PUBLIC

RPA As Easy As 1-2-3: Low-Code Design for Microsoft Office and SAP Software

INT165

Integration to MS Office Outlook

Xiaohui XUE, Moumita BERA / SAP

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

This exercise teach how Intelligent RPA can be used to interact with MS Outlook and be used to automatically process emails.

The use case involved in the exercise simulate an activity of a car fleet department in a company. The car fleet manages a pool of cars that are allocated to the company employees. Periodically they need to renew the car insurance.

For the car insurance renew process, each employee is requested to send an email to the car fleet department and indicate the car registration number. An email template is provided to all employees so all received requests have the same email subject and the same email format.

Then the car fleet department need to proceed these emails, group all similar requests, and forward to the insurance company.

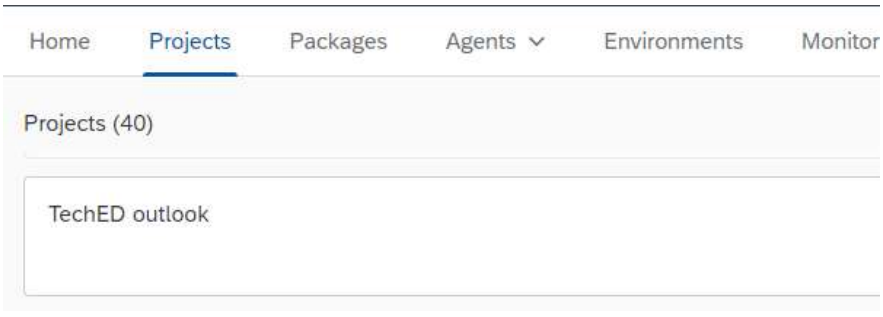
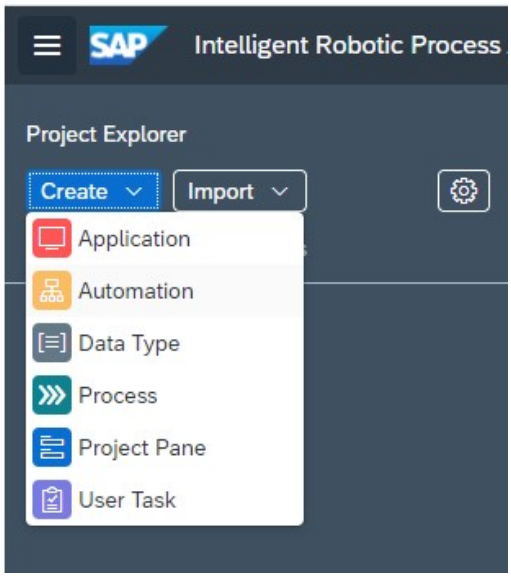
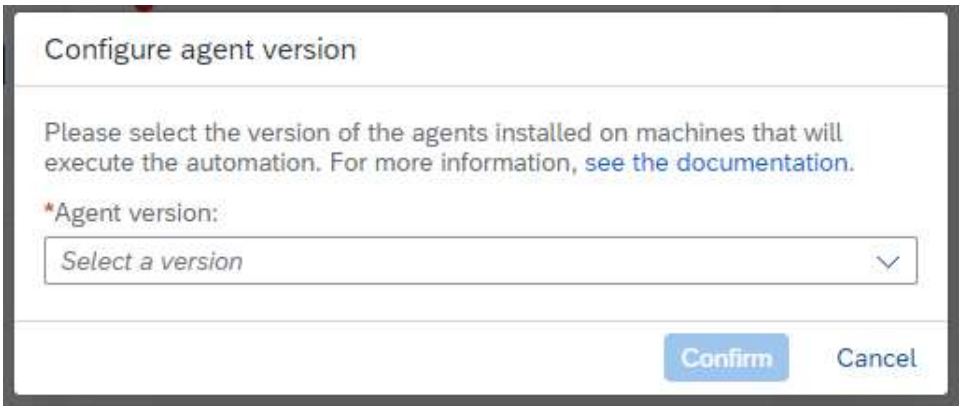
Estimated time: 30 minutes

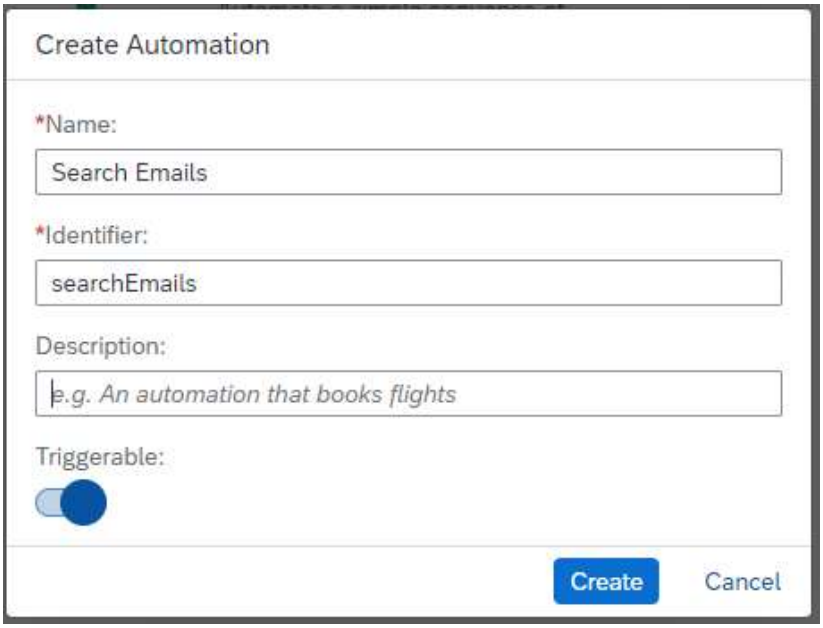
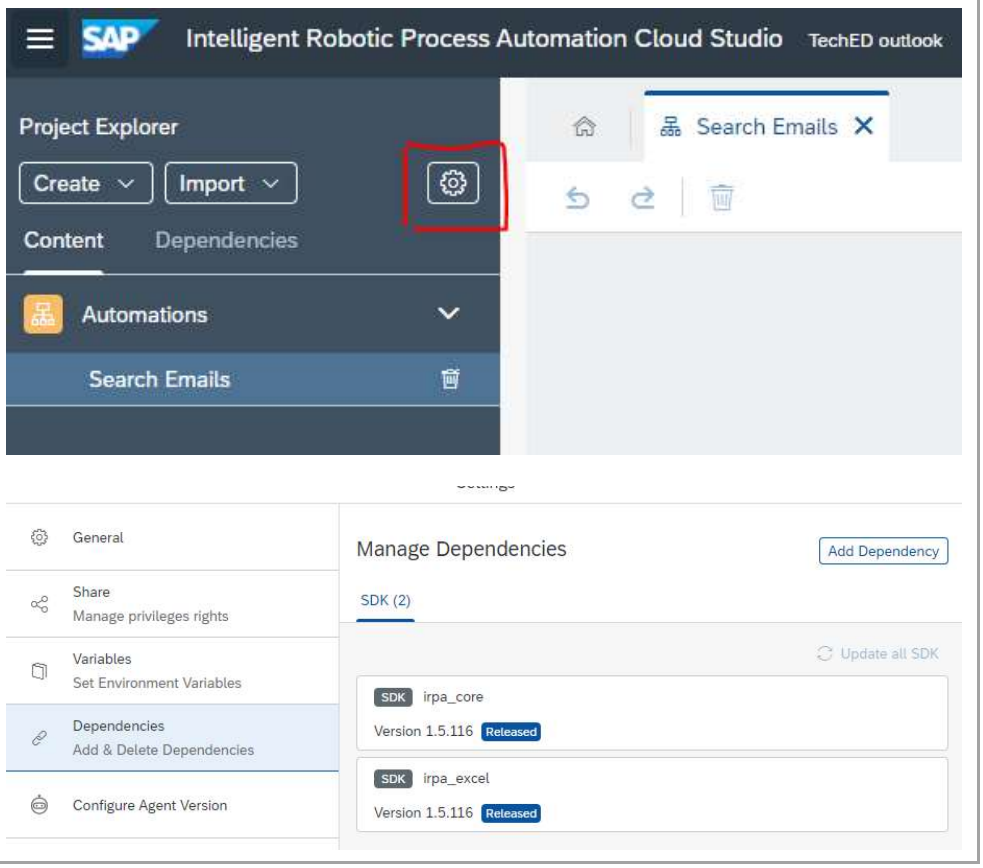
PREPARATION

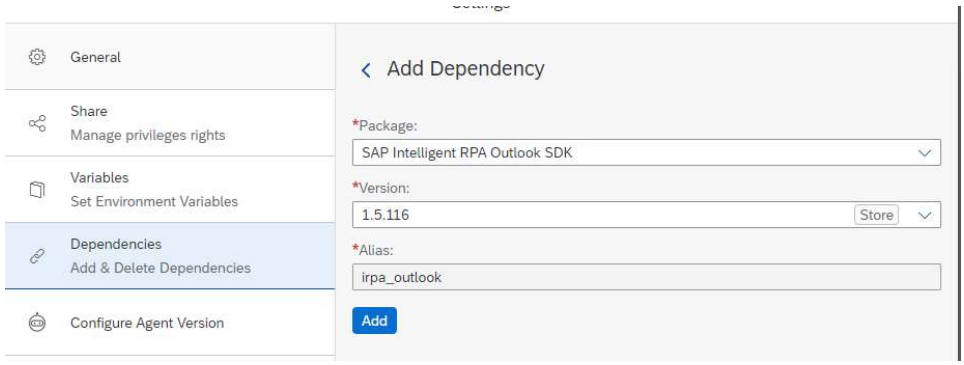
Explanation	Screenshot
Consider that the email account configured in the outlook used for this exercise represents the car fleet department. Send several emails to this account. All must have the subject "**Car Insurance Renewal**" and the body as: *Hi,* *Please renew the insurance for the car I'm using:* *Registration number: <SOME NUMBER>* *Person: <NAME>* *Best,* *William* Verify that the emails are all received in the outlook and make sure that they remain in the Inbox root folder.	Hi, Please renew the insurance for the car I'm using: Registration number: 8642AH473 Person: William White Best, William Hi, Please renew the insurance for the car I'm using: Registration number: 563BH486 Person: Alice Menson Best, Alice
Create a subfolder under the Inbox. The name of the subfolder is **Car Insurance renewal processed.**	Inbox **Car Insurance renewal processed**

SEARCH EMAILS

The first exercise shows how to search emails in outlook and navigate throw the result.

Explanation	Screenshot
Create a **project** in Intelligent RPA Factory, name it **TechED outlook**. The cloud studio will be opened in a separate tab.	
In the project explorer, click on Create->Automation to create a new Automation.	
In the pop-up dialog, select the **agent version** for this project. In this exercise, the version can be the one marked with the label **Local**. **Click** on **Confirm**.	

In the next dialog, put **Search Emails** as name for this automation. **Click** on **Create** to create the automation. This will create and open the Automation editor.	
Click on Project Settings icon and select the section **Dependencies**. Two dependencies should be automatically added which are irpa_core and irpa_excel. **Click** on **Add Dependency** icon.	

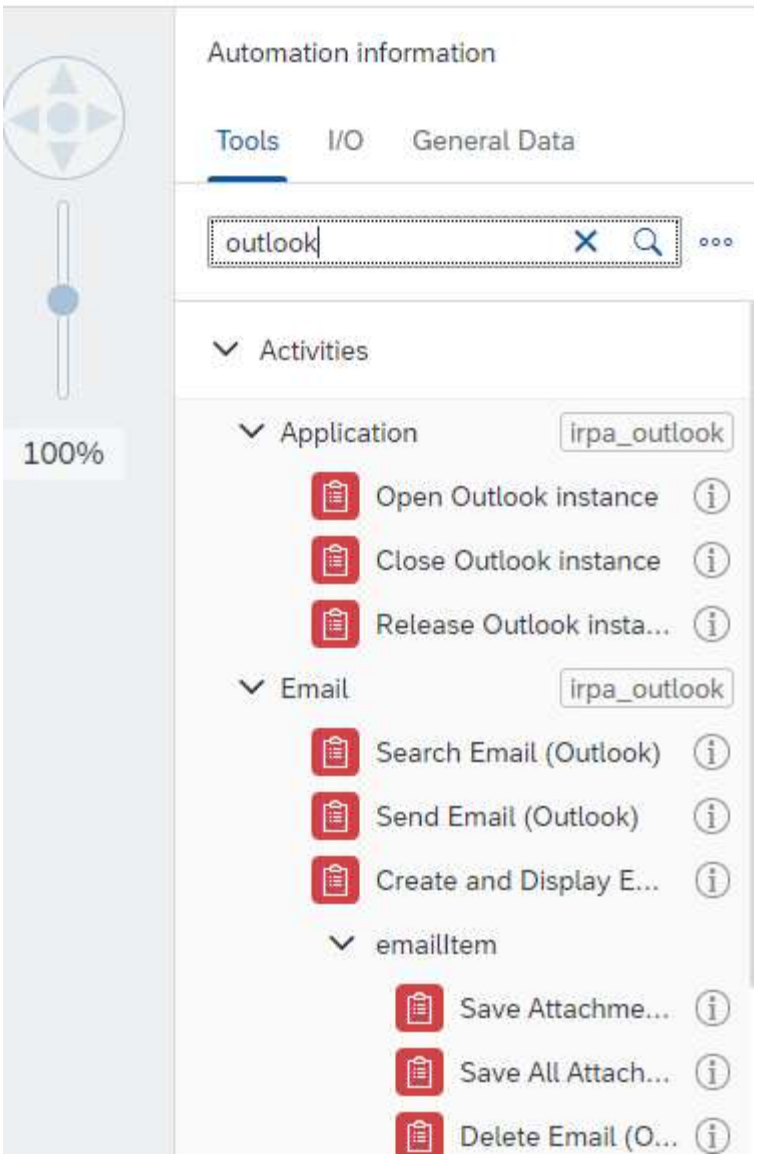
In the **Add Dependency** dialog, choose to add the package **SAP Intelligent RPA Outlook SDK**. Pick the latest version, regardless whether it's labeled with **Store**. **Click** on **Add** to add the dependency to the **TechED Outlook** project. **Close** the Project Settings dialog once it's done.	

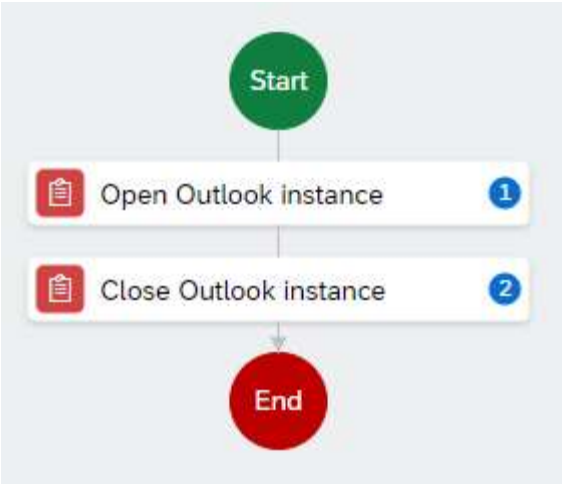
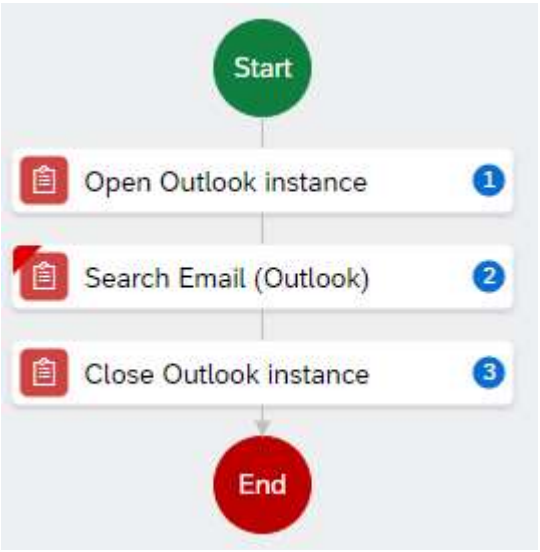
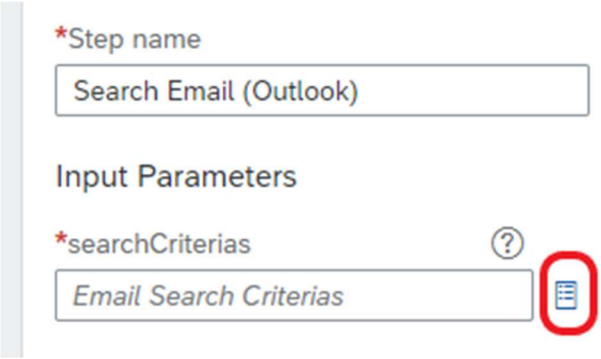
In the right panel of Automation editor, put **outlook** using the search bar. This will filter the activities that are related to outlook.

Locate the two activities:

- **Open Outlook instance**
- **Close Outlook instance**

Drag and drop them in the automation canvas between **Start** and **End** nodes.
These 2 activities are mandatory for any use cases involving Outlook.



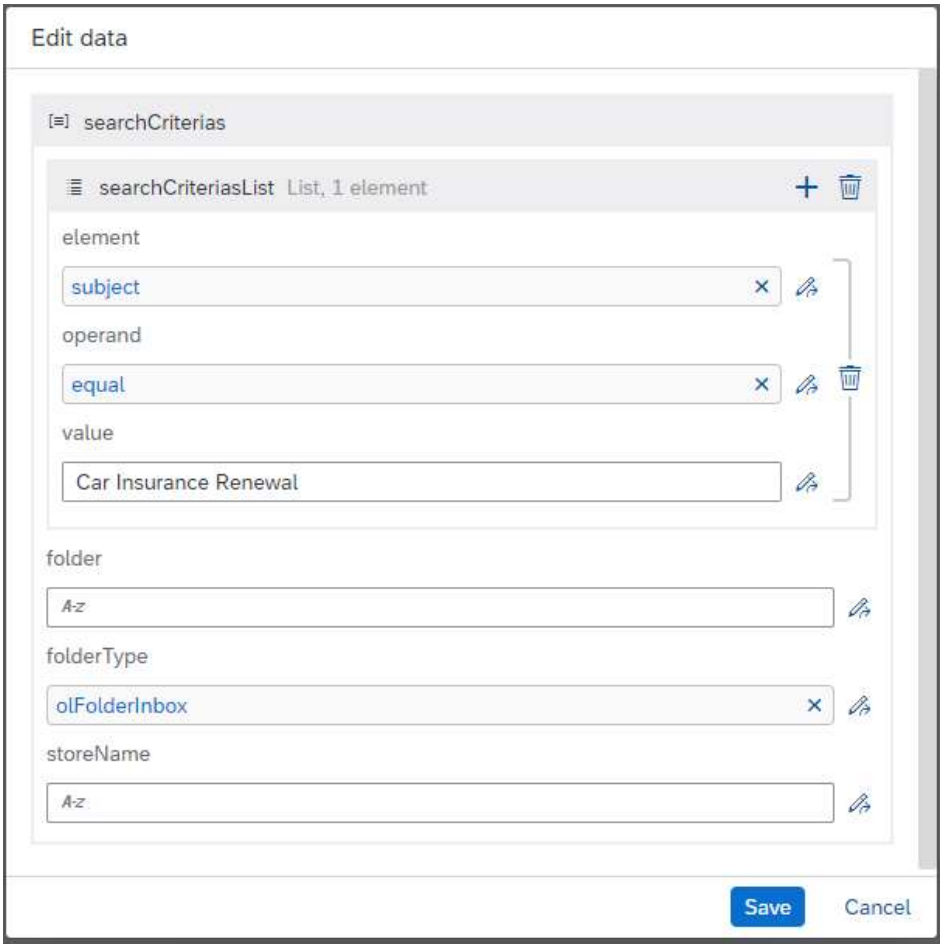
	
Drag and Drop the activity **Search Email (Outlook)** in the automation flow, in the middle between the steps **Open Outlook instance** and **Close Outlook instance**. Click on the step **Search Email (Outlook)** to edit its input. In the right panel, click on the expression editor icon for the input parameter **searchCriterias**.	 

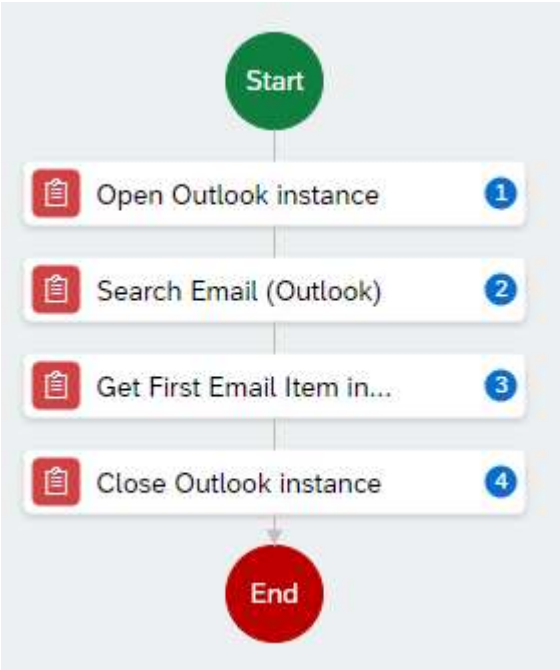
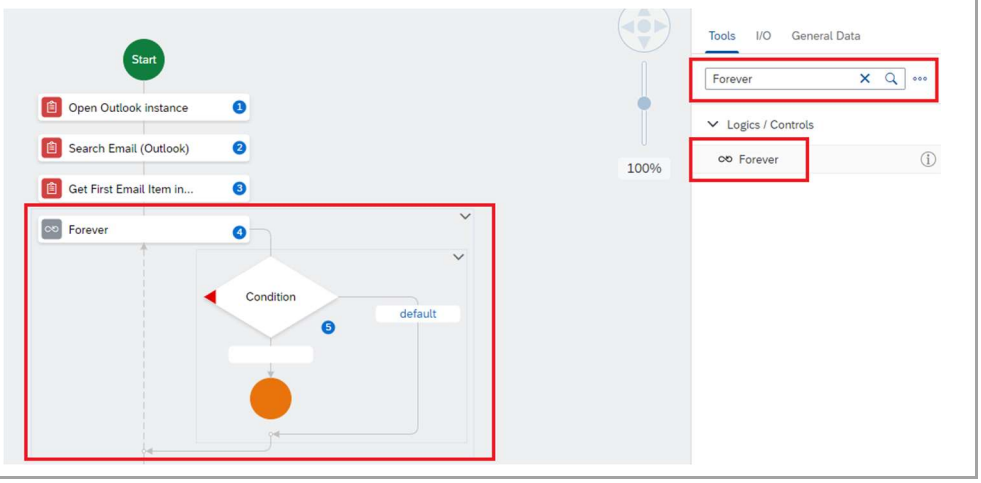
In the dialog, click on **+** icon to create a new search criterion and enter the below input.

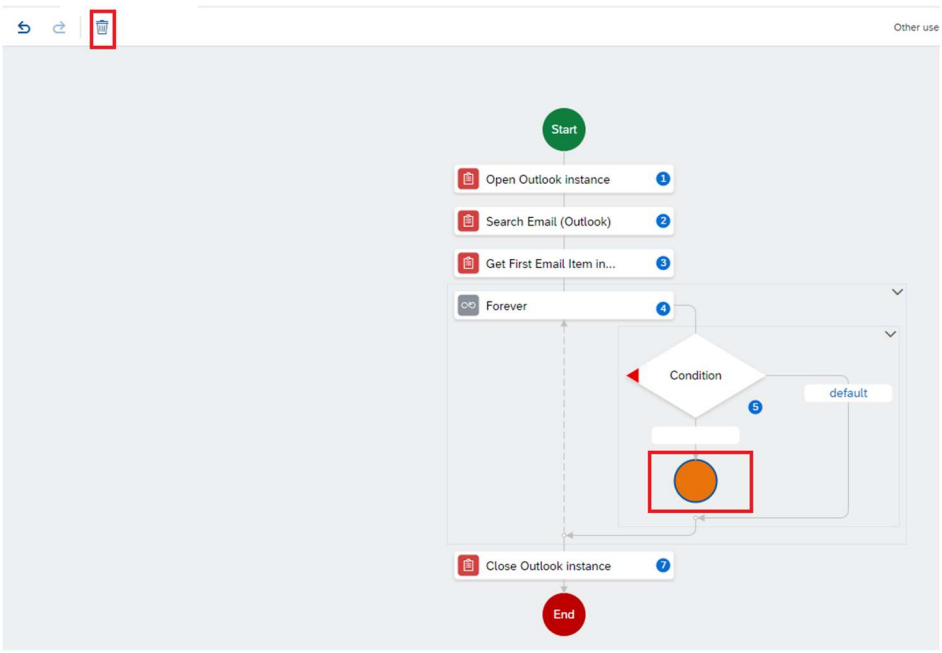
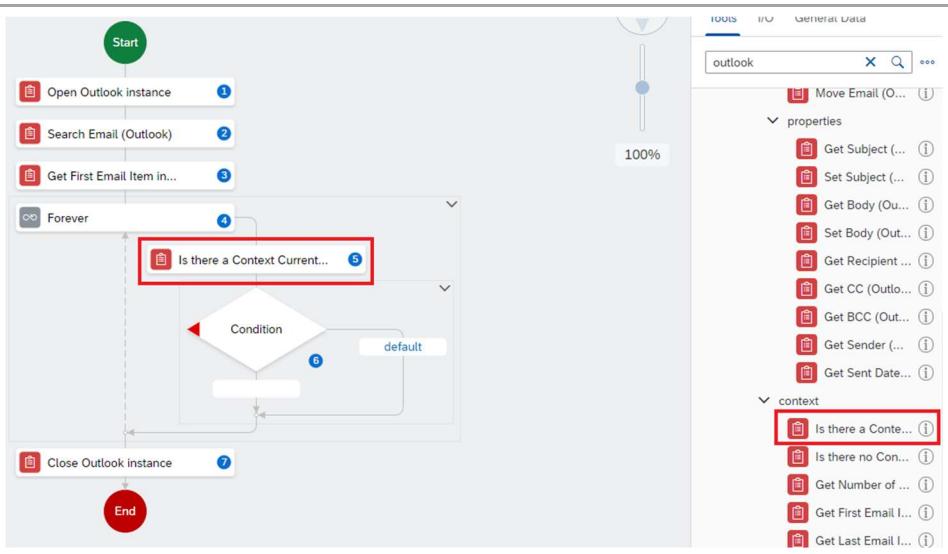
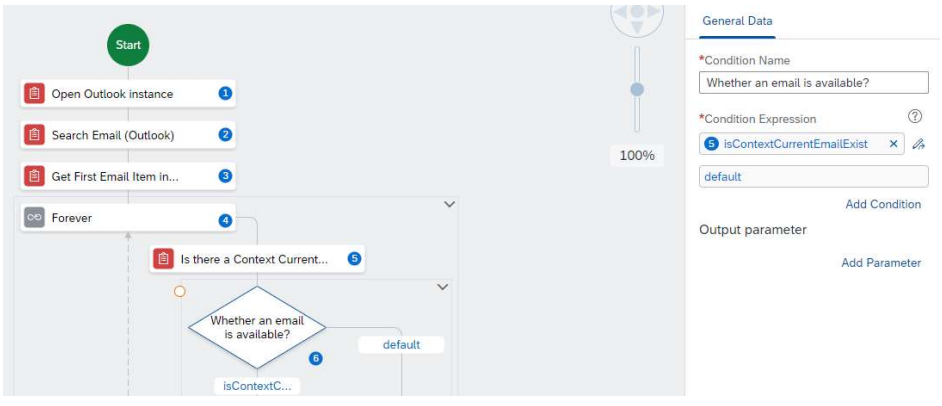
- **Element**: **subject**
- **Operand: equal**
- **Value: Car Insurance Renewal**

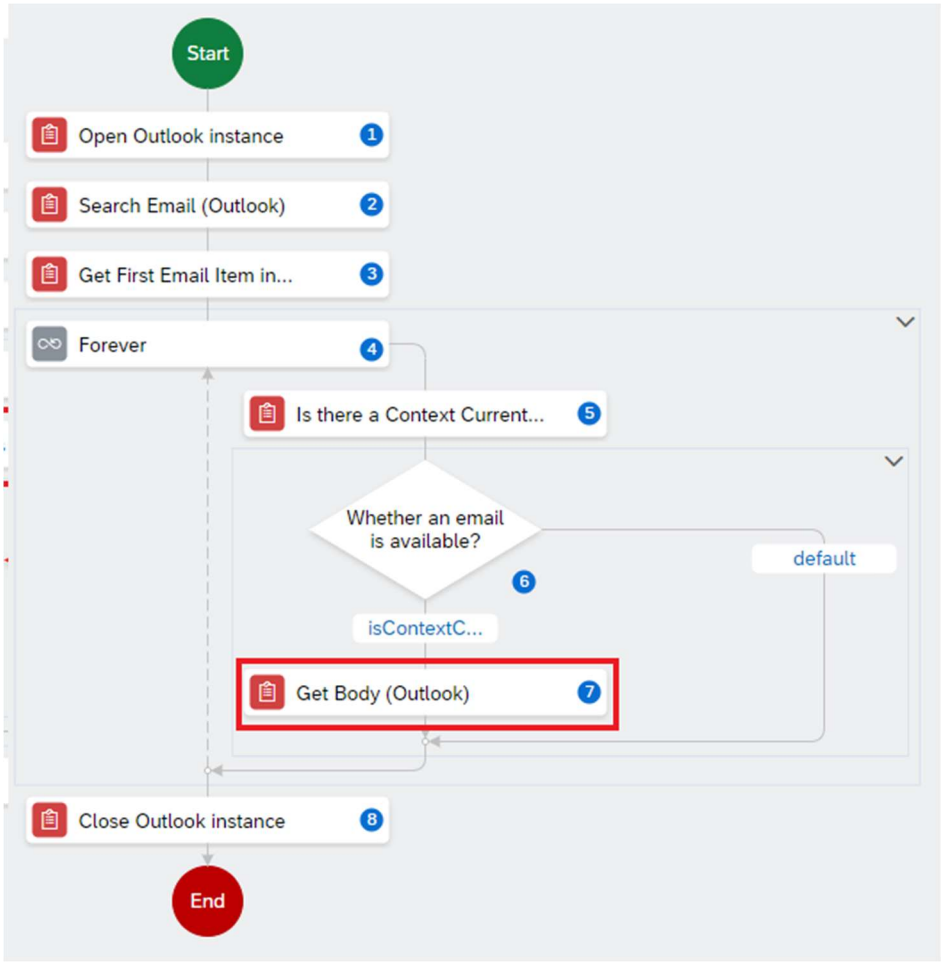
In the button of the dialog, for the **folderType** parameter, select the value **olFolderInbox**.

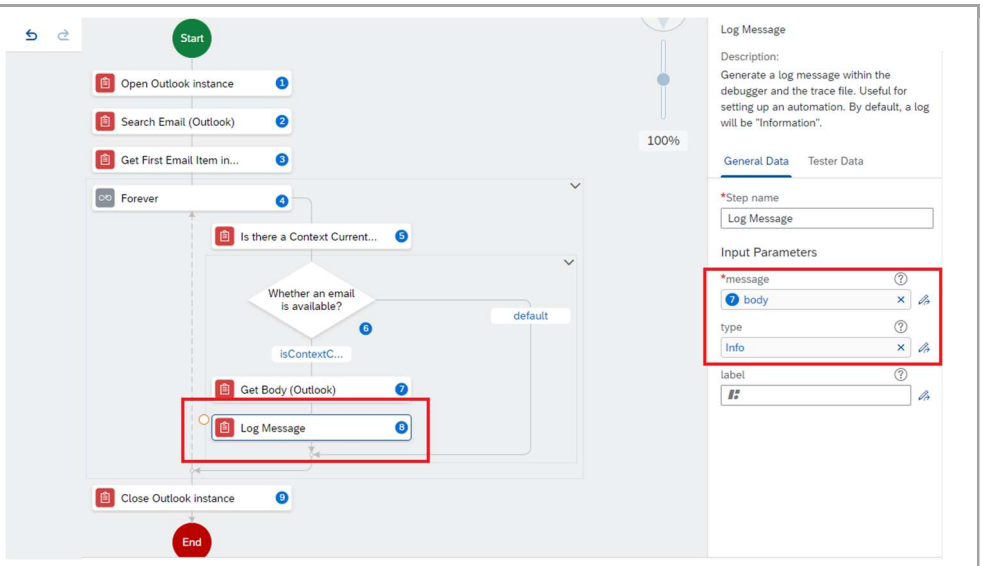
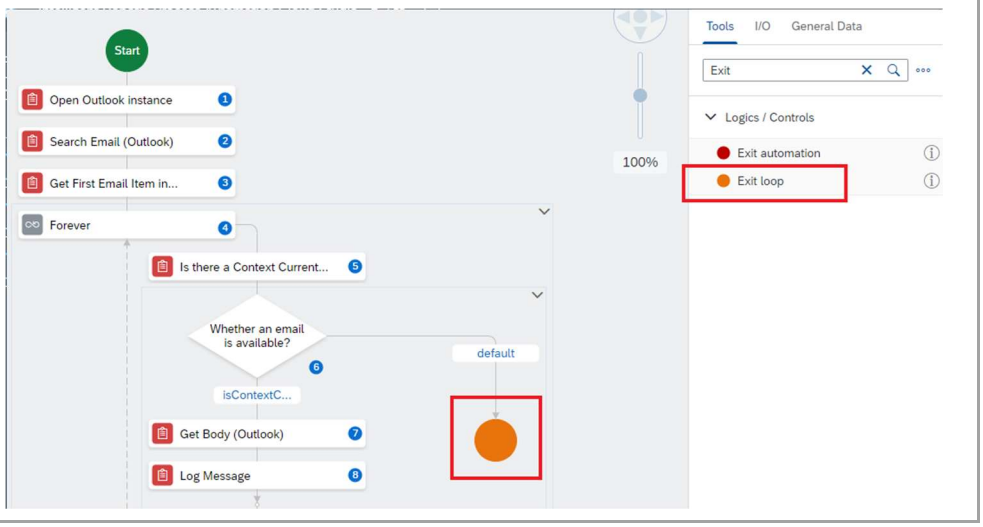
Click on **Save** to save the input parameter for email searching.

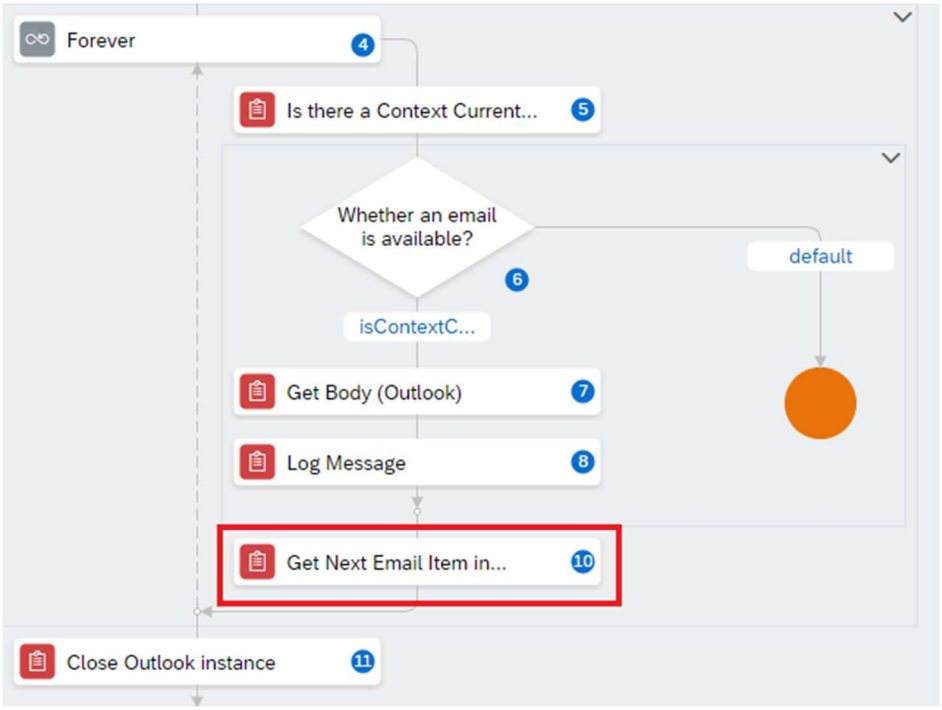


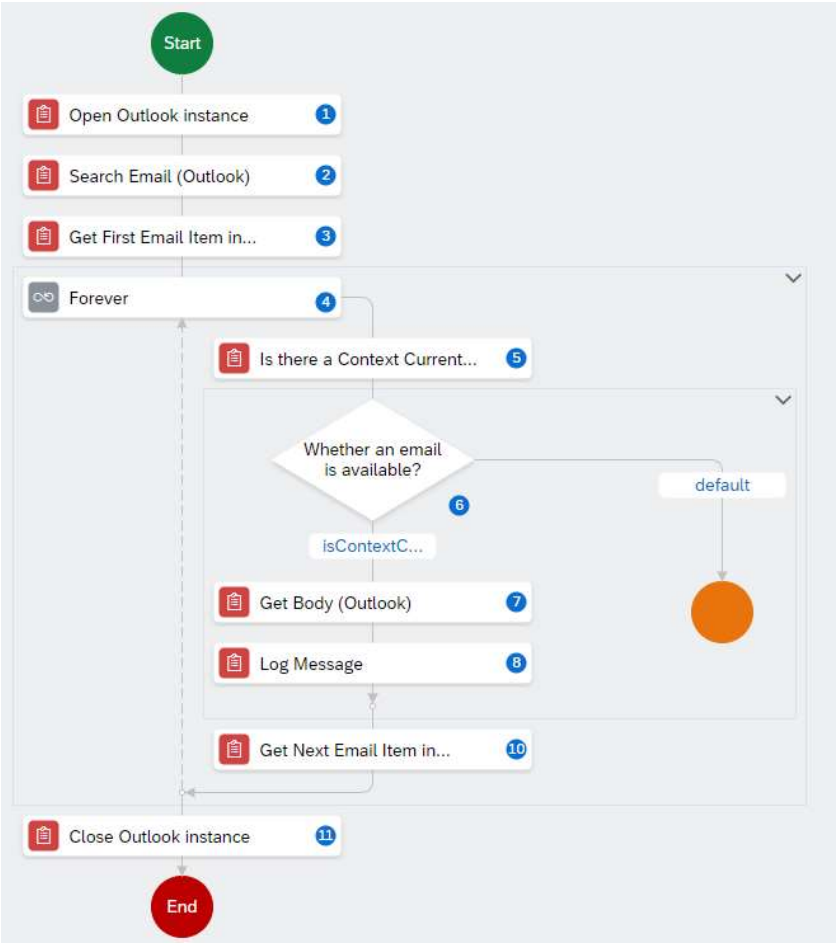
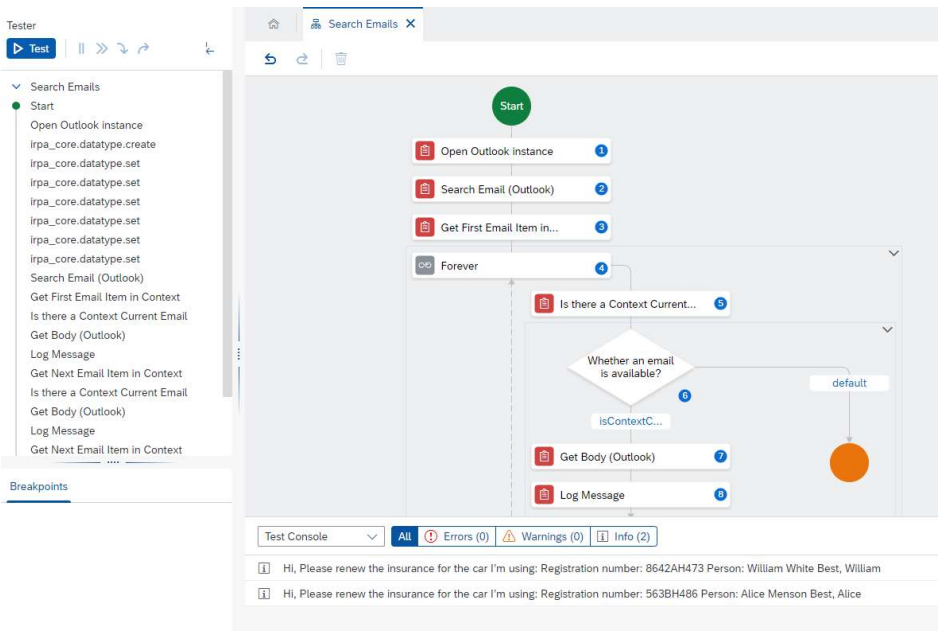
Drag and drop the activity **Get First Email Item in Context** in the automation. This activity allows to get the first email from the search result.	
Search, and drag and drop the automation logic **Forever** in the automation. This will add a block automation flow with loop and condition.	

Select the Step node in the condition and click on delete button to remove it.	
Drag and drop the activity **Is there a Context Current Email** before the **Condition** in the **Forever** loop.	
Click on the **Condition** node to edit it. In the right panel, edit the **Condition name** to **Whether an email is available**? In the **ConditionExpression**, put the output from the	

previous step **isContextCurrentEmailExist.**	
Search, drag and drop the activity GetBody (Outlook) in the condition branch where the condition is satisfied.	

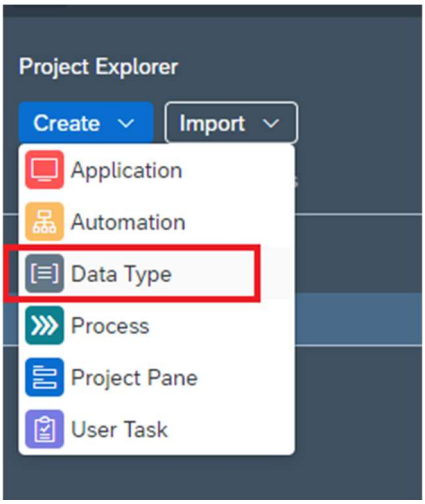
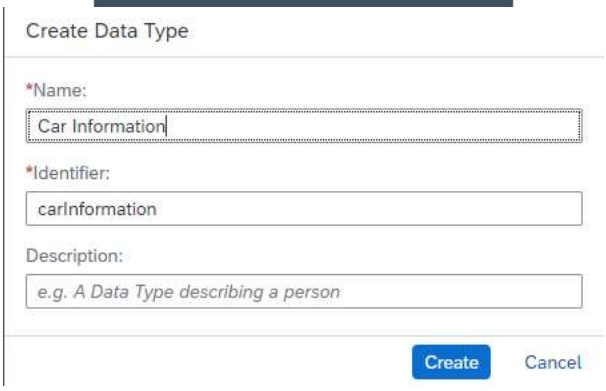
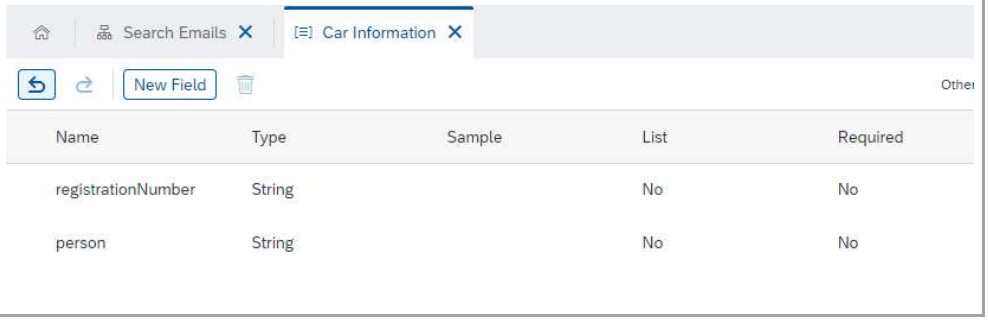
Search, drag and drop the activity **Log Message**. Edit this step to put the **body** output from the Step 7 in **message** parameter. The step parameter **type** is **Info**.	
Search, drag and drop the control element **Exit loop** in the condition **default** branch. The objective is to exist the loop when there's no more email to process.	

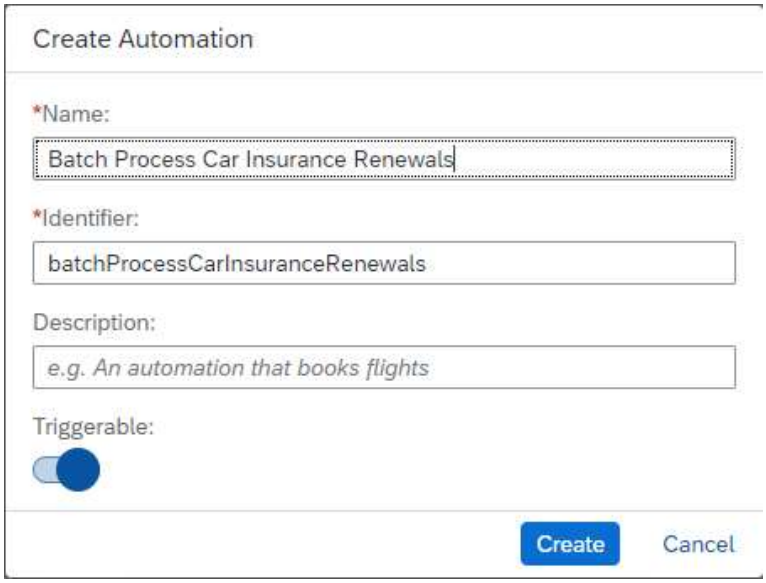
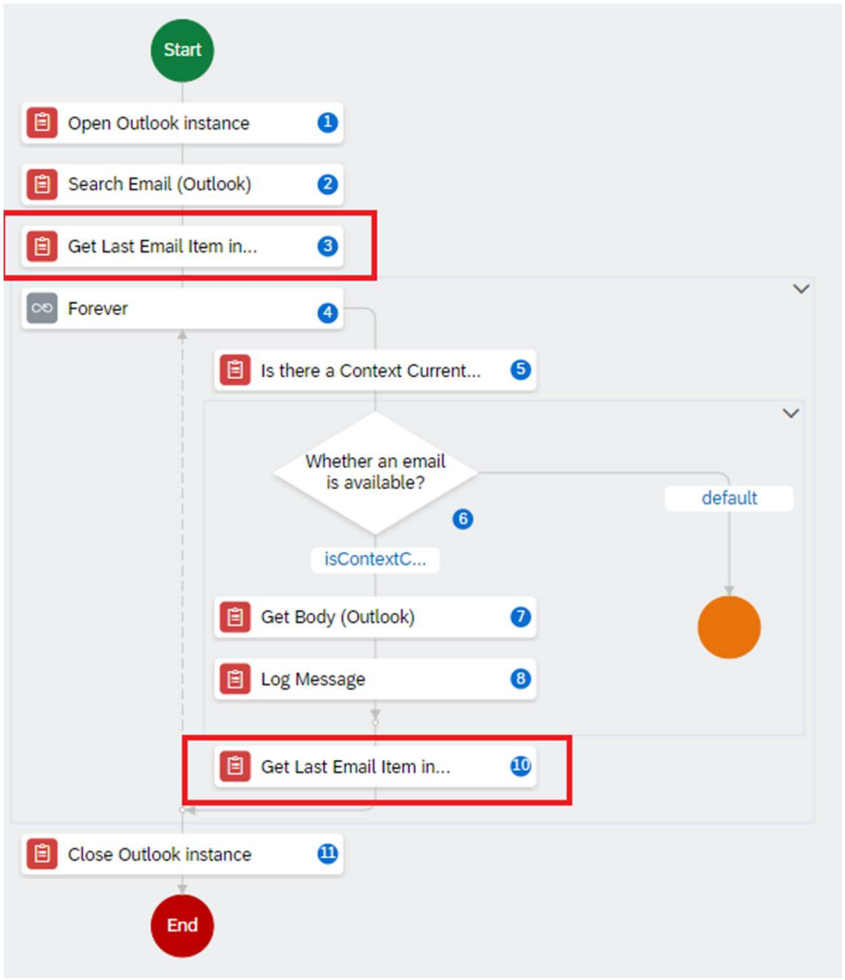
Search, drag and drop the activity **Get Next Email Item in Context** in the automation, in the loop, after the condition block.	

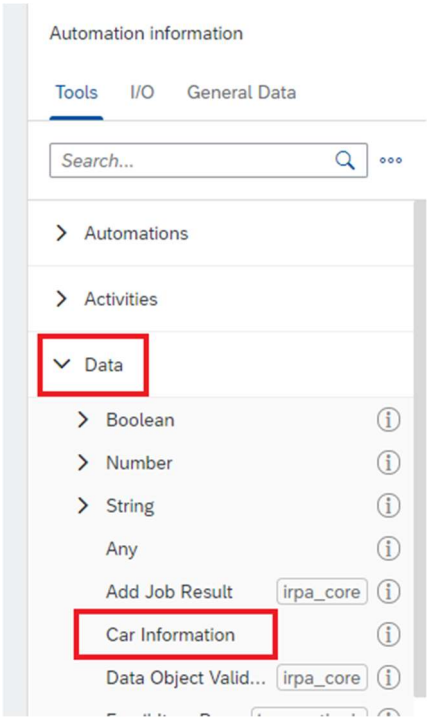
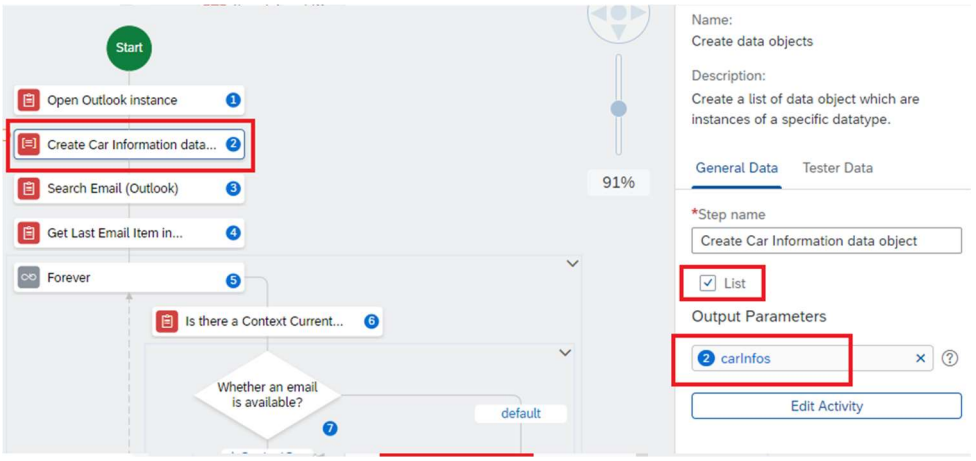
At the end, the automation should look at this. **Save** the automation using the **Save button** on the top right corner of the Automation editor.	
Test your automation by clicking on the Test button. Configure the environment in the pop-up dialog. Wait the automation to be built, download and executed. And the tester will be opened. The test execution also logs the email bodies in the **Test Console** as **Info**.	

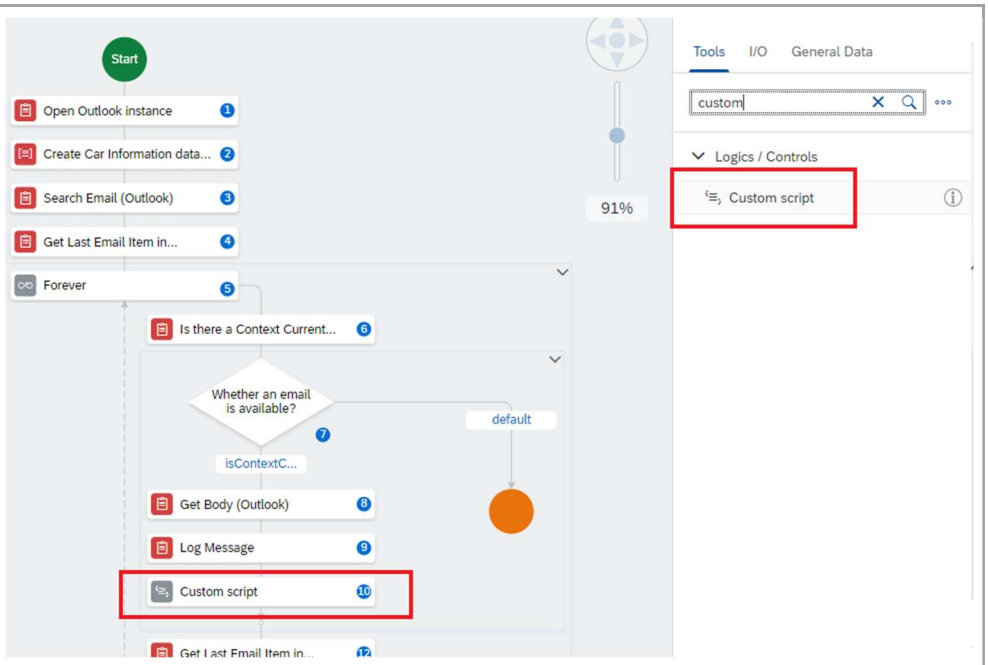
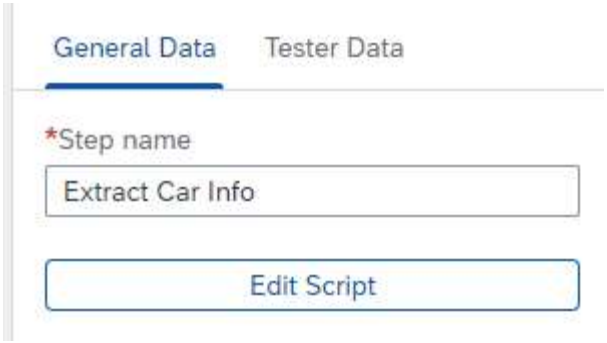
BATCH PROCESS INSURANCE RENEWAL AND SEND EMAIL

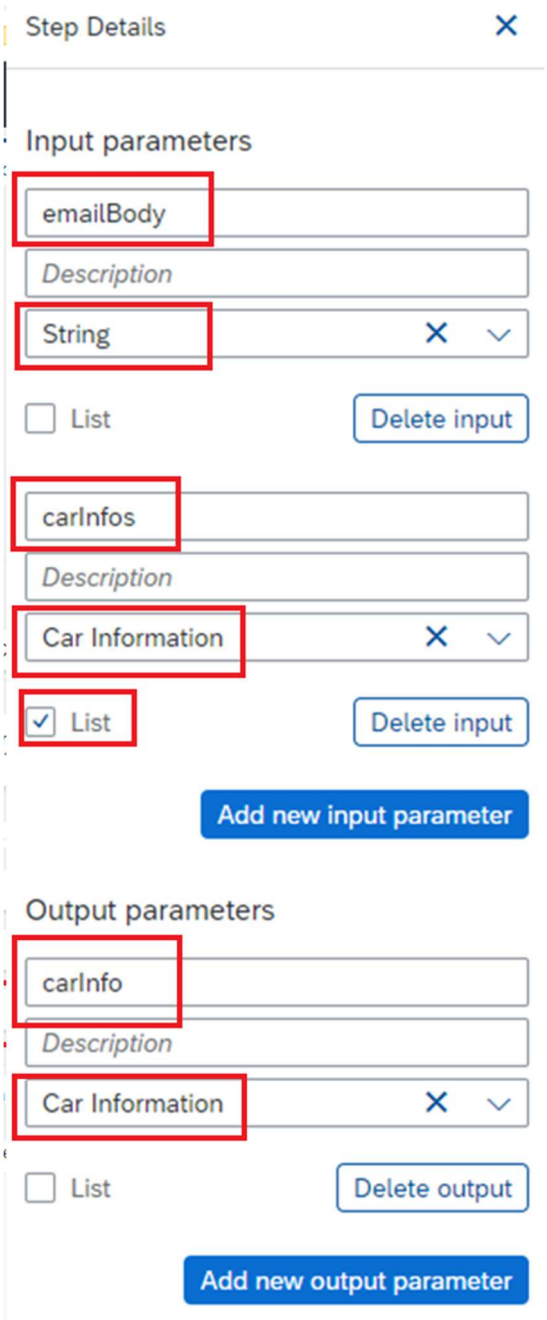
This exercise shows an advanced use case that extracts the email content, process them and send an grouped insurance renew request.

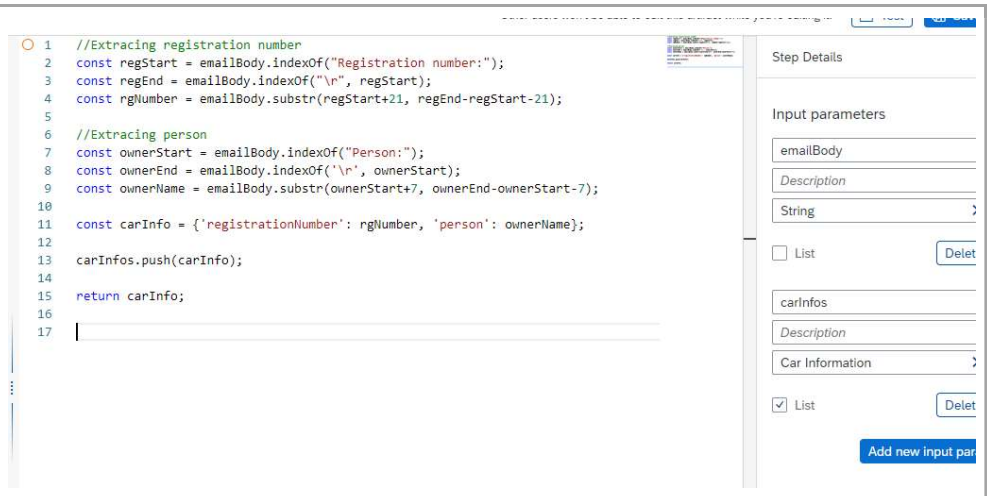
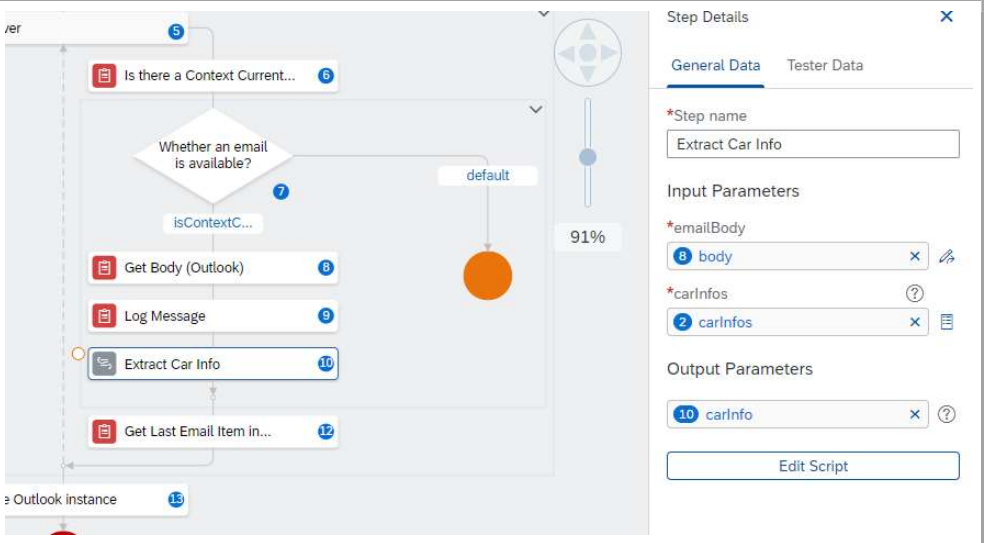
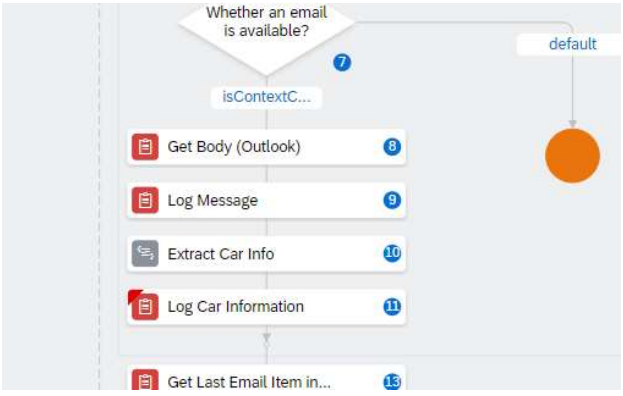
Explanation	Screenshot
Create a **Data Type** in the project. In the pop-up dialog, put **Car Information** as **Name**. **Click** on **Create**. This will open the data type editor.	 
Click on **New Field** 2 times to create two fields: - **registrationNumber** - **person** Both are of **String** type. **Save** the data type.	

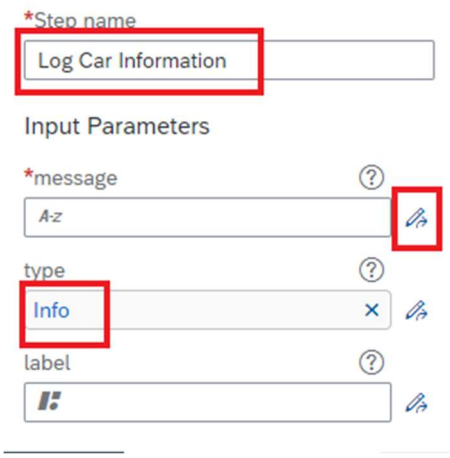
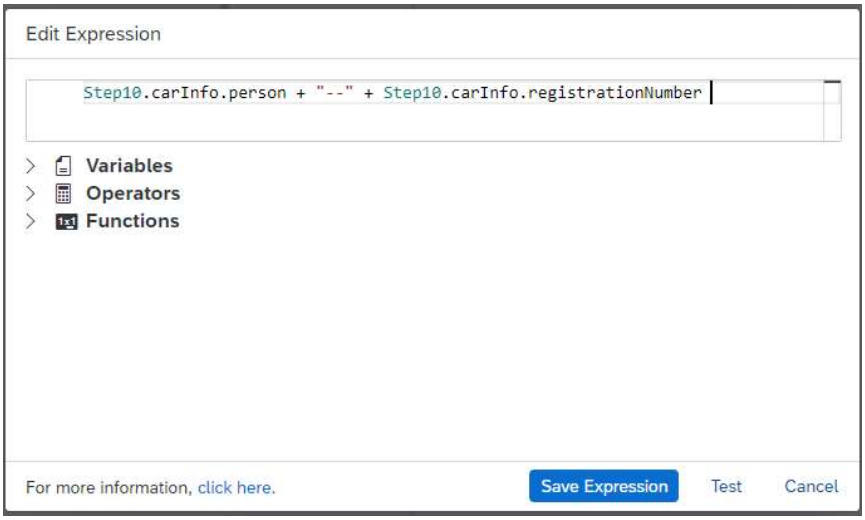
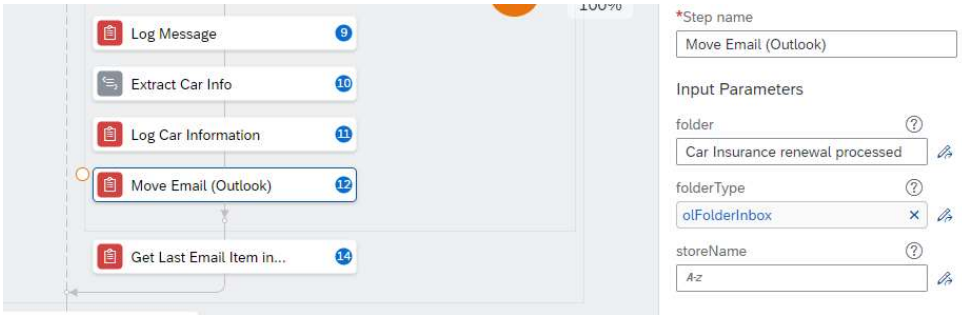
Now, create a new automation again. Name it **Batch Process Car Insurance Renewals**. **Click** on **Create** to create the Automation.	
Create an automation that is similar from the previous section. But this time, uses the activity **Get Last Email Item in Context** to replace: • Get First Email Item in Context • Get Next Email Item in Context Don't run or test the automation until you add the activity **Move Email (Outlook)**!	

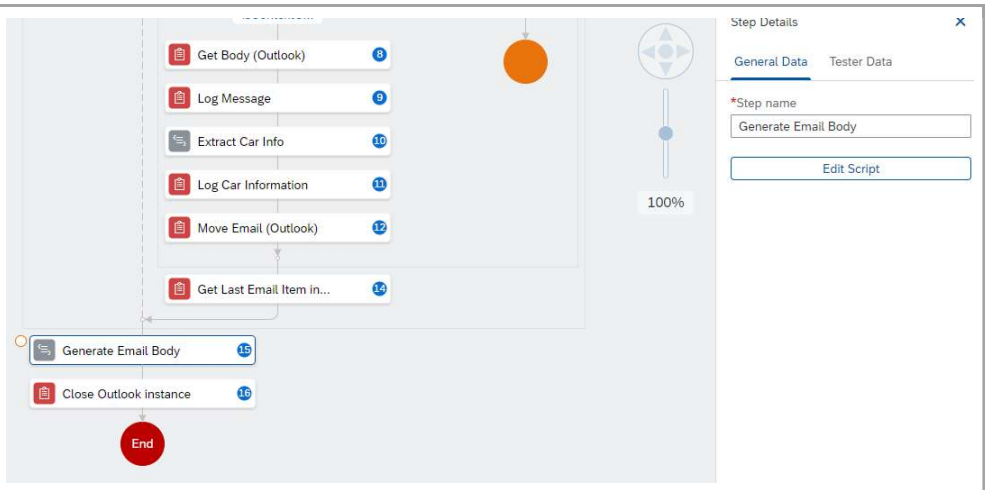
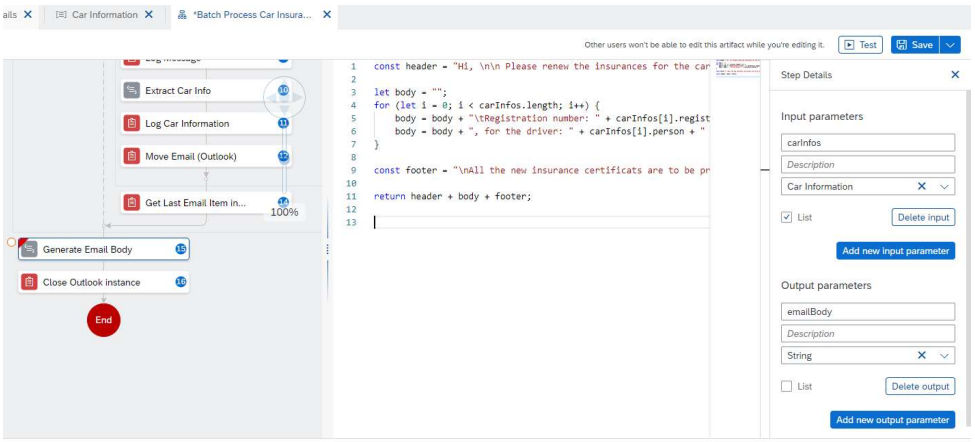
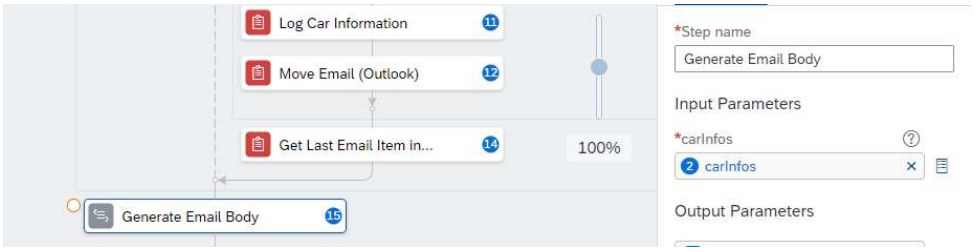
Locate in the right panel, the data type **Car Information** previously created in the project.	
Drag and drop this data type in the automation before the step Search Email. This means the automation will create and instance of this data type. Click on this step to open its configuration: • Click on the checkbox **List** to instantiate a list of **Car Information.** • Edit Output Parameters to rename the output as carInfos	

Search for **Custom Script** in **Tools**. Drag and drop **Custom Script** in the automation after the **Log Message** step. It should remain in the condition branch where there's an email to process. Click on the **Custom Script** to edit it.	
In the right panel, put **Extract Car Info** as **Step name**; Click on **Edit Script** to edit the custom script.	

In the opened custom script editor, edit the step details to add 2 input parameters and 1 output parameter: • Input: **emailBody**, of type **String** • Input: **carInfos**, of type list of **Car Information** • Output, **carInfo**, of type **Car Information**	

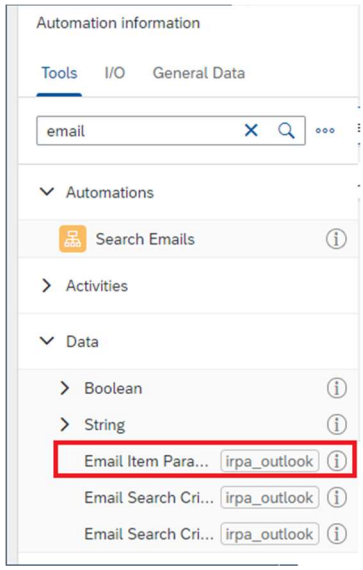
In the code editor, copy-past the code located in the file ***[INT165] Custom Script - Extract Car Info.txt*** This piece of code extracts the registration number and person for each car and add it in the list of carInfos. It also returns the extracted car information as output.	
Go back to the automation and click again on the step Extract Car Info. Bind the input parameters as follows: • Input: **emailBody** takes the output of the **step 8** • Input: carInfos, takes the output of the **Step 2** which is the list of **Car Information**	
Drag and drop again the activity **Log Message** to add it as a step in the Automation, right after the step **Extract Car Info**. Click on it and to rename it to **Log Car Information**. The type of Log is **Info**. Click on the icon at the right of the **message** input to open the **expression editor**.	

	
Enter the expression `Step10.carInfo.person + "--" + Step10.carInfo.registrationNumber` And click on **Save expression** to save it and go back to the automation**.**	
Search the activity **Move Email (Outlook)** and drag and drop it right after the Step **Log Car Information**. Click on it to edit. The folder input is **Car Insurance renewal processed**. The folder type is **olFolderInbox**.	

Now we'll send an email with all collected car information to renew the insurance. Add a new **Custom Script** after the **Forever** block. Rename it to **Generate Email Body**. Click on **Edit Script** to add details.	
In the custom script editor, add an input parameter that named **carInfos**, the type is **list** of **Car Information**. Add an output parameter named **emailBody** of type **String**. In the code editor, copy-past the code located in the file ***[INT165] Custom Script – Generate Email Body.txt***	
Go back to the automation and click on the Step **Generate Email Body**. Bind the input with the output from **Step 2** – **carInfos**.	

Localize now the data type **Email Item Parameters**.

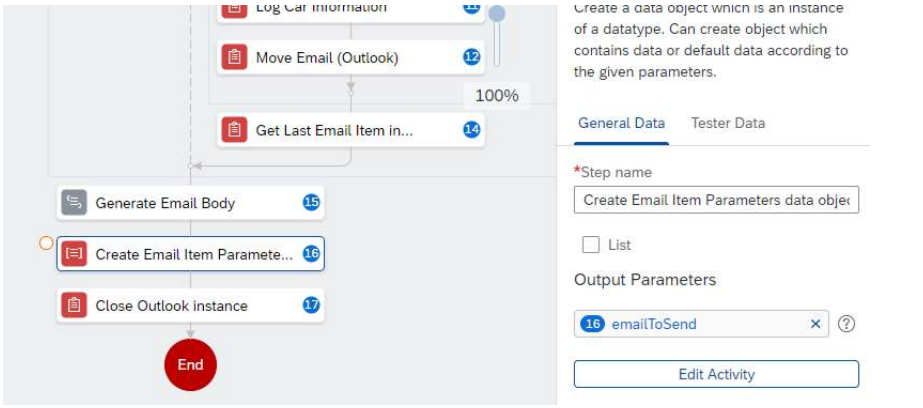
Drag and drop this data type in the automation right after the step **Generate Email Body**.

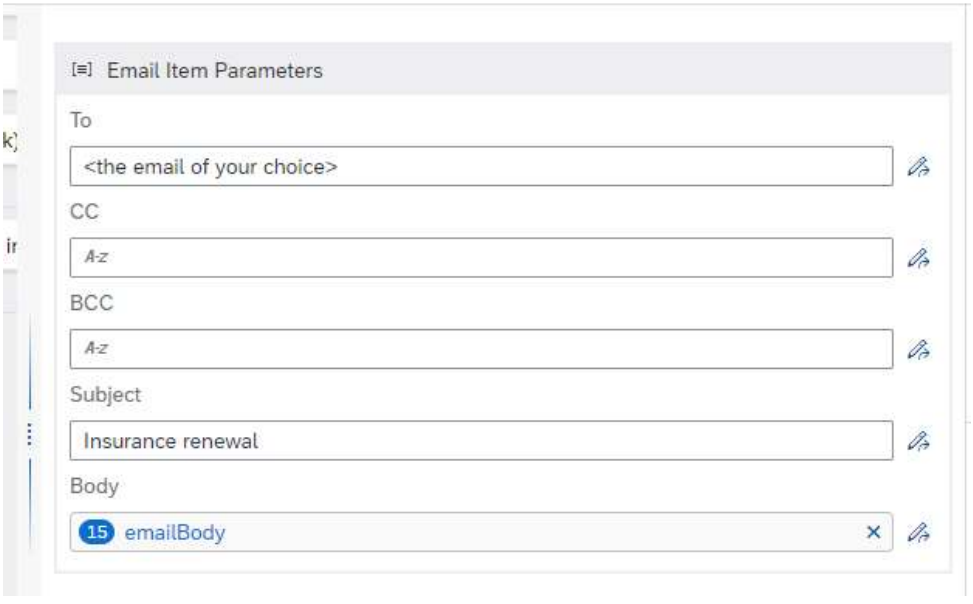


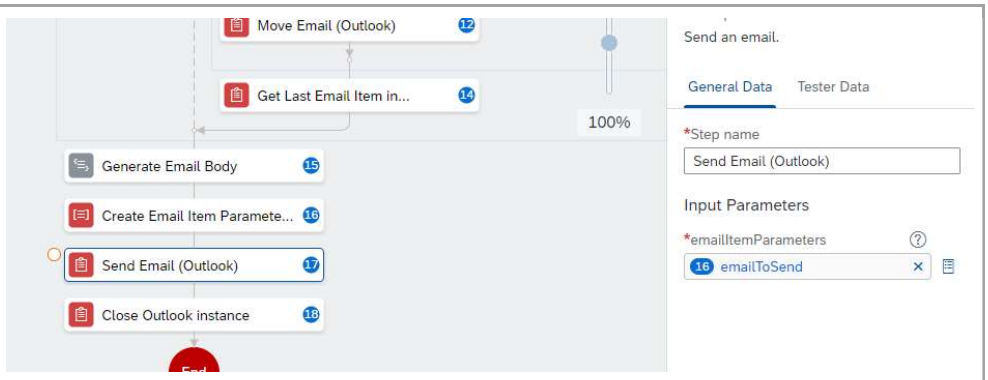
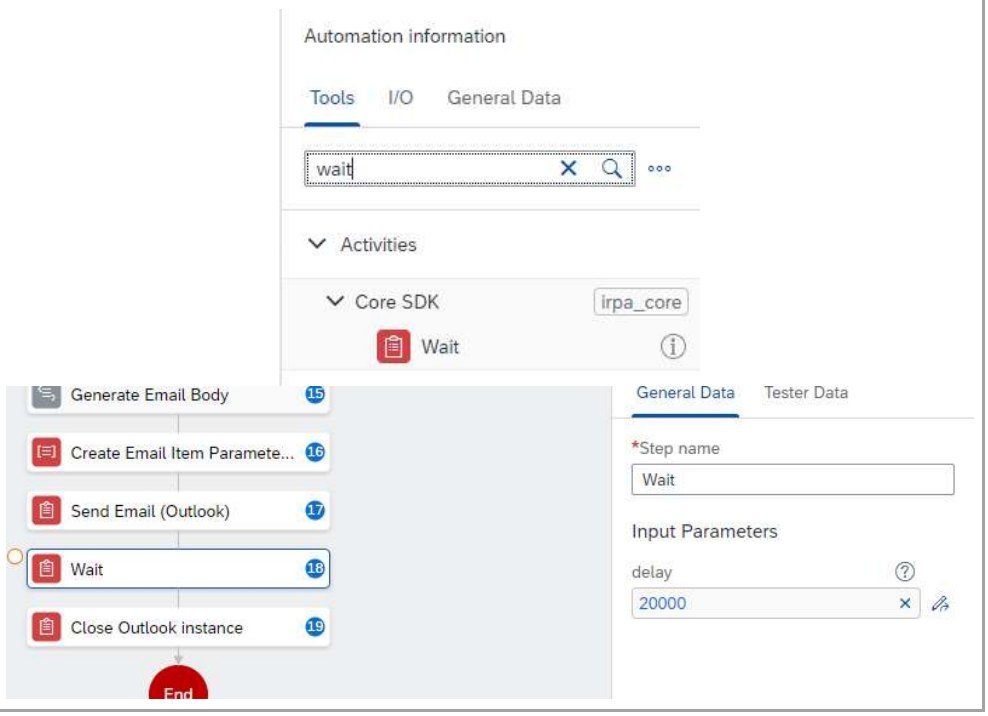
Click on the just added step **Create Email Item Parameters** and in the right panel, click on **Edit Activity** to fill the instance:

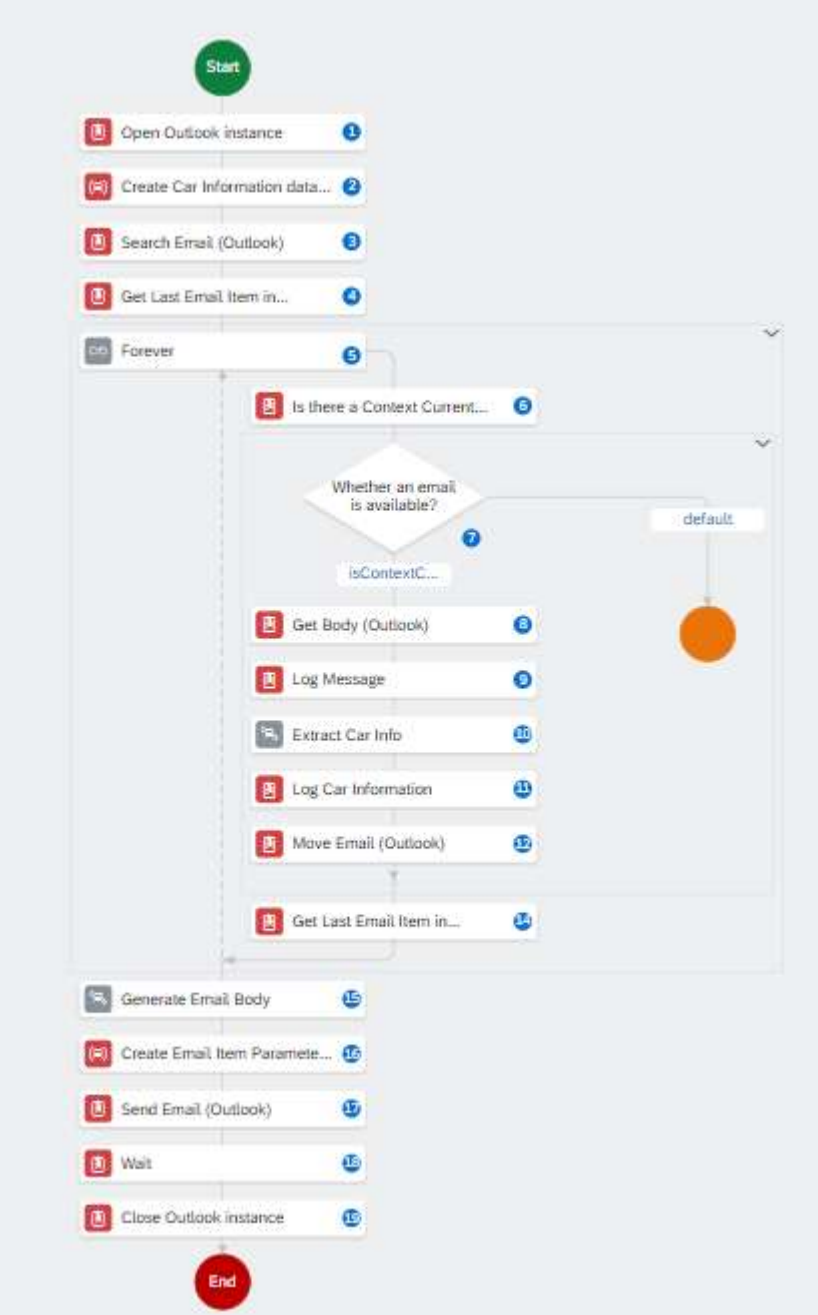
- To: the email address of your choice that will receive the email
- **Subject**: **Insurance renewal**
- **Body**: output from **Step 15**

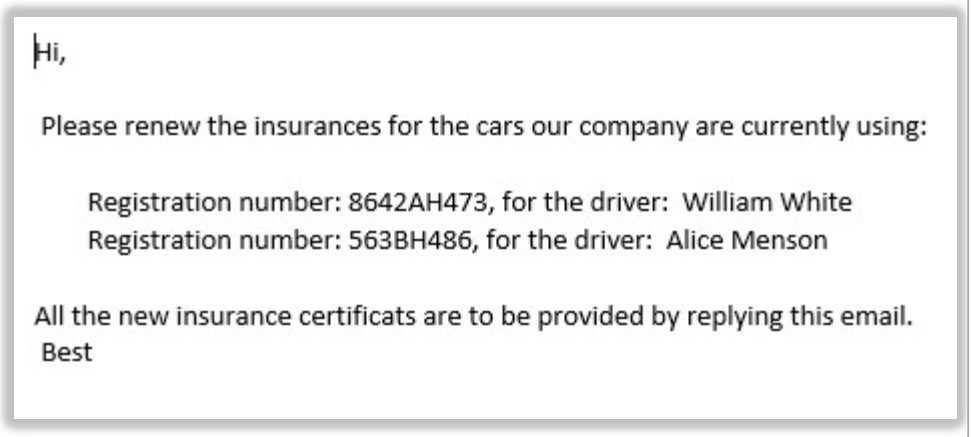
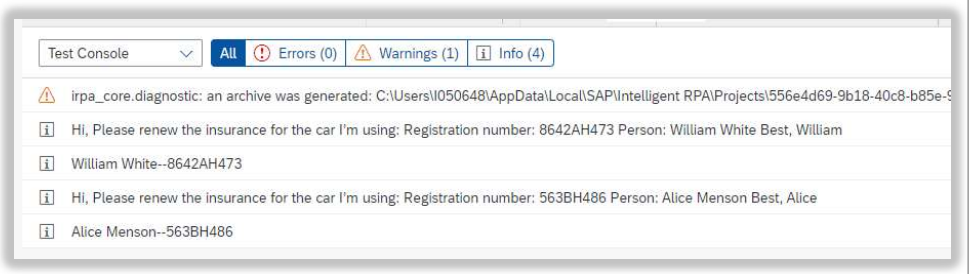
Rename the output parameter to **emailToSend**.





Search the activity **Send Email (Outlook)**. Drag and drop it to the automation right after the step **Create Email Item Parameters**. Edit the activity and put as input the output from Step 17 – **emailToSend**.	
Search the activity **Wait**. Drag and drop it in the automation right after **Send Email (Outlook)**. Edit it and put **2000 ms** so to wait to the outlook to effectively sending the email.	

At the end, your automation should look at this. **Save** it.	
Test the automation. As the result from the testing: • The individual insurance renew emails are moved to the folder	

Car Insurance renewal processed. • An email that regroup all the requests is sent as shown by the screenshot. • Some logs can be found in the Test console.	 

CONCLUSION

Congratulations! You have completed the exercise that allows to interact with MS Office Outlook in Intelligent RPA 2.0. In this exercise, you have learnt how to:

- Search and browse through emails in Outlook
- Move emails
- Prepare and send emails
- Create a data type in Intelligent RPA 2.0 and use it
- Use custom scripts

REFERENCE

Help portal for SAP Intelligent Robotic Process Automation: https://help.sap.com/viewer/p/IRPA
SAP Intelligent Robotic Process Automation on SAP Community:
https://community.sap.com/topics/intelligent-rpa

www.sap.com/contactsap

THE BEST RUN SAP®