

# ArcLogistics Import from QuickBooks Plug-In

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This document describes how to install and use the sample Plug-In which imports orders from QuickBooks invoices. Setting up both ArcLogistics and QuickBooks is described as well as the assumptions that are made by the Plug-In for data.

## *Setup*

Copy the QuickBooksPlugIns.dll to your ArcLogistics folder (i.e. “\Program Files\ArcLogistics”). No other actions such as registering the file are required.

## *Overview of Using the Plug-In*

Start QuickBooks and open the company file with the invoices you want to import into ArcLogistics.

With QuickBooks still running, start ArcLogistics. In ArcLogistics a new Task is added to the Schedule tab for “Import from QuickBooks”. When this task is clicked, invoices for the selected date are imported as Unassigned Orders for this date.

Without any special setup in ArcLogistics or QuickBooks, these orders will be imported along with the QuickBooks address for the customer. The Plug-In presumes that the street address is the first or second address line.

You can also import custom order fields and capacities. To do this, some setup in ArcLogistics and/or QuickBooks is needed. The scenario that the sample Plug-In presumes is that you have some custom fields added to the Orders in ArcLogistics which are populated by line items in the QuickBooks invoices. For example, in QuickBooks, one of the item types added to your invoices is named “Bamboo Flooring (box)”. In ArcLogistics, you can add a custom order field named “Bamboo Flooring (box)”. When the QuickBooks invoices are imported with this item type, this quantity information will be added to the ArcLogistics Orders.

There is also a way to handle capacities. When the invoice items are imported, ArcLogistics will look for custom fields defined on the QuickBooks item type which match the capacity typed defined in ArcLogistics. For example, you first add a custom field named “Weight” to your QuickBooks item types. Then in ArcLogistics, you define a capacity named “Weight” and this value will be populated when the invoices are imported and the quantity of the item(s) will also be taken into account.

If the above does not fit your particular QuickBooks or ArcLogistics workflows, the Plug-In code is provided as a starting point for your customization.

The next sections describe in more detail how to set these above settings in ArcLogistics and QuickBooks.

## *Custom Order Properties*

### **ArcLogistics**

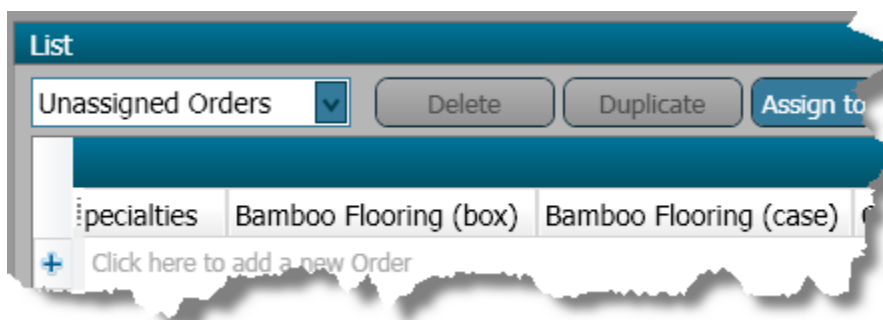
In ArcLogistics you can add custom order properties. To do so requires editing defaults.xml to add new entries.

Open defaults.xml in a text editor such as notepad.exe. This file is located in your “\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\ArcLogistics” folder on Windows XP or “\ProgramData\ArcLogistics” on Windows Vista or Windows 7.

In the <CustomOrderProperties> section (towards the end), edit the section as shown below. In this example, we have added two new numeric fields for “Bamboo Flooring (box)” and “Bamboo Flooring (case)”. The fields can be of type “Numeric” or of type “Text”. Text properties are simply order identifiers such as phone number or description as shown below. Numeric properties allow for you to do some more powerful reporting tasks such as creating pick lists and creating vehicle manifests. For example, you may know that a box of bamboo flooring is 25 lbs. and a case is 150 lbs. When deciding how many cases and boxes can fit on a truck, you will use the weight constraint to ensure the weight limit of the vehicle isn’t exceeded. However, the individual boxes and cases of bamboo flooring will be summarized by order and vehicle so you know which stop gets which goods and can pack the vehicle appropriately.

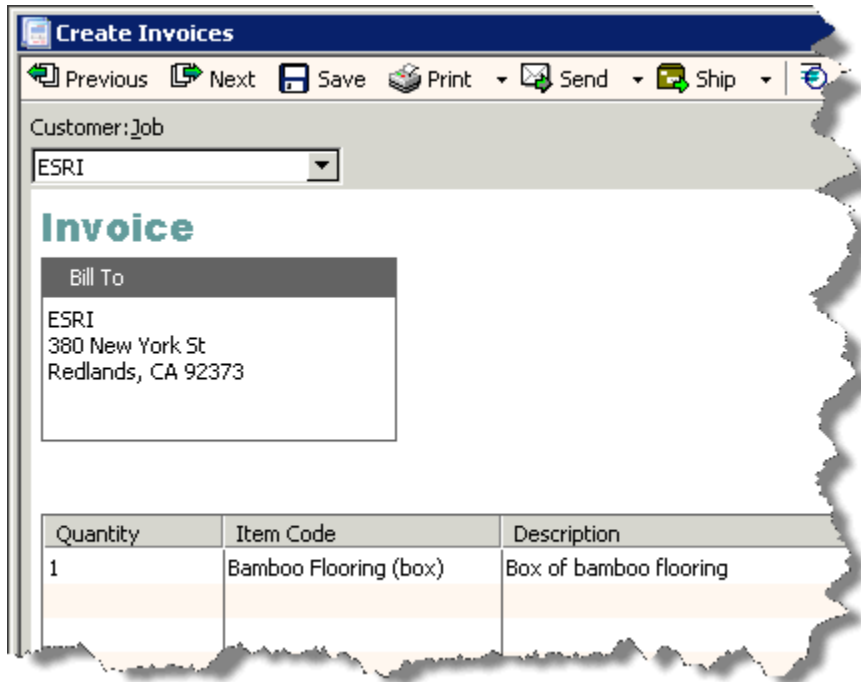
```
<CustomOrderProperties>
  <Property Name="Order Number" Type="Text" MaxLength="15" />
  <Property Name="Home Phone" Type="Text" MaxLength="10" />
  <Property Name="Description" Type="Text" MaxLength="25" />
  <Property Name="Comment" Type="Text" MaxLength="35" />
  <Property Name="Bamboo Flooring (box)" Type="Numeric" />
  <Property Name="Bamboo Flooring (case)" Type="Numeric" />
</CustomOrderProperties>
```

After making this edit to defaults.xml, all new projects created in ArcLogistics will have these custom properties on the orders as shown below. Existing projects will not.



## QuickBooks

In QuickBooks, you should have matching Item Type(s) with the same 'Item Code'. For example, below we have added an invoice with a "Bamboo Flooring (box)" line item.



Quantity	Item Code	Description
1	Bamboo Flooring (box)	Box of bamboo flooring

When the above invoice is imported into ArcLogistics using the Plug-In, the added order will have "1" populated in the "Bamboo Flooring (box)" column for the order.

Some ArcLogistics reports such as the Load Report will automatically include and summarize all of the numeric custom order properties.

## Custom Capacities

### ArcLogistics

In ArcLogistics you can add custom capacity values. By default, ArcLogistics includes "Volume" and "Weight" capacities. If these two capacities are all you need, then you don't need to change them.

To change the ArcLogistics capacities, open defaults.xml in a text editor and have a look at the <CapacitiesConfiguration> section. In this example below, we deleted the "Volume" capacity and added a "Pallets" capacity. Note that for custom capacities, it is advised to use display units type "Unknown".

```
<CapacitiesConfiguration>
  <Capacity Name="Weight" DisplayUnitUS="Pound" DisplayUnitMetric="Kilogram" />
  <Capacity Name="Pallets" DisplayUnitUS="Unknown" DisplayUnitMetric="Unknown" />
</CapacitiesConfiguration>
```

After this change, all new projects will have Vehicle (capacity) properties for “Weight” and “Pallets”.

Name	Weight	Pallets	Fixed Cost
Click here to add a new Vehicle			
Truck1	2,000 lb	15	\$0.00

Orders will have corresponding “Weight” and “Pallets” properties.

### QuickBooks

In QuickBooks we’ll add custom fields to our Item Types corresponding to each of these capacity types.

To do this, open the Item List in QuickBooks and select Edit Item... for the item that you want to specify one or more capacities.

Item List

Look for [ ] in [All Fields] Search Reset Search within results

Name	Description	Type	Account	On Hand	Price	Attach
Bamboo Flooring (box)	Box of bamboo flooring	Inventory...	Sales	0	150.00	

Edit Item

Type: Inventory Part Use for goods you purchase, track as inventory, and resell.

Item Name/Number: mboo Flooring (box) Subitem of: Manufacturer's Part Number: [ ]

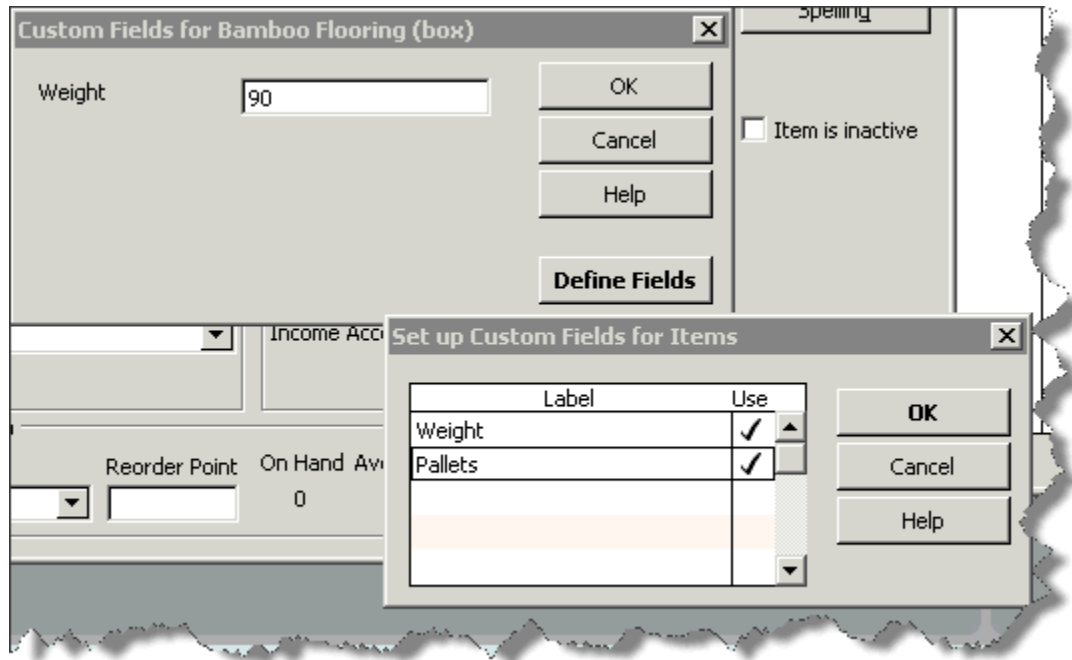
Purchase Information: Description on Purchase Transactions: Box of bamboo flooring Cost: 0.00 COGS Account: Cost of Goods Sold Preferred Vendor: [ ]

Sales Information: Description on Sales Transactions: Box of bamboo flooring Sales Price: 150.00 Tag Code: Tax Income Account: Sales

Inventory Information: Asset Account: Inventory Asset Reorder Point: [ ] On Hand: 0 Avg. Cost: 0.00 On P.O.: 0

Buttons: OK, Cancel, Custom Fields, Spelling, Item is inactive

In the Edit Item window, click the Custom Fields button to open the window shown below. The first time you do this, click the Define Fields button and add the capacities. Name them exactly the same as you did in ArcLogistics or the import will fail. Below we added Custom Fields for “Weight” and “Pallets”.



Now for each of your QuickBooks item types where you want a vehicle capacity to be considered for corresponding orders in ArcLogistics, edit the item properties, click Custom Fields, and set the capacity value for the item type. Every item type need not have a capacity value. Those that do will require this capacity available on the vehicle (route) where the order is assigned. The Plug-In will multiply this capacity value per item by the quantity of items in the invoice as expected. In this case, five boxes of bamboo flooring would result in a net weight of 450 lbs.

### Summary

In review, here are the key points again for how the ArcLogistics QuickBooks Import Plug-In works:

- In ArcLogistics Orders for a given day are imported from QuickBooks Invoices with a matching Invoice Date.
- The first or second address line in QuickBooks is presumed to contain the street address (i.e. “380 New York St”).
- Item Type codes in QuickBooks are matched to custom Order properties in ArcLogistics.
- Custom Fields for Item Types in QuickBooks are matched to the Capacity types in ArcLogistics.