

Generating An Output File with .CSV Extension from an E-Text Template Based BIP Report In Oracle HCM Cloud Application

By: Ashish Harbhajanka

Introduction

One of the most common requirement faced whenever one tries to transfer data from One Application to another is getting the Flat File in desired format along with a desired File Name and extension.

While generating a file in desired format is not a challenge in Oracle HCM Cloud but getting, the appropriate file extension (specifically CSV) has been troubling consultant (including myself) for long.

It seems that at last I probably have managed to figure out a solution and thought to share the same with the greater audience. So without further delay let-us get started with the same.

In the interest of time we would assume that we already have a E-Text Based BIP Report available with us and would only concentrate on how to get a CSV File (both data as well as extension) from the same.

Pre-requisite

We would assume that we already have an E-Text Template Based BIP Report available in the Application. I would share some details of the same (like Sample Data File, Data Set ,E-Text Template , Report Layout along with Sample Output as it appears on the application) before we start with our actual demonstration.

Sample Data File

We will use a XML File as the Data to be used in the Report. The XML file structure is as below:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
- <ROWSET>
  <ROW>
    <NAME>Andrew Thomas</NAME>
    <FIRST_NAME>Andrew</FIRST_NAME>
    <LAST_NAME>Thomas</LAST_NAME>
    <SALARY>2600</SALARY>
    <ANNUAL_SALARY>31200</ANNUAL_SALARY>
    <FED_WITHHELD>8736</FED_WITHHELD>
    <JOB_TITLE>Business Analyst</JOB_TITLE>
    <DEPARTMENT_NAME>Human Resources</DEPARTMENT_NAME>
    <MANAGER>Richard Mills</MANAGER>
  </ROW>
  <ROW>
    <NAME>Brian Hay</NAME>
    <FIRST_NAME>Brian</FIRST_NAME>
    <LAST_NAME>Hay</LAST_NAME>
    <SALARY>2600</SALARY>
    <ANNUAL_SALARY>31200</ANNUAL_SALARY>
    <FED_WITHHELD>8736</FED_WITHHELD>
    <JOB_TITLE>Accountant</JOB_TITLE>
    <DEPARTMENT_NAME>Finance</DEPARTMENT_NAME>
    <MANAGER>William Jones</MANAGER>
  </ROW>
  <ROW>
    <NAME>Demure Gale</NAME>
    <FIRST_NAME>Demure</FIRST_NAME>
    <LAST_NAME>Gale</LAST_NAME>
    <SALARY>4400</SALARY>
    <ANNUAL_SALARY>52800</ANNUAL_SALARY>
    <FED_WITHHELD>14784</FED_WITHHELD>
    <JOB_TITLE>Administration Assistant</JOB_TITLE>
    <DEPARTMENT_NAME>Administration</DEPARTMENT_NAME>
    <MANAGER>Thomas Berkley</MANAGER>
  </ROW>
```

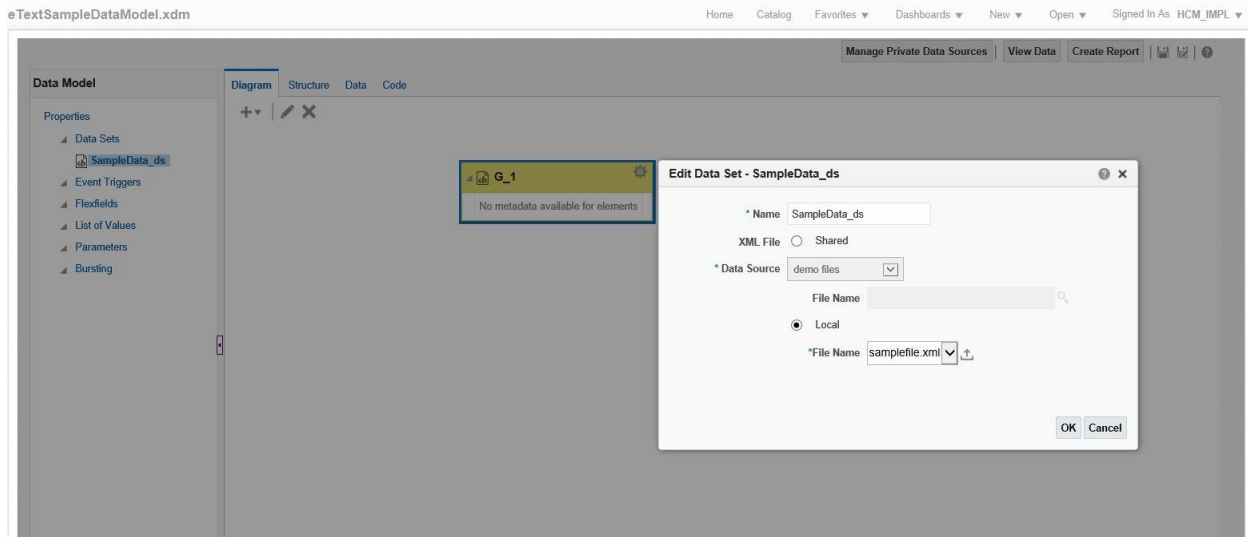
Sample XML Data File

Data Set

We would use the XML File (shown in image above) and create a Data Set (as shown in screen-shot below):

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E-Text Template

The E-Text Template used is as below:

Format Setup:

Hint: Define formatting options...

<TEMPLATE TYPE>	DELIMITER BASED
<OUTPUT CHARACTER SET>	iso-8859-1
<NEW RECORD CHARACTER>	;

Format Data Records:

Hint: This is the body of the format. Define your format records here.
Create one table for each record or group of records that are at the same level.
For example, RequestHeader is one level, and Payment is another level.

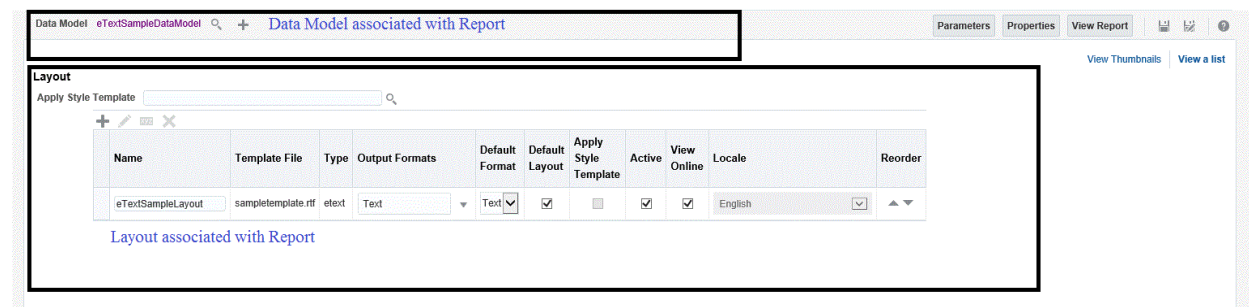
<LEVEL>	ROWSET/ROW			
<NEW RECORD>	MainRecord			
<MAXIMUM LENGTH>	<FORMAT>	<DATA>	<TAG>	<COMMENTS>
99	Alpha	LAST NAME		
2	Alpha	'/'		
99	Number	SALARY		
2	Alpha	'/'		
99	Alpha	JOB TITLE		
2	Alpha	'/'		
99	Alpha	DEPARTMENT NAME		
<END LEVEL>		ROWSET/ROW		

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Layout

The Layout associated with the Report has the following properties:



Sample Output

The Sample Output is shown below:



Changes Required to Get Data in CSV File (.csv Extension)

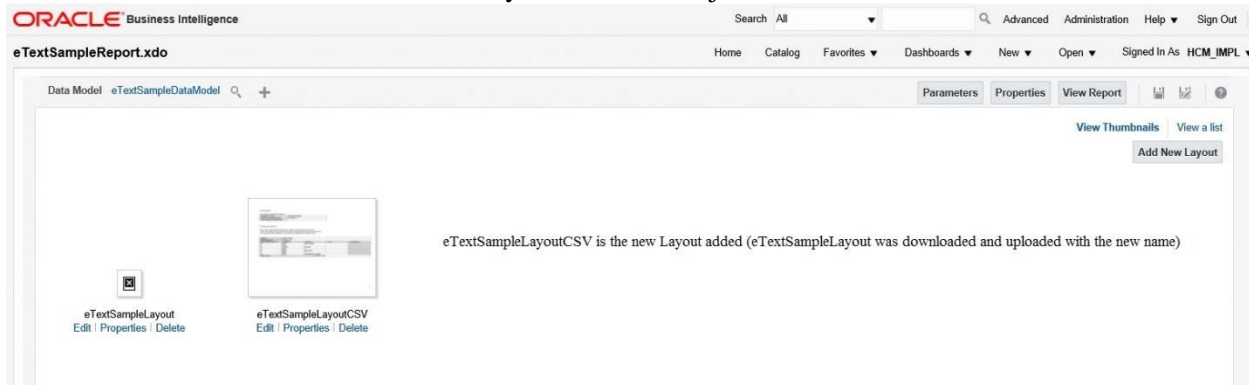
Till now, we have seen that we can get CSV Data from the Report, but we are not only interested in the Data Format but also the file extension. For this we would have to make the following changes namely:

Upload RTF File

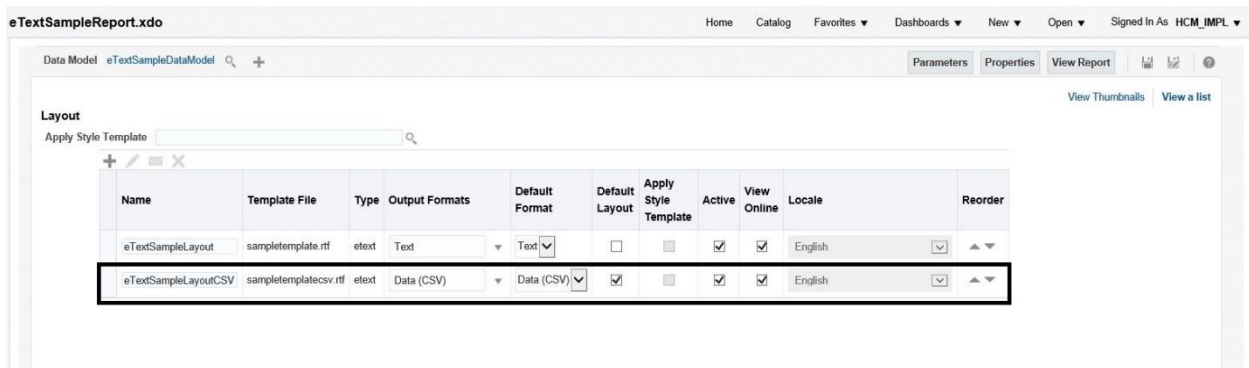
In order to ensure that any new changes made does not effects the existing data or report we would upload a new RTF File. Actually, we would download the already existing RTF File and reload the same with a new name. Post Upload the 'Edit Layout' Page should appear as:

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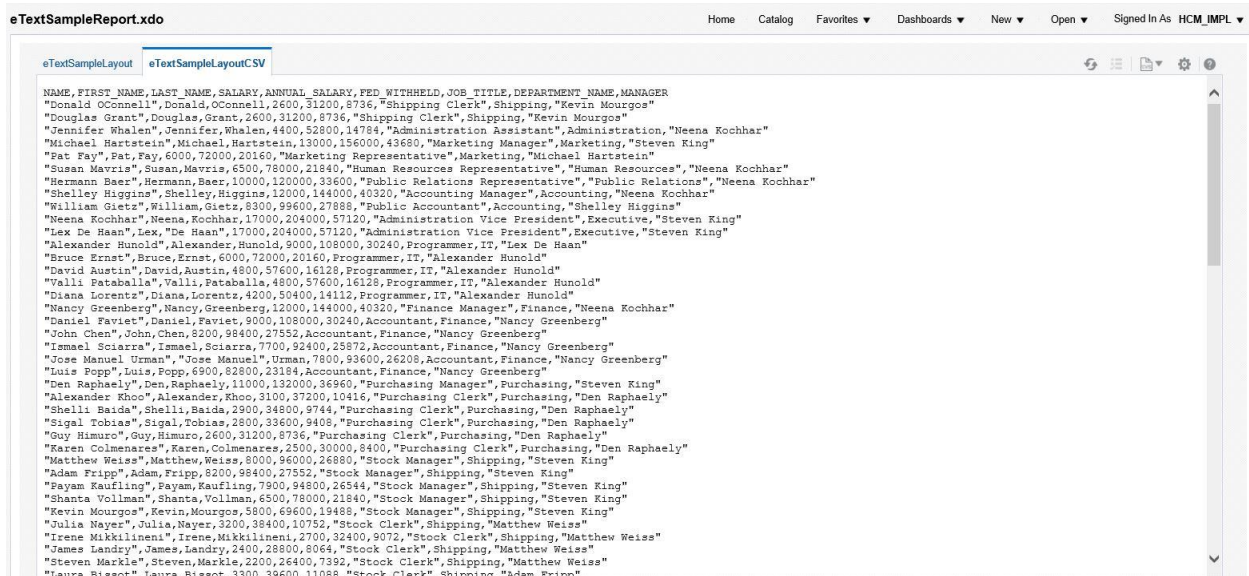
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A quick look at the Layout tab post this addition would look as below:



And the Report Output appears as:



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Scheduling the Report

Once you schedule the report, you should be able to view the details under “Job History” and the screen would appear as below:

The screenshot displays the Oracle HCM Cloud interface for a scheduled report job. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Catalog, Favorites, Dashboards, New, Open, and Signed In As HCM_IMPL. The main content area is divided into two sections: General Information and Report Job Execution Information.

General Information:

- Report Job ID: 67898
- Report Job Name: CSV Output
- Owner: hcm_impl
- Report Name: eTextSampleReport
- Report Scope: Private
- Report Job Schedule: 5/11/17 4:42:46 PM UTC
- Active Start Date
- Active End Date
- Trigger Data Model
- Trigger Name
- Trigger Retry Limit
- Trigger Pause Time
- Trigger Parameters

Report Job Execution Information:

- Report Job Status: Success
- Start Processing Time: 5/11/17 4:42:50 PM UTC
- End Processing Time: 5/11/17 4:42:53 PM UTC
- Time Elapsed: 3.423 Seconds

Output & Delivery:

XML Data, Diagnostic Log, Republish

Output Name	Template	Format	Locale	Time Zone	Calendar	Status	Send
SampleCSVOutput	eTextSampleLayoutCSV	CSV	English (United States)	(GMT-11:00) Midway - Samoa Time (ST)	Gregorian	Success	Send

Delivery 1: Email

From: bipublisher-report@oracle.com
To: a...com
Cc:
Reply To:
Subject: Sample CSV Output with .csv file extension
Last Updated: 5/11/17 4:42:53 PM UTC
Status: Success

Email ID on which the output will be received.
Notice the Subject of the email should be "Sample CSV Output with .csv file Extension"

Verification

We should receive an email with the same subject line on the email box.

The screenshot shows a Gmail inbox with an email from bipublisher-report@oracle.com. The email subject is "Sample CSV Output with .csv file extension" and it was received at 10:08 PM (1 hour ago). The email content includes a "Download" button for the attachment "SampleCSVOutput.csv" (9.3 KB).

The CSV file content is displayed in a table below:

NAME	FIRST_NA	LAST_NA	SALARY	ANNUAL_FED_WITH_JOB_TITLE	DEPARTM	MANAGER
1	Donald O	Donald O	2600	31200	8736 Shipping	Kevin Mourgos
2	Douglas G	Douglas G	2600	31200	8736 Shipping	Kevin Mourgos
3	Jennifer V	Jennifer V	4400	52800	14784 Administr	Neena Kochhar
4	Michael H	Michael H	13000	156000	43680 Marketing	Steven King
5	Pat Fay	Pat Fay	6000	72000	20160 Marketing	Michael Hartstein