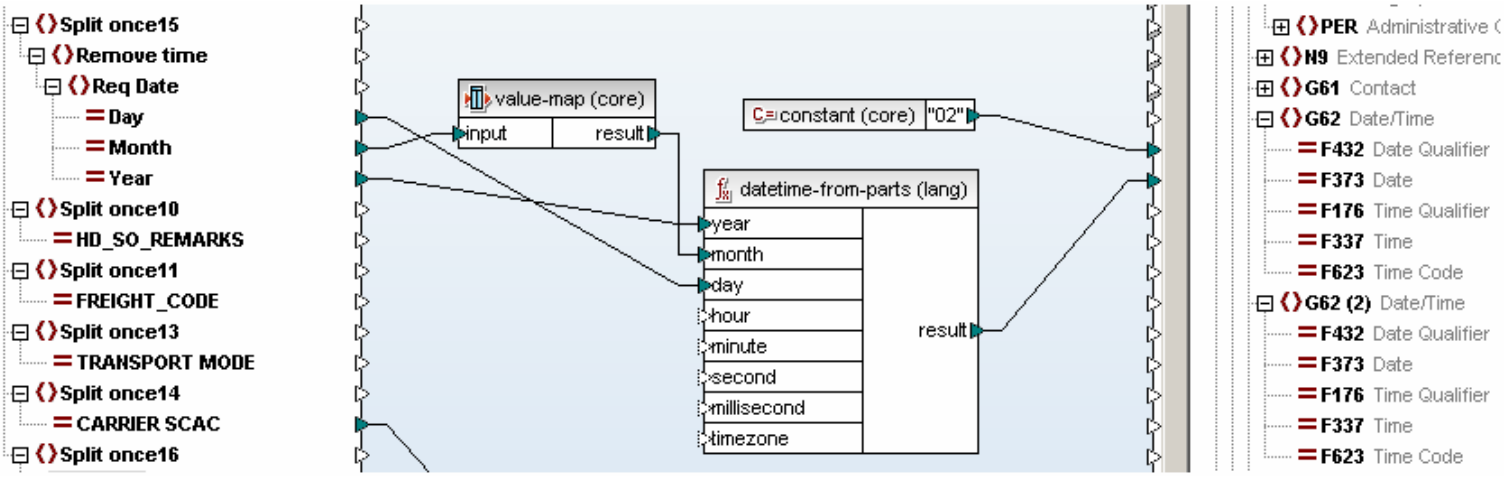
So now we are done with the flextext portion let’s move over to the mapforce arena. And a good first task is converting this requested date (Probably one of the most important items for a 940 Warehouse Transfer) into a usable form for EDI.

Lets setup the environment. I’m assuming you have the flextext that we configured above added to your workspace. Now click the EDI button and choose X12 940.

In order to create a usable date we need to use the datetime-from-parts from the datetime functions. Drag it onto the screen. Now, drag from your split out year from the flextext to the year on the datetime-from-parts. Do this for the day as well. As you might notice the month is in three letter format instead of using the number of the month. We will need to convert this. Mapforce has a really handy thing called a value-map to take care of this. So drop a value-map onto your workspace and connect the month from flextext to the value map input. Double click the value-map and then enter these values.

input	result
string	integer
jan	1
feb	2
mar	3
apr	4
may	5
jun	6
jul	7
aug	8
sep	9
oct	10
nov	11
dec	12

Now connect your result from the value map to the month of the datetime-from-parts. When complete it should look like this.



If all goes well you should have a G62*02*20071109~