TIBCO Foresight® Products

Using Flat Files

August 2017

Two-Second Advantage®

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Introduction

Intended Audience

This document is intended for users who wish to define flat file formats and validate flat files against these formats. The flat files can be delimited or fixed-length.

You will need a basic knowledge of the TIBCO Foresight programs that you will use with the flat files. These may include:

- TIBCO Foresight® EDISIM® - Standards Editor and Validator components
- TIBCO Foresight® HIPAA Validator® Desktop
- TIBCO Foresight® Instream®

TIBCO Foresight Products that work with Flat Files

EDISIM® 6.7 or later (Standards Editor, Validator, Document Builder modules)	Required	Import, create, edit flat file guidelines Validate flat file data Create paper, HTML, or RTF documentation.	See **TIB_fsp_edisim_<n.n>_fseditor.pdf**, **TIB_fsp_edisim_<n.n>_fsdocbld.pdf** in EDISIM's Documentation directory
HIPAA Validator® Desktop 6.0 and later	Optional	Validate flat file data	See **TIB_fsp_edisim_<n.n>_fsvalidator.pdf** in Desktop's Doc directory
Instream® 5.9 and later	Optional	Validation, Docsplitter, partner automation, ValidationHighlighter,	See **TIB_fsp-instream_<n.n>_usersguide.pdf, TIB_fsp-instream _<n.n>_docsplitter.pdf**, and **TIB_fsp-instream _<n.n>_tpa.pdf** in Instream®'s Doc directory
TIBCO Foresight® Translator	Optional	Translate between EDI and flat	See **TIB_translator_<n.n>_usersguide.pdf** in Translator's Doc directory

Overview

You can:

- Create a flat file guideline in EDISIM Standards Editor, including adding business rules.
- Describe the guideline in paper, HTML, or RTF format with EDISIM Document Builder.
- Validate flat file data against the guideline with EDISIM Validator or HIPAA Validator Desktop and optionally edit the data from Validator's bottom pane.
- Validate flat file data against the guideline with Instream and optionally use partner automation.
- Use Validation Highlighter to create a human-friendly validation report.
- Split good from bad data with Instream's Docsplitter.
- Translate between EDI and flat file.

Since flat files are not based on standards the way EDI is, you will notice some differences in how it is implemented in TIBCO Foresight products:

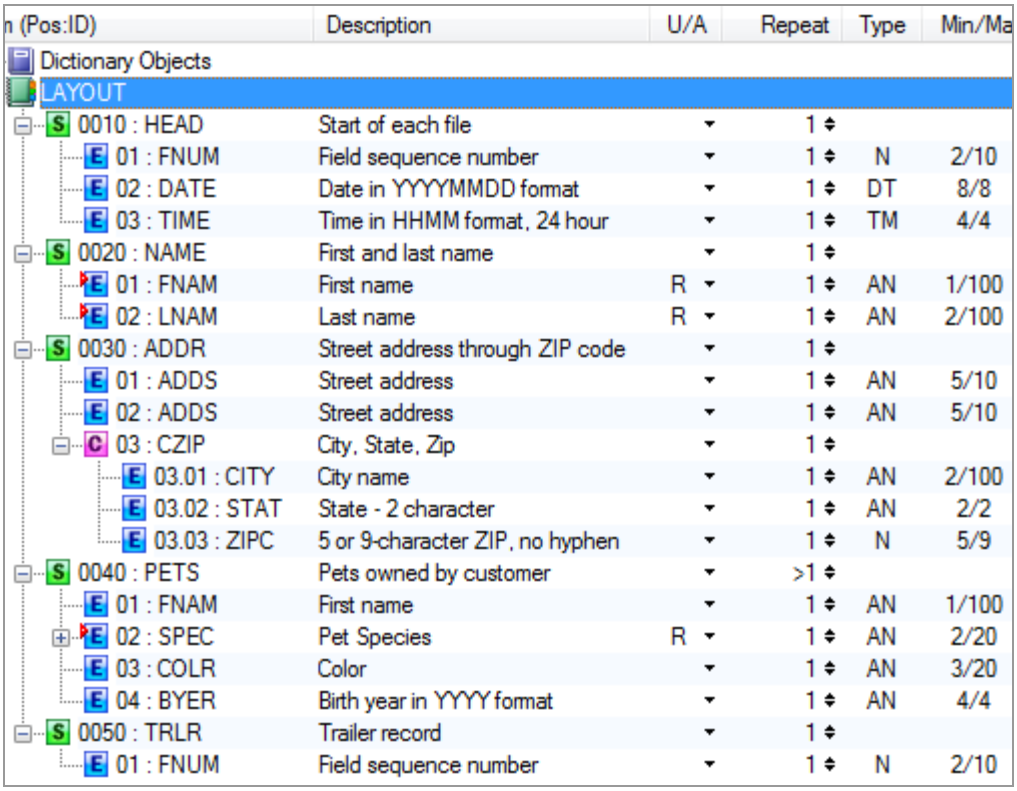
- You must have EDISIM to use flat files. It lets you create a TIBCO Foresight "guideline" (STD file) from the flat file structure.
- In EDISIM, flat file code lists are stored in code values or application value lists.
- APF files are honored by flat file validations.
- You can validate flat files with Instream, but you cannot use Response Generator or DataSwapper.

Demos

Program	Data file	Guideline	Validate with …
EDISIM	In EDISIM®'s Samples directory: FF_Delim_1VetCustomer.txt or Oneill.txt	VETDELIM	EDISIM Validator
HIPAA Validator Desktop	In HIPAA Validator Desktop's DemoData directory: FF_Delim_1VetCustomer.txt or Oneill.txt	VETDELIM	HIPAA Validator Desktop
Instream	In Instream's DemoData directory: FF_Delim_1VetCustomer.txt FF_Delim_Customers.txt FF_FL_1VetCustomer.txt FF_Delim_2Vetcustomer.txt	VETDELIM	In Instream's Scripts directory: V_DS_FFdelim_vet V_FFdelim_CBTPA ValidationHighlighter_FF_FL ValidationHighlighter_FF_Delim

Tutorial

This tutorial will walk you through the most basic steps in creating a delimited file guideline and validating flat file data with it. The file format we will create is:



n (Pos:ID)	Description	U/A	Repeat	Type	Min/Ma
Dictionary Objects					
LAYOUT					
S 0010 : HEAD	Start of each file		1		
E 01 : FNUM	Field sequence number		1	N	2/10
E 02 : DATE	Date in YYYYMMDD format		1	DT	8/8
E 03 : TIME	Time in HHMM format, 24 hour		1	TM	4/4
S 0020 : NAME	First and last name		1		
E 01 : FNAM	First name	R	1	AN	1/100
E 02 : LNAM	Last name	R	1	AN	2/100
S 0030 : ADDR	Street address through ZIP code		1		
E 01 : ADDS	Street address		1	AN	5/10
E 02 : ADDS	Street address		1	AN	5/10
C 03 : CZIP	City, State, Zip		1		
E 03.01 : CITY	City name		1	AN	2/100
E 03.02 : STAT	State - 2 character		1	AN	2/2
E 03.03 : ZIPC	5 or 9-character ZIP, no hyphen		1	N	5/9
S 0040 : PETS	Pets owned by customer		>1		
E 01 : FNAM	First name		1	AN	1/100
E 02 : SPEC	Pet Species	R	1	AN	2/20
E 03 : COLR	Color		1	AN	3/20
E 04 : BYER	Birth year in YYYY format		1	AN	4/4
S 0050 : TRLR	Trailer record		1		
E 01 : FNUM	Field sequence number		1	N	2/10

Corresponding data might look like this:

```
HEAD|01|20070110|1412$
NAME|RITA|O'NEILL$
ADDR|115 CENTRAL AVE.||HILLSDALE#MN#12345$
PETS|SKYLER|DOG|YELLOW|2001$
PETS|JENNY|PARAKEET|BLUE$
PETS|CELESTE|CAT|BLACK WHITE|2002$
TRLR|01$
```

Creating a Delimited Flat File Guideline with EDISIM

Steps include:

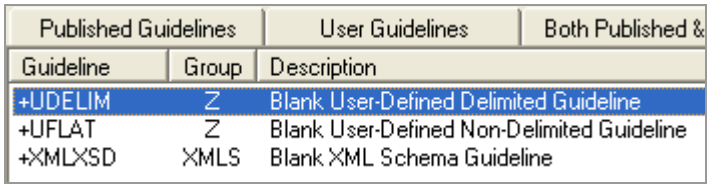
1. Starting the Guideline ..... page 4
2. Setting Guideline Properties ..... page 5
3. Creating the TRLR Record ..... page 8
4. Setting Guideline Properties ..... page 5
5. Assembling other Records ..... page 9
6. Adding Records to the Layout ..... page 11
7. Setting Requirements ..... page 11
8. Setting Repeat Counts ..... page 12
9. Specifying Values ..... page 12

Starting the Guideline

1. Open EDISIM Standards Editor.

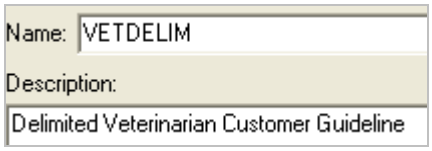
2. Choose **File | New | Empty Guidelines**.

3. For data that will have delimited fields, choose **+UDELIM**:



4. Click **Open**.

5. Click **Save** and use this Name and Description:



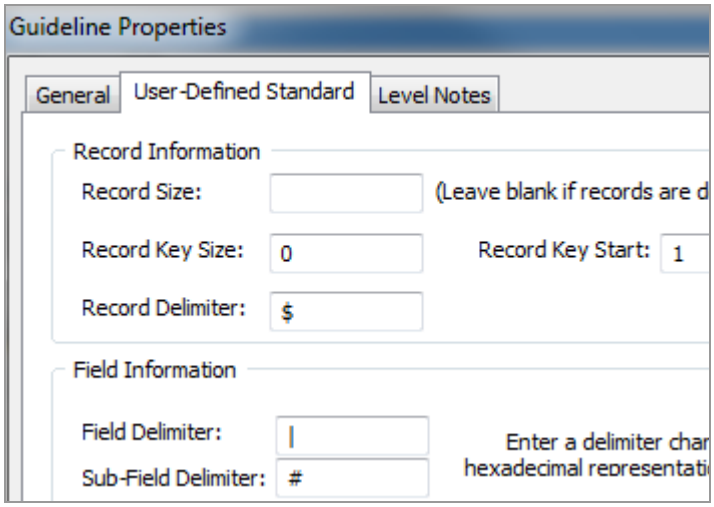
   Save.

Setting Guideline Properties

1. Choose **File | Properties | User-Defined Standard**.

2. Type these delimiters:

   Record $
   Field |
   Sub-Field #



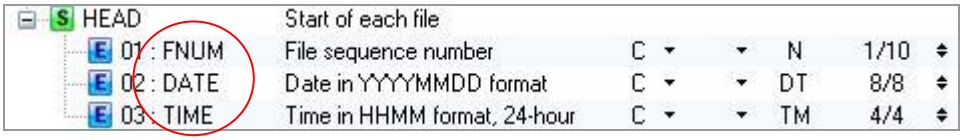
3. Click **OK** and then save.

Creating the HEAD Record

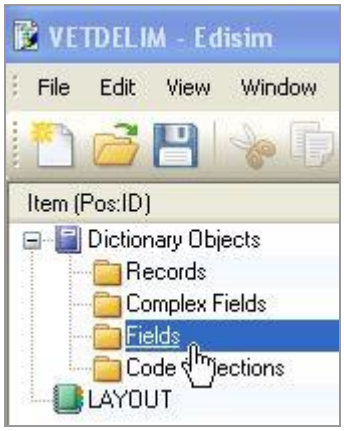
Header and trailer records are optional but our particular file format has them.

Creating the Fields in the HEAD Record

We will now create the fields in the first record in the file. In this guideline, we are labeling it HEAD:



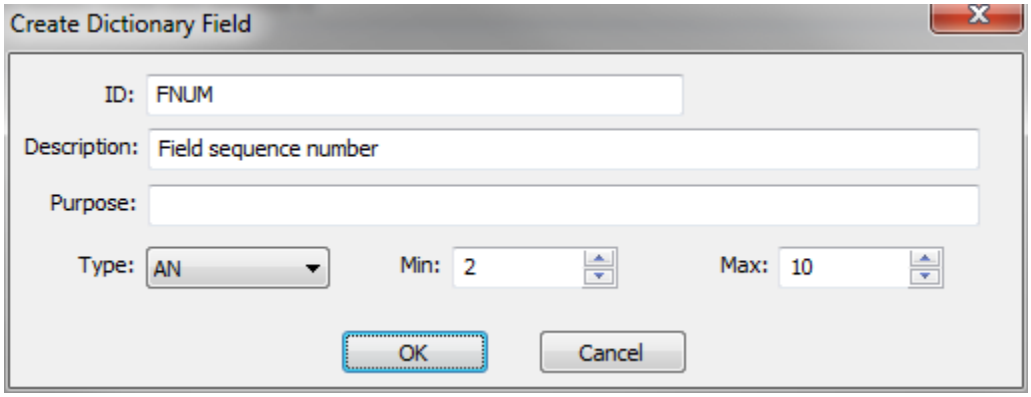
1. Open **Dictionary Objects** and click **Fields**:



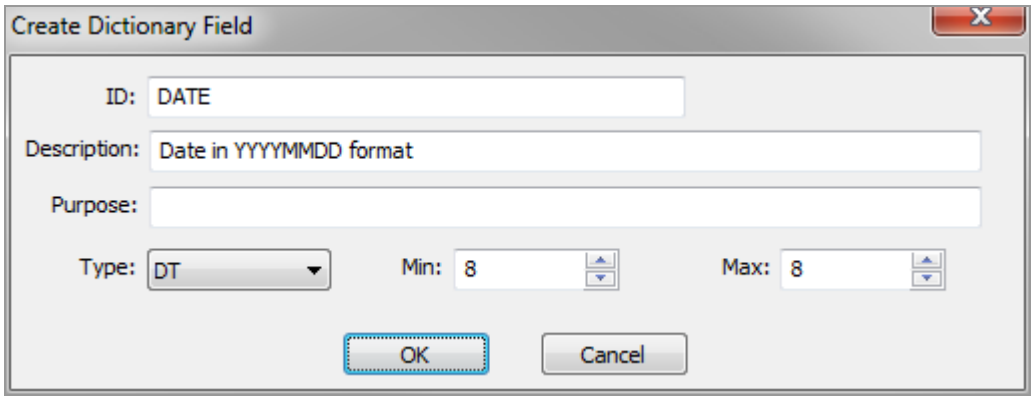
   Dictionary objects are pieces that can be assembled to create file layouts.

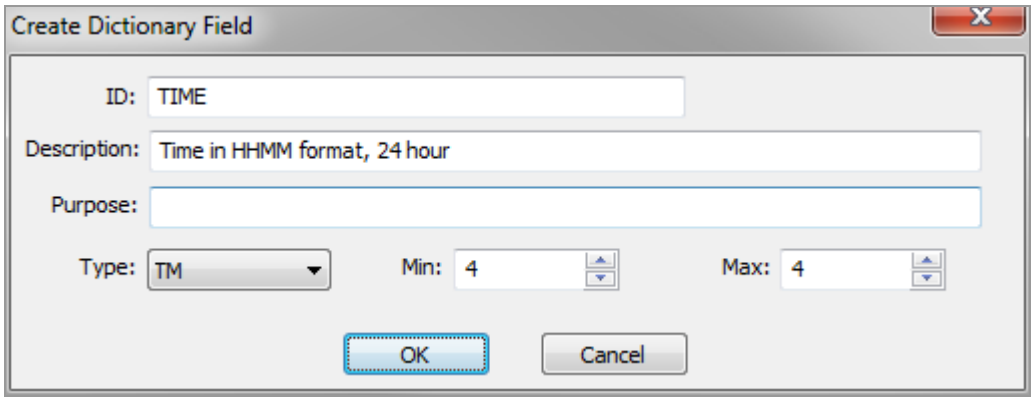
2. Choose **Edit | Create new item | Dictionary Field**.

3. Fill out the following information about the FNUM field and then click **OK**. The field ID can be up to 128 alphanumeric characters and underscores. Do not use spaces or other special characters in the ID.



4. Click on **Fields** again, and create DATE and then TIME:

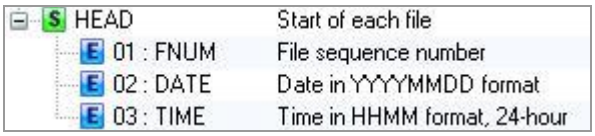




5. Save.

Assembling the HEAD Record

We now assemble the HEAD record itself:



1. Under Dictionary Objects, click **Records**:

2. Choose **Edit | Create new item | Dictionary Record**.

3. For ID, type **HEAD**.
   For Description, type **Start of each file**.
   Click **OK**.

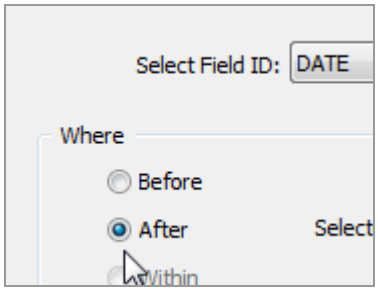
   Record IDs can be up to 20 alphanumeric characters with no spaces or other special characters except underscores.

4. With **HEAD** highlighted, choose **Edit | Add Item | Field**.

5. From the list of fields, select **FNUM** and click **OK**.

6. With **FNUM** highlighted, choose **Edit | Add Item | Field** and choose **DATE**.

   Be sure it says **After**:

   Click **OK**.

7. Add **TIME** below DATE.

8. Save.

Creating the TRLR Record

1. Click on **Records**.

2. Choose **Edit | Create new item | Dictionary Record**.

3. For ID, type **TRLR**.
   For Description, type **Trailer record**.
   Click **OK**.

4. With **TRLR** highlighted, choose **Edit | Add Item | Field** and chose **FNUM**.

5. Save.

Assembling other Records

We will now create fields needed for the other records, and then assemble them into records.

1 For each field in the table below, click on **Fields** under Dictionary Objects and choose **Edit | Create new item | Dictionary Field**.

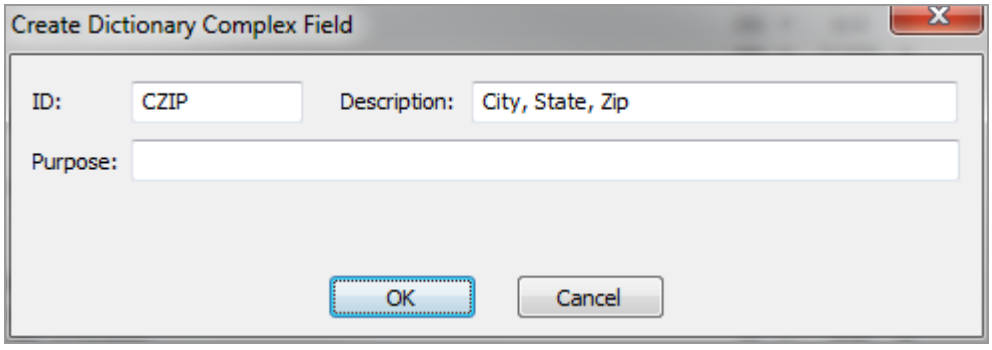
2. Fill out the information for these fields:

ID	Description	Type	Min	Max
FNAM	First name	AN	1	100
LNAM	Last name	AN	2	100
ADDS	Street address	AN	5	100
CITY	City name	AN	2	100
STAT	State - 2 character	AN	2	2
ZIPC	5 or 9-character ZIP, no hyphen	N	5	9
SPEC	Pet Species	AN	2	20
COLR	Color	AN	3	20
BYER	Birth year in YYYY format	N	4	4

3. Highlight **Complex Fields**:

We are going to assemble the CZIP complex field, which includes CITY, STAT, and ZIPC. This is a typical example of a complex field, which is a set of fields that always appear in the same order.

4. Choose **Edit | Create new item | Dictionary Complex Field**, fill out this information, and click OK:



5. With **CZIP** highlighted, choose **Edit | Add item | Field** and choose **CITY**. Click **OK**:.

6. With **CITY** highlighted, choose **Edit | Add item | Field** and choose **STAT** and be sure **After** is selected. Click **OK**.

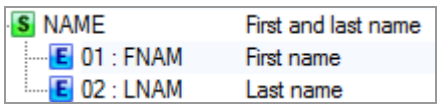
7. Add **ZIPC** below STAT.

8. Assemble the NAME record:

   Highlight **Records**.

   Choose **Edit | Create new item | Dictionary Record** and fill out the information about the NAME record:

   Use **Edit | Add item | Field** to add **FNAM** and then **LNAM**:



9. Create the **ADDR** record and add the **ADDS** field twice (to accommodate 2-line street addresses).

   Then use **Edit | Add item | Add Complex Field** and choose **CZIP**.

10. Create the **PETS** record with these fields.

11. Save.

Adding Records to the Layout

The layout is the set of records, in order, that define the flat file structure. In a flat file guideline, it includes all records including any header and trailer records.

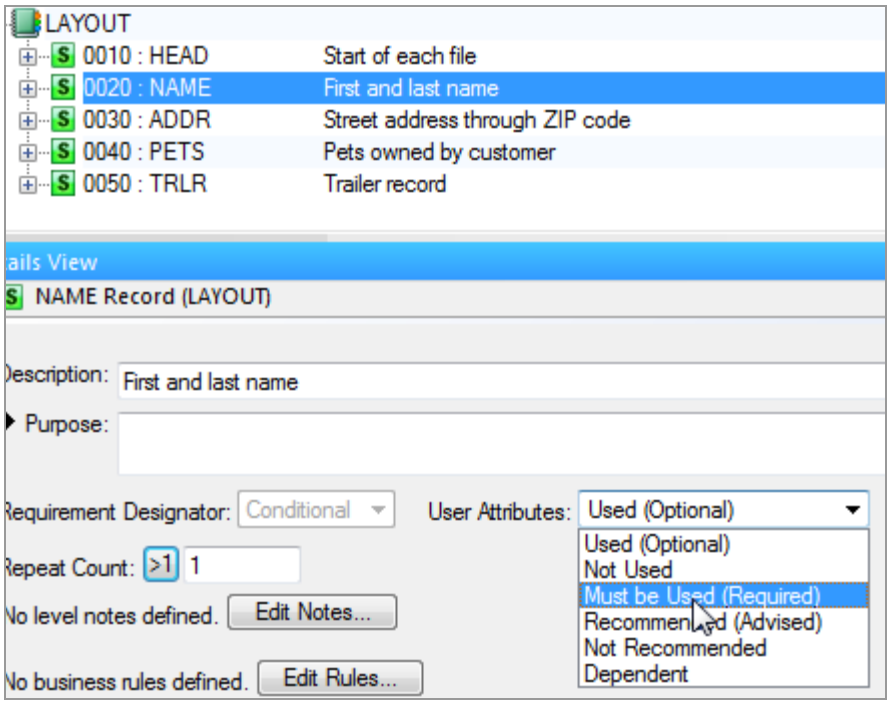
1. Close **Dictionary Objects** and Click on **LAYOUT**:

2. Choose **Edit | Add item | Record** and choose **HEAD**.

3. Add the rest of the records in this order:

Setting Requirements

1. Click on the NAME record and make it required:

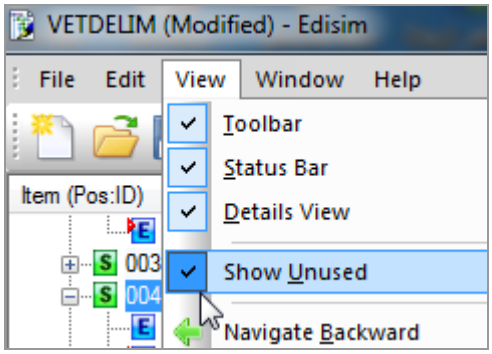


2. Make these records and fields required.
    - Both fields in the **NAME** record
    - SPEC field in the **PETS** record.

Setting Repeat Counts

To specify that the **PETS** record can appear multiple times:

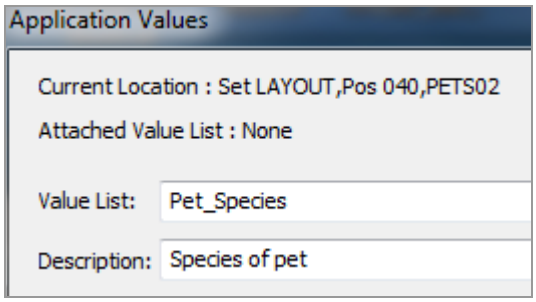
1. Click the **PETS** record.
2. In the Repeat Count field in the bottom pane, type **>1**.
3. Be sure that **View | Show Unused** is selected:



Specifying Values

You can use code values or application values with flat file guidelines. Here, we specify a list of pet species.

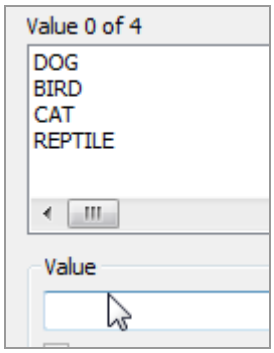
1. Open the **PETS** record.
2. Right-click on **SPEC** and choose **Application Values**.
3. Fill out the top like this:



4. In the bottom Value line, type **DOG** and press *Enter*.

   Type **BIRD** and press *Enter*.

   Also add **CAT** and **REPTILE**.



5. Click **Attach** and then **Save**.

Validating Data with the Flat File Guideline

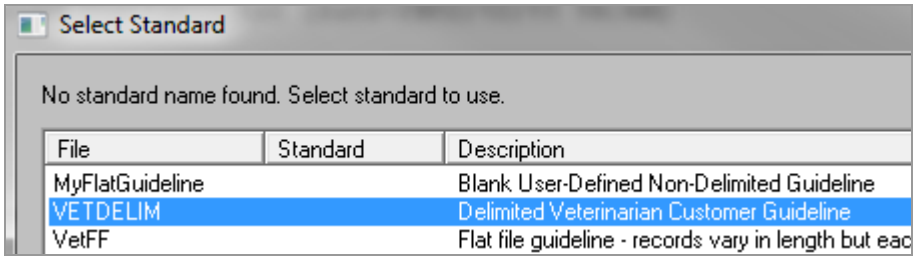
Now we can check a file to see if it conforms to the file definition in our new guideline VETDELIM.

Note If you would like to use a TIBCO Foresight-supplied VETDELIM guideline rather than the one you created, use Standards Editor to import VETDELIM.sef from EDISIM's Samples directory.

1. Start EDISIM's Validator by clicking the  icon on the toolbar:

2. Choose **File | Open** and open **Oneill.txt** in EDISIM's Samples directory.

3. Choose our new guideline **VETDELIM**:



4. Click **OK**.

5. Click on each blue segment in the top pane and notice the corresponding data segment in the bottom pane.

   The street address is too long, and the second PETS segment had an invalid value of PARAKEET.

Importing

Creating a Guideline from a COBOL Copybook

Requires EDISIM 6.6 or later.

Copybook File Format

EDISIM will support most COBOL keywords ***except***:

- VALUE OF system-name IS <data-name literal>
- DATA RECORDS ARE data-name …
- LINAGE IS remainder of clause
- RECORDING MODE IS mode
- CODE-SET IS alphabet-name
- LABEL RECORD IS data-name
- RENAMES <data-name> <remainder of clause>
- ASCENDING/DESCENDING KEY IS name INDEXED BY name
- USAGE IS <INDEX POINTER COMP-1 COMP-2 DISPLAY-1>
- OCCURS VARYING

These OCCURS clauses will just import the upper limit as the repeat count, since we currently support only a maximum repeat count:

OCCURS n TO n TIMES

OCCURS integer-1 TO integer-2 TIMES DEPENDING ON remainder of clause

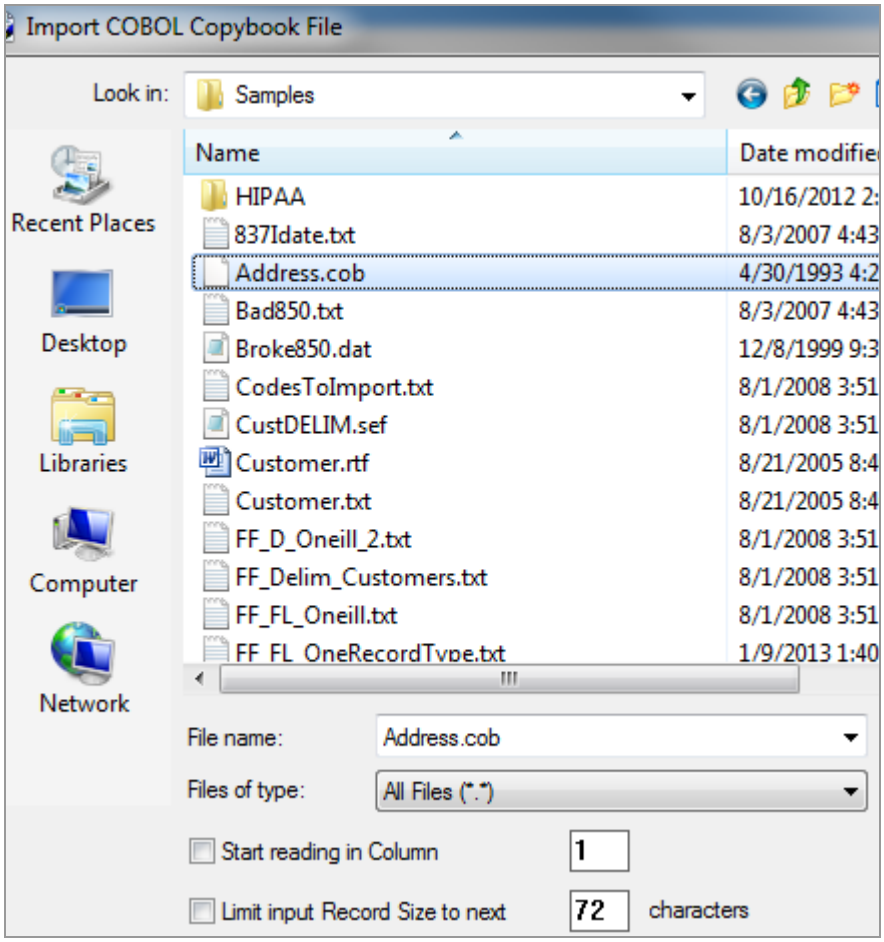
Importing the Copybook

To import a COBOL copybook into Standards Editor for use as a delimited or fixed-length-field guideline:

1. Open Standards Editor.

2. Choose **File | Import | Import COBOL Copybook and open**.

3. Select the copybook.
   There is a sample **Address.cob** in EDISIM's **Samples** directory.



Additional Checkbox Options:

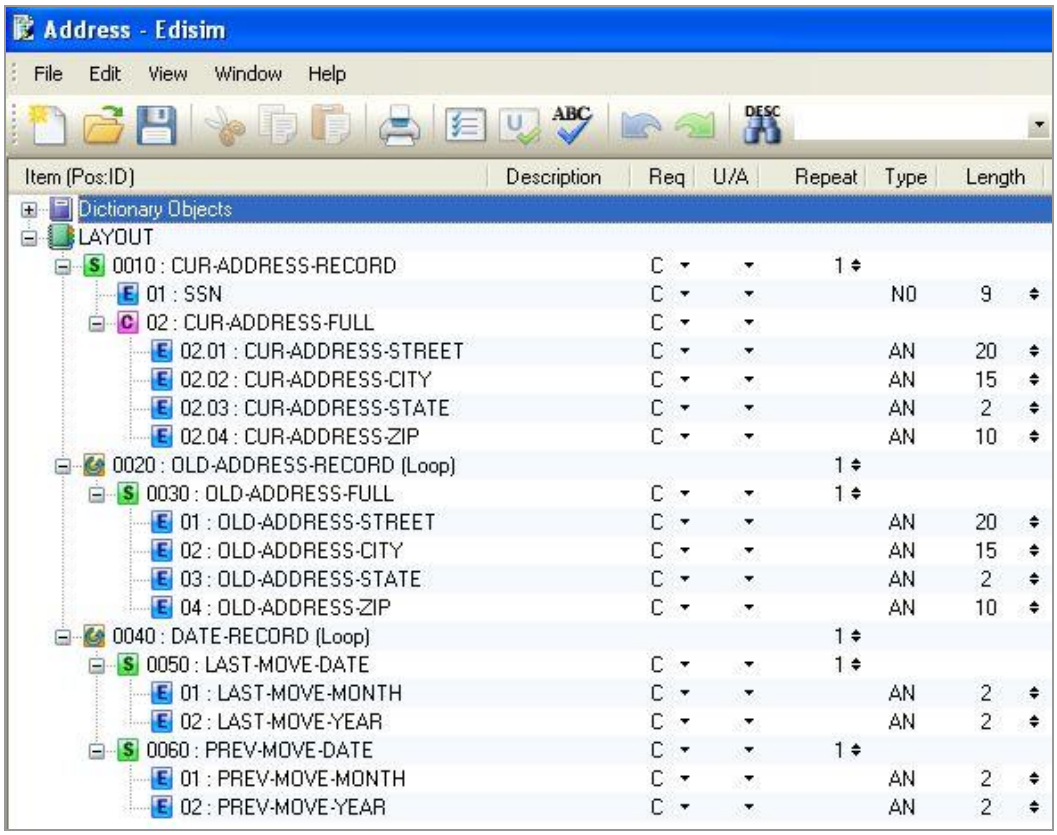
- **"Start reading in column":**

  This option allows you to specify a record start position. COBOL copybooks sometimes have an internal identifier or counter at the start and/or end of each line. This option allows you exclude those areas from the import. For example, your copybook has a record ID in the first six positions of each copybook record. You might check this box and specify that the import start with column 7. Default is column 1.

- **"Limit Input Record Size to next…":**

  This option allows you to limit record size to a certain number of characters. Default is 72 characters.

4. Have a look at the guideline:



5. Choose **File | Properties | User-Defined Standard** and fill out the information as described in Guideline Properties on page 25.

Creating a Guideline from a CSV Layout

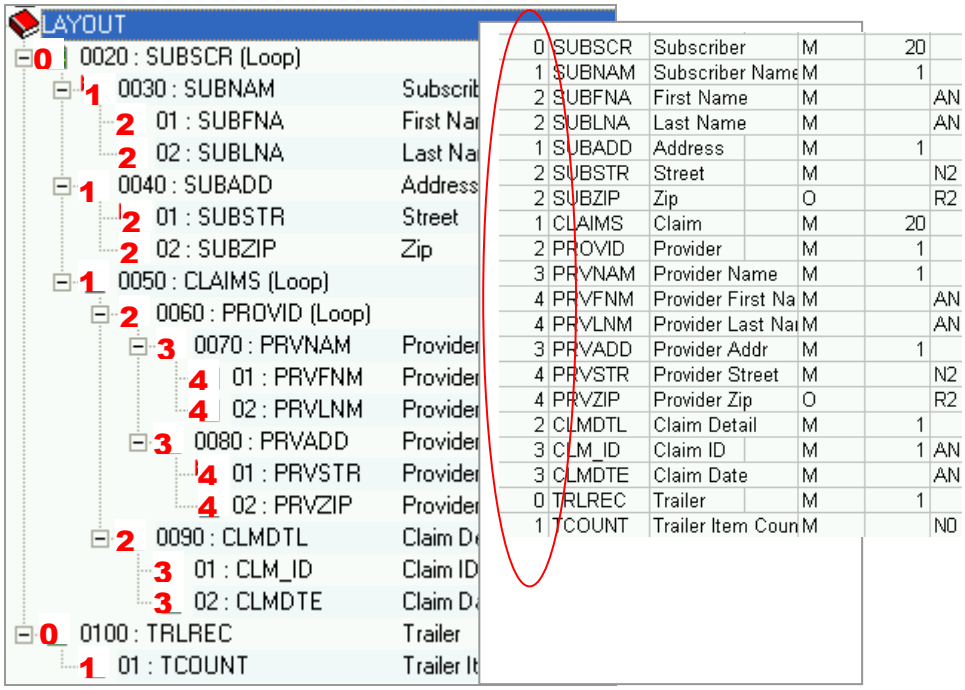
Requires EDISIM 6.6 or later

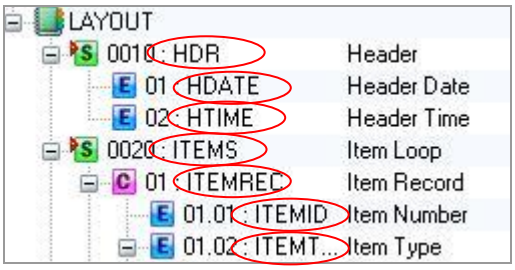
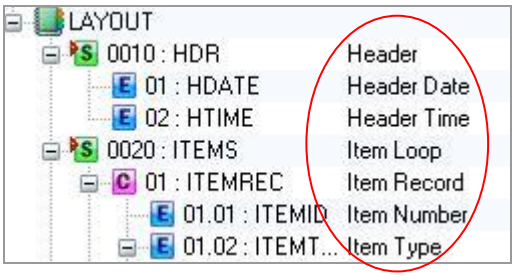
CSV File Format

For an example, please see Test1.csv in EDISIM's Samples directory:

Notice the headers in the top row. The first row must contain the exact field names shown in Test1.csv.

Each line in the CSV file can contain these columns (case insensitive and in any order).

Lev	The Lev column shows the level, or hierarchy, of items. Number from the outer level as 0 to the most inner level, which will be a field containing data. Example (levels are shown in red): 

	Level **99** is a code value for the field immediately above. These 99 rows are code values A, B, and C for ITEMTYPE: A | B | C | D | E Lev | ID | Name | Desc | Usage 0 | HDR | Header | Description of Header | M 1 | HDATE | Header Date | | M 1 | HTIME | Header Time | Description of Header Time | M 0 | ITEMS | Item Loop | | M 1 | ITEMREC | Item Record | | M 2 | ITEMID | Item Number | | M 2 | ITEMTYPE | Item Type | | M 99 | A | Type A | Desc of Type A: Top Priority | 99 | B | Type B | Desc of Type B: Medium Priority | 99 | C | Type C | Desc of Type C: Low Priority |
ID	The ID of the item; maximum 20 characters for a record and 128 characters for fields; no spaces or other special characters except underscores. 
Name	The Description of the item: 
Desc	The Purpose of the item.
Usage	The Usage of the item. Possible values are: M (mandatory) O (optional) N (not used) They appear in the U/A column
Repeat	How many times this item can repeat in the current location.
Type	Data type for fields. See **DataTypes.pdf** in EDISIM's Documentation directory. Only fields that actually contain data should have a type. Do not use Type for records or complex fields.
MinLen	Minimum length for data in this field. Only fields containing data have MinLengths. Do not use them with records or complex fields.

MaxLen	Maximum length for data in this field. Only fields containing data have MaxLengths. Do not use them with records or complex fields. If each field has a MinLen and MaxLen that is the same, the guideline will be assumed to be for fixed-length data. If one or more has a different MinLen from its MaxLen, then the guideline will be assumed to be delimited.
Note1	Contents of a level 1 note.
Note2	Contents of a level 2 note. You can have columns for any level of note up to Note99.

CSV File Checklist

- Remove commas, line feeds, double quotes, and single quotes from values. If you are editing the CSV file with a spreadsheet program, edit the CSV with a text editor just before importing, and check for single quotes that have been inserted.
- Make all cells text if you are using a spreadsheet to create the CSV file. Otherwise, leading zeros may disappear.
- Be sure values in the Usage column match those in EDISIM (M, O, and N).
- Be sure the values in the Type column match EDISIM types (see **DataTypes.pdf** in EDISIM's Documentation directory).
- Do not include the segment tag as a field.
- IDs are 6 characters or less.
- Add levels in column 1.
- Be sure that records do not have lengths or types.
- Be sure the last record has a newline at the end.

Importing the CSV File

To import a comma-delimited file into Standards Editor for use as a delimited or fixed-length-field guideline:

1. Open Standards Editor.

2. Choose **File | Import | Import CSV Layout and open**.

3. Select the CSV file and import it.
   There is a sample **Test1.csv** in EDISIM's **Samples** directory.

4. Choose **File | Properties | User-Defined Standard** and fill out the information as described in Guideline Properties on page 25.

5. Be sure that the record tags are not repeated as the first field in the records.

Validating Flat Files

Validating Flat Files with EDISIM Validator

After defining and saving the flat file layout as illustrated in the tutorial on page 3, you can start validating flat files with EDISIM Validator to see if they conform to the guideline.

Validating a flat file is exactly like validating an EDI file:

1. Start EDISIM Validator by:

   Clicking  on the toolbar from within Standards Editor, or by …

   Choosing **Start | Programs | Foresight | EDISIM | Validator**.

2. Use **File | Open** to open the data file that you want to validate.

3. Select the flat file guideline to be used for validation.

4. Dismiss the Analysis Completed box and view the results as usual.

For information about how to edit the data in the bottom pane, or for other details, see **TIB_fsp_edisim_<n.n>_fsvalidator.pdf** in EDISIM's Documentation.

Validating Flat Files with HIPAA Validator Desktop

After defining and saving the flat file layout as illustrated in the tutorial on page 3, you can start validating flat files with HIPAA Validator Desktop to see if they conform to the guideline.

Validating a flat file is exactly like validating an EDI file, once you have copied the guideline to HIPAA Validator Desktop:

1. Copy the flat file guideline's .STD file from EDISIM's **User Files\Public Guidelines** directory to HIPAA Validator Desktop's **Database** directory.

2. Start HIPAA Validator Desktop with one of these:

   Click  on the toolbar from within Standards Editor, or by …

   Choose **Start | Programs | Foresight | HIPAA Validator Desktop| Validator**.

3. Use **File | Open** to open the data file that you want to validate.

4. Select the flat file guideline to be used for validation.

5. Dismiss the Analysis Completed box and view the results as usual.

For other details, see **TIB_fsp_edisim_<n.n>_fsvalidator.pdf** in HIPAA Validator Desktop's Doc directory.

Validating Flat Files with Instream

After defining and saving the flat file layout as illustrated in the tutorial on page 3, you can start validating flat files with Instream to see if they conform to the guideline.

To validate with Instream:

1. Copy the flat file guideline's .STD file from EDISIM's **User Files\Public Guidelines** directory to Instream's **Database** directory.

2. Validate as usual with Instream, using the **-g** parameter to identify the flat file guideline.

   See scripts that start with **V_FF** or **V_DS_FF** Instream's Scripts directory for examples.

3. Open the detail results file and view the results as usual.

You can also use trading partner automation to select guideline and profile. See **TIB_fsp-instream_<n.n>_tpa.pdf**.

Creating an HTML Report of a Flat File Validation

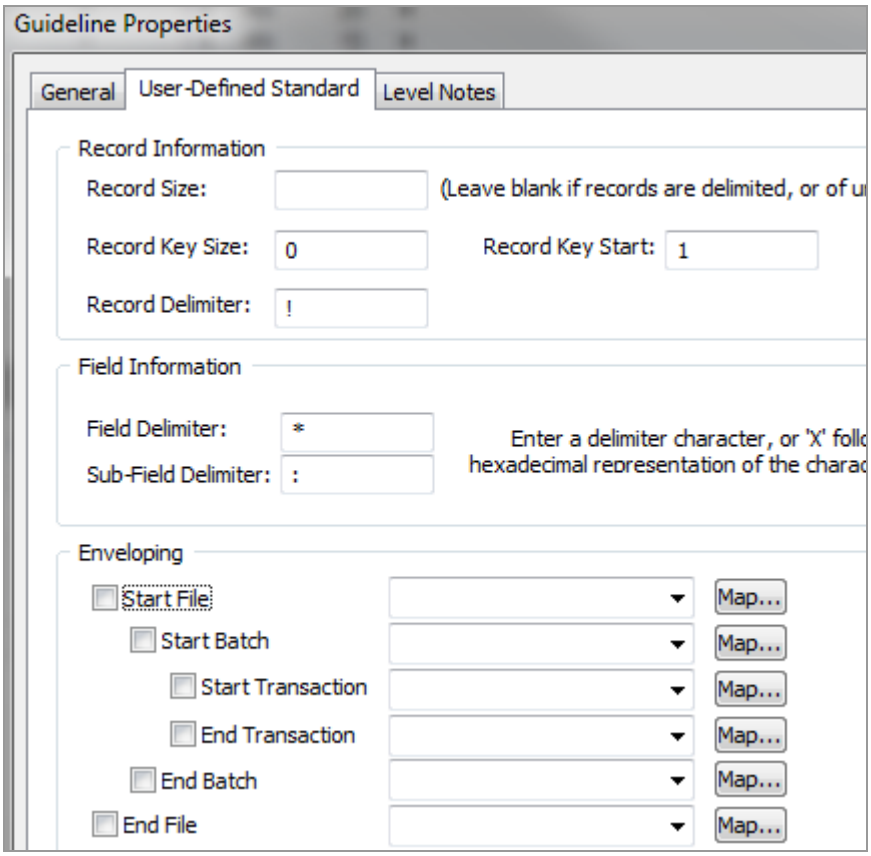
You can create an HTML report from your flat file validation. Please see **ValidationHighlighter.pdf.**

Splitting Flat Files with Document Splitter

You can split flat file data into separate good and bad files as described in **TIB_fsp-instream_<n.n>_docsplitter.pdf**.

Guideline Properties

Choose **File | Properties | User-Defined Standard** to set guideline properties.



Guidelines with Fixed Record Lengths

Flat Files with Record ID

Choose **File | Properties | User-Defined Standard:**

1. For **Record Size**,

   If ALL records are the same size, type the length of the records.

   If records have varying length, leave Record Size set to 0. In this case, records can be separated by any character defined in Record Separator. This is true for delimited and fixed-length field data.

2. For **Record Key Size**,

   If the data is delimited, leave the Record Key size at 0.

   If the data is fixed-length, type the length of the record key field.

3. For **Record Key Start**,

   If the data is delimited, this is ignored. The key must be in the first position in each record.

   If the data is fixed-length, type the position where the record key starts.

4. **Record Delimiter**, **Field Delimiter**, and **Sub-Field Delimiter**

   If the data is delimited, enter this information. For hex values, type a lower case x followed by two hexadecimal characters. Example: **x0A** for newline.

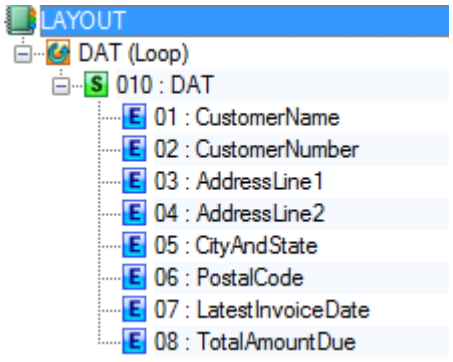
   If the data is fixed-length, skip the Field Delimiter and Sub-Field Delimiter. If the record delimiter is other than a newline, enter it.

Flat Files without Record ID

These are files with no record tags and fixed-length fields, like this file:

```
ONEILL          CN12345   682 AUTUMN VW                DAMASCUS MD    24385     20121217475.55
MACDERMAND      CN12382   226 HONEY LANE               SHADY SIDE MD  24225     2012121810842.00
WILSON          CU12377   2106 NORTH ST                ANN ARBOR M1   24353     2012123192.78
```

All records must have the same format. In Standards Editor, there is only one record defined in the guideline and it must be enclosed in a loop.



Under **File | Properties | User-Defined Standard**, Record Key Size is 0 and other fields are blank except perhaps Record Delimiter. You do not need anything under **Enveloping**.

For an example:

- Copy **FF_FL_NoTag_OneRec.std** from EDISIM's Samples directory to EDISIM's **User Files\Public Guidelines** directory. You can then open it in Standards Editor.
- For example data to go with this guideline, see **FF_FL_OneRecordType_NoTag.txt** in EDISIM's Samples directory.

Enveloping

If your data has a header and trailer record, you can enter it in the layout as you do any other record. You can then skip the Enveloping sections under **File | Properties |User-Defined Standard**.