

Automating Loading of Data from Text Files

You can automate loading of data from text files, like Excel, csv, formatted text, etc. using Format object.

Hard-coded Property Values

Here is an example.

```
format catest
  file "customer.xlsx"
  table "cacus"
  dataformat "xlsx"
  skip 5
  columns xcus,xorg,xshort

  event before
    if cacus.xcus .eq. ""
      int bcount=bcount+1
      error "Skipping Blank Record "+bcount
    elseif cacus.xcus .eq. lastcus
      int dcount=dcount+1
      error "Skipping Duplicates "+cacus.xcus+" lastcus="+lastcus+" --
"+dcount+" record"
    end if
    set lastcus=cacus.xcus
  end event

end format
```

Variables and Expressions as property values

Instead of hard-coded property values, you could use variables or expressions, like in the sample below.

```
format catest2
  file "customer_"+#date+"."+myformat
  table mytable
  dataformat myformat
  skip records_to_skip

  columns mycolumns

  event before
    if cacus.xcus .eq. ""
```

```

        int bcount=bcount+1
        error "Skipping Blank Record "+bcount
    elseif cacus.xcus .eq. lastcus
        int dcount=dcount+1
        error "Skipping Duplicates "+cacus.xcus+" lastcus="+lastcus+" --
"+dcount+" record"
    end if
    set lastcus=cacus.xcus
end event

end format

```

Automation

Once you have the format defined, you could now automate loading, using the *format* command from your method.

In the first case (hard-coded values), it would be

```
format "catest", "load"
```

In the second case, you need to set the property values and then call *format*.

```

str myformat="csv"
str mytable="cacus"
int records_to_skip=5

format "catest", "load"

```

SQL Statement instead of a Table

Also, a table can be replaced with a SQL statement along with an alias.

```

table "(select zid, xordernum, xcus, ~
        (select xorg from opordcus c where o.zid=c.zid and
o.xordernum=c.xordernum) as xorg ~
        from opord o) tbl"

```

Supported Data Formats

Currently supported data formats are: **fixed**, **text**, **csv**, **xls** and **xlsx**. When the format is not specified, the system will assume format based on file extension.

For text format, you also need to specify **fdelimiter** (field delimiter) and **rdelimiter** (record delimiter) properties.

```
fdelimiter ","
```

```
rdelimiter "\r\n"
```

For fixed format, you need to specify column **name**, **start** and **size**, together with the **rdelimiter** (record delimiter) property.

```
dataformat FIXED
rdelimiter \r\n

columns
  xcus      1   20
  zid       21   6
  xorg      28  40

end columns
```

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