

PUBLIC

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

INT165

Integration to MS Office Outlook
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INTRODUCTION

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

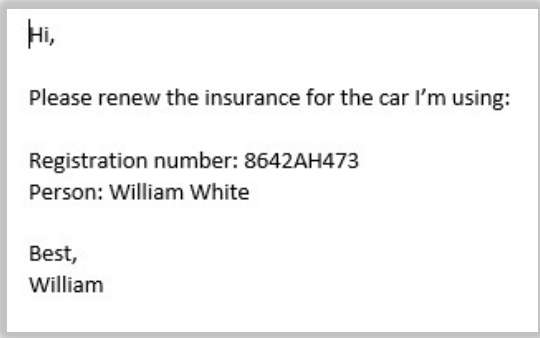
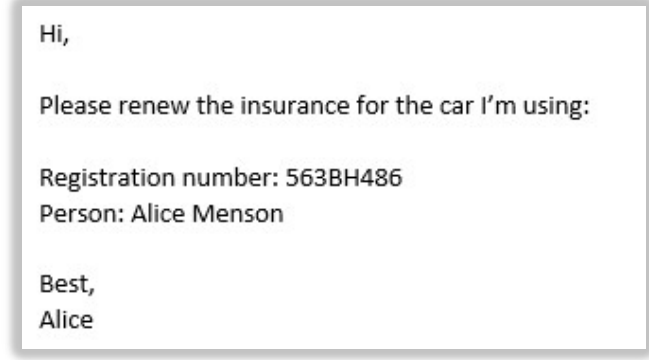
The use case involved in the exercise simulates an activity of a car fleet department in a company. The car fleet manages a pool of cars that are allocated to the company employees. Periodically they need to renew the car insurance.

For the car insurance renewal 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 needs to process these emails, group all similar requests, and forward to the insurance company.

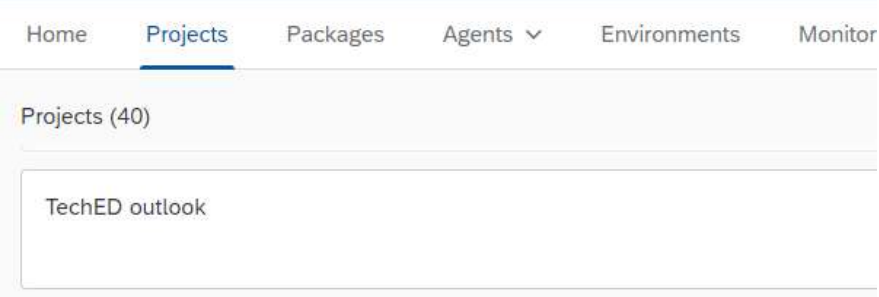
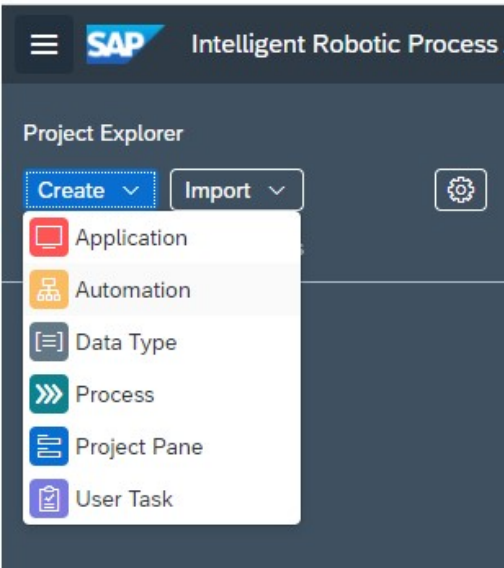
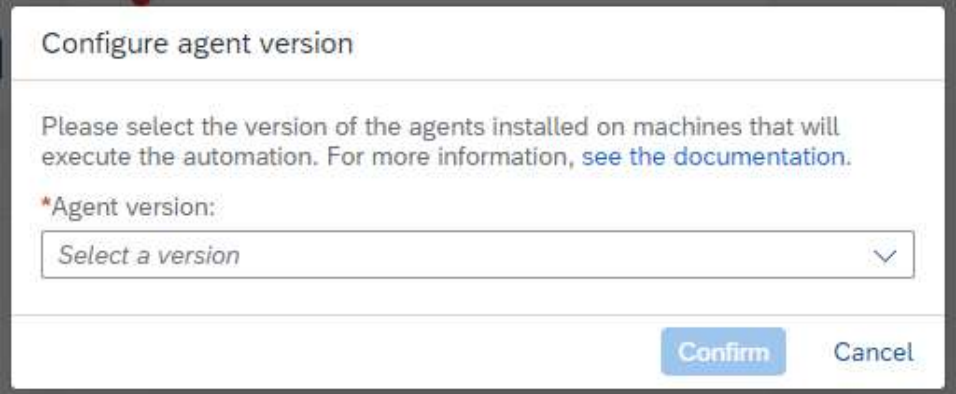
Estimated time: 30 minutes

PREPARATION

Explanation	Screenshot
<p>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:</p> <p><i>Hi,</i></p> <p><i>Please renew the insurance for the car I'm using:</i></p> <p><i>Registration number: <SOME NUMBER></i> <i>Person: <NAME></i></p> <p><i>Best,</i> <i>William</i></p> <p>Verify that the emails are all received in the outlook and make sure that they remain in the Inbox root folder.</p>	 <p>Hi,</p> <p>Please renew the insurance for the car I'm using:</p> <p>Registration number: 8642AH473 Person: William White</p> <p>Best, William</p>
<p>Create a subfolder under the Inbox. The name of the subfolder is Car Insurance renewal processed.</p>	 <p>Hi,</p> <p>Please renew the insurance for the car I'm using:</p> <p>Registration number: 563BH486 Person: Alice Menson</p> <p>Best, Alice</p>

SEARCH EMAILS

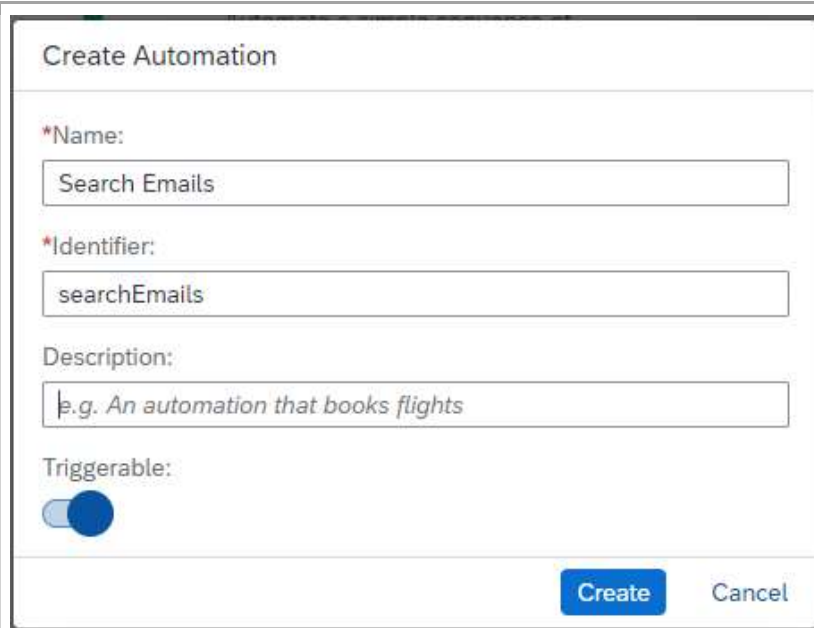
The first exercise shows how to search emails in outlook and navigate through the result.

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

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.



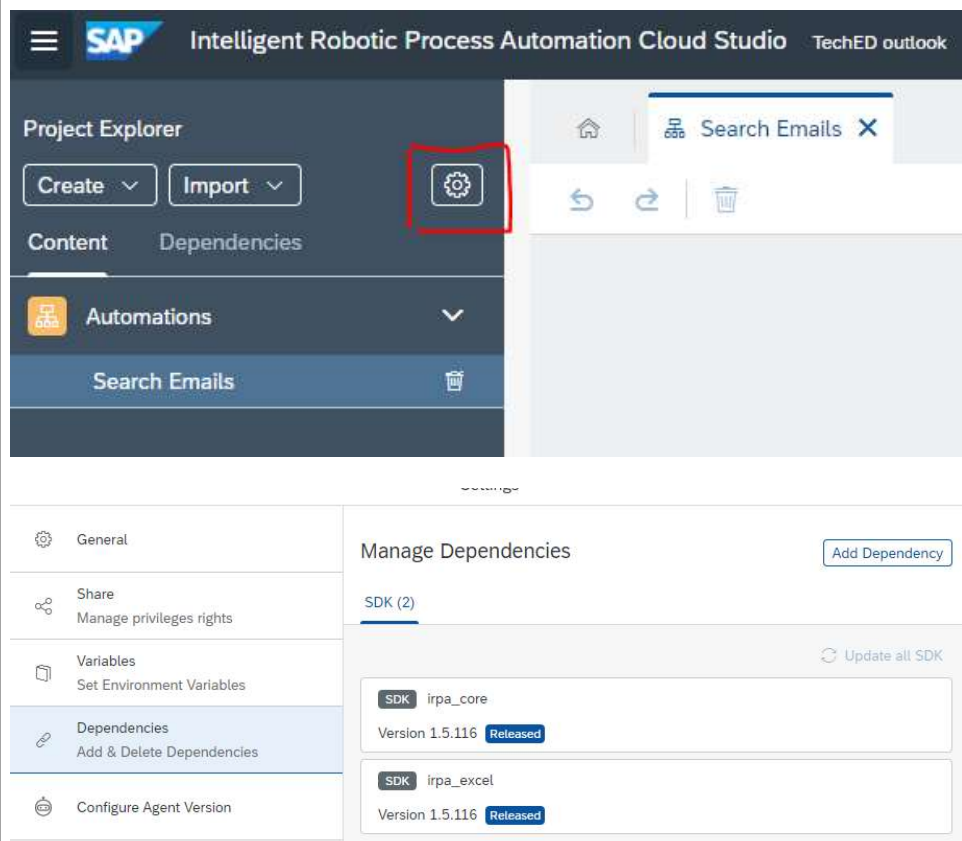
The 'Create Automation' dialog box contains the following fields and controls:

- *Name:** A text input field containing 'Search Emails'.
- *Identifier:** A text input field containing 'searchEmails'.
- Description:** A text input field containing 'e.g. An automation that books flights'.
- Triggerable:** A toggle switch that is currently turned on (blue).
- Buttons:** 'Create' and 'Cancel' buttons at the bottom right.

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.



The screenshot shows the SAP Intelligent Robotic Process Automation Cloud Studio interface. The top bar includes the SAP logo, the title 'Intelligent Robotic Process Automation Cloud Studio', and a 'TechED outlook' link. The left sidebar contains a 'Project Explorer' with 'Create' and 'Import' buttons, and a list of 'Automations' including 'Search Emails'. A red box highlights the 'Project Settings' icon (a gear) in the sidebar. The main area shows the 'Search Emails' automation details, including a 'Manage Dependencies' section. This section lists two dependencies: 'irpa_core' (Version 1.5.116, Released) and 'irpa_excel' (Version 1.5.116, Released). An 'Add Dependency' button is visible in the top right of the 'Manage Dependencies' section.

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.

General

Share
Manage privileges rights

Variables
Set Environment Variables

Dependencies
Add & Delete Dependencies

Configure Agent Version

< Add Dependency

*Package:

SAP Intelligent RPA Outlook SDK

*Version:

1.5.116

Store

*Alias:

irpa_outlook

Add

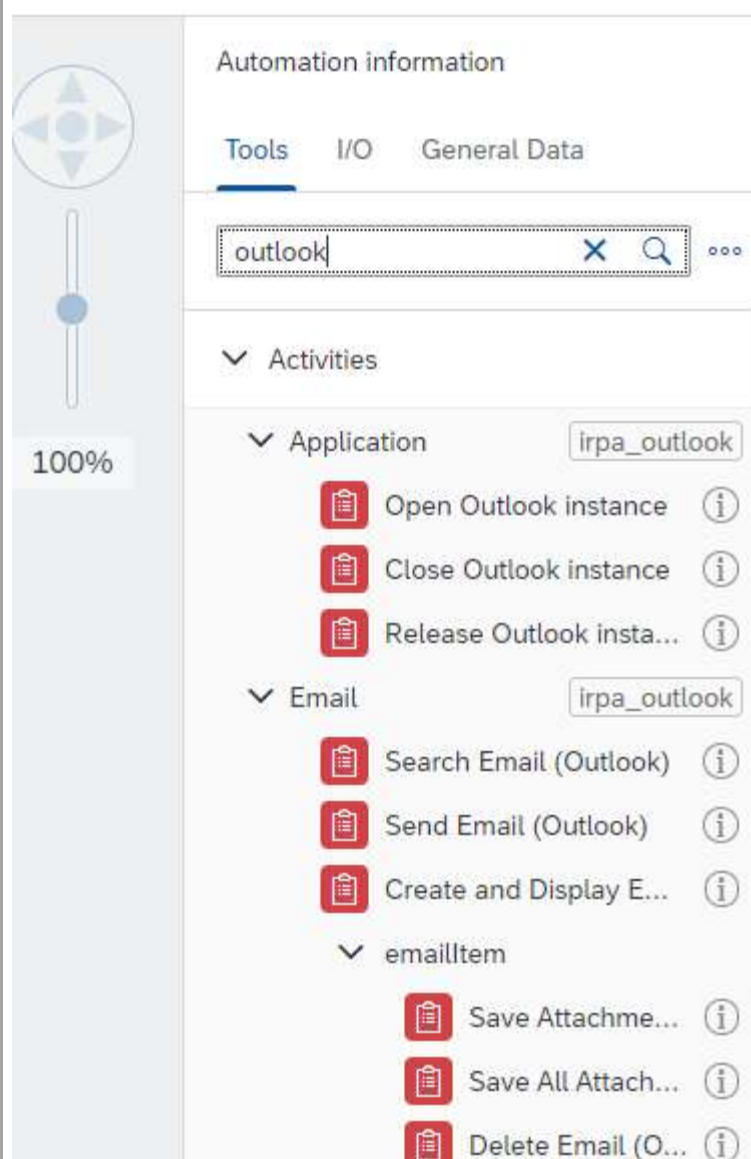
In the right panel of Automation editor, put **outlook** using the search bar. This will filter the activities that are related to outlook.

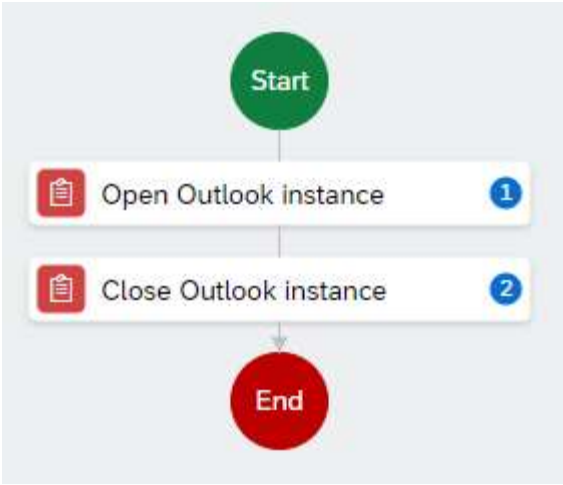
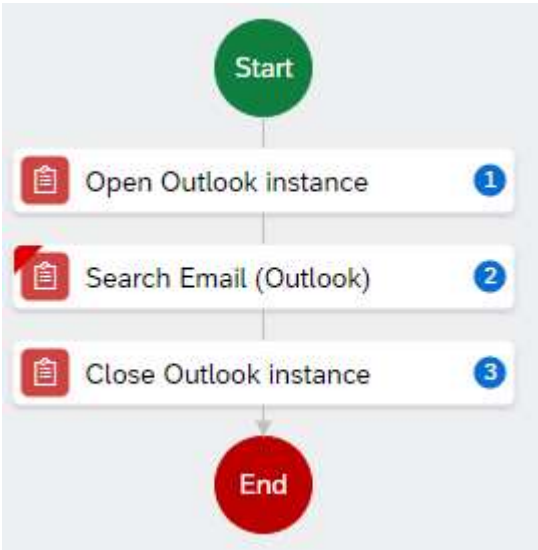

Locate the two activities:

- **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.



	
<p>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.</p> <p>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 searchCriteria.</p>	<div></div> <div><p>*Step name</p><div>Search Email (Outlook)</div><p>Input Parameters</p><p>*searchCriteria ?</p><div>Email Search Criteria </div></div>

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

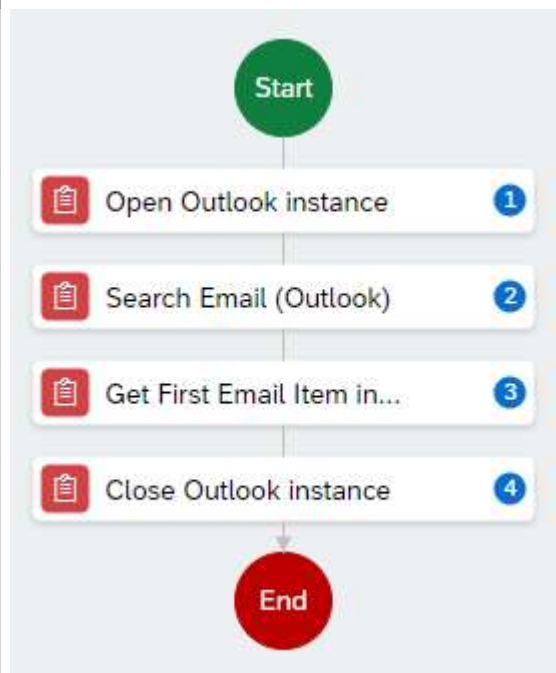
Click on Save to save the input parameter for email searching.

The screenshot shows the 'Edit data' dialog for the 'searchCriteria' entity. It contains a list of searchCriteria with one element. The element has the following fields:

- element:** subject
- operand:** equal
- value:** Car Insurance Renewal
- folder:** A-z
- folderType:** olFolderInbox
- storeName:** A-z

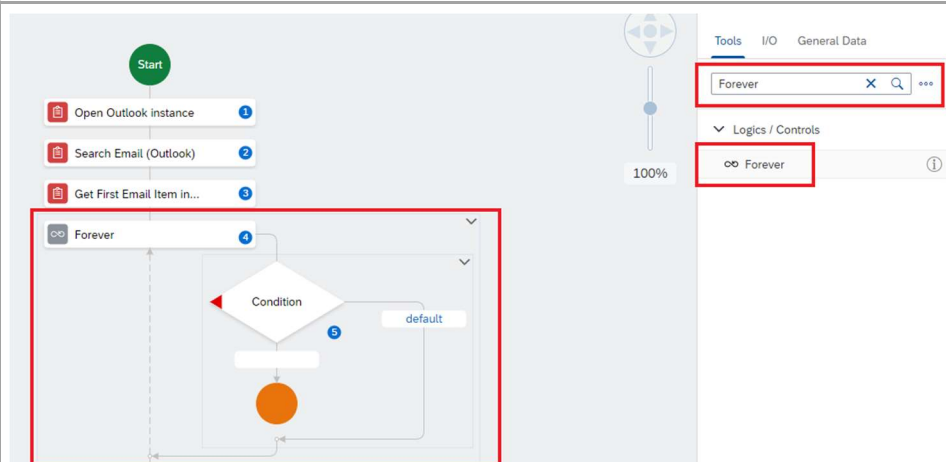
The 'Save' button is highlighted in blue at the bottom right of the dialog.

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.

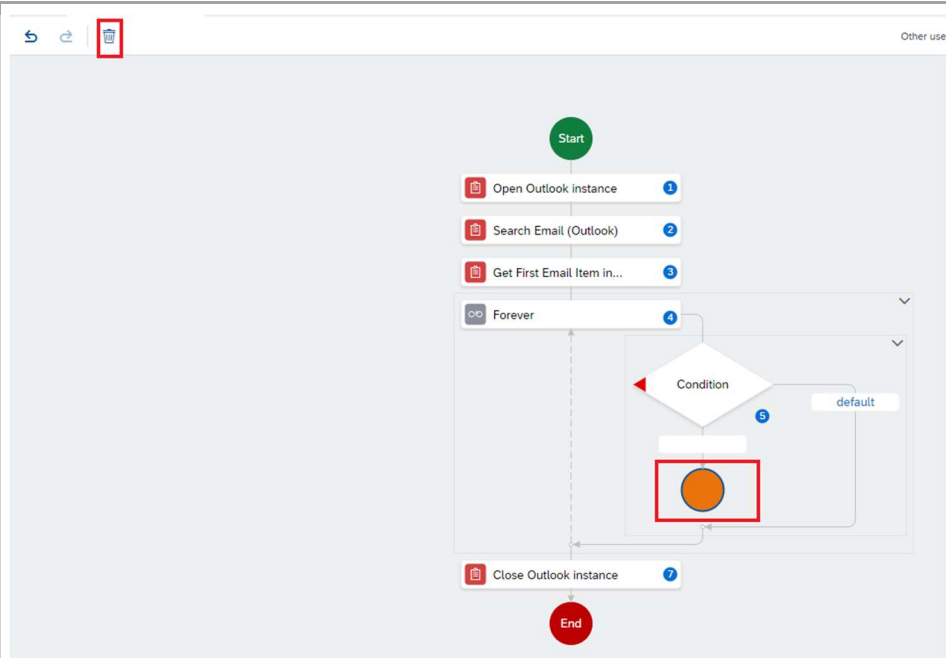


Search, and drag and drop the automation logic **Forever** in the automation.

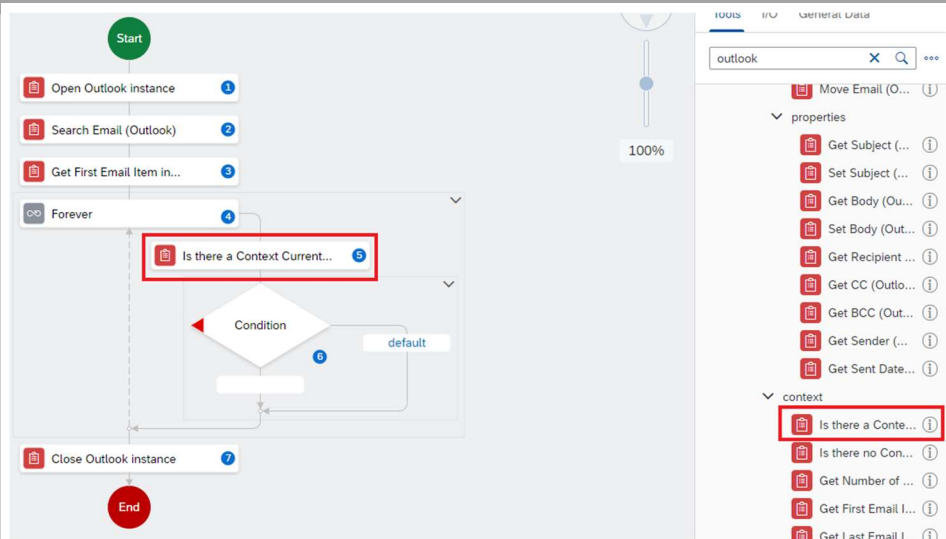
This will add a block automation flow with loop and condition.



Select the Step node in the condition and click on delete button to remove it.



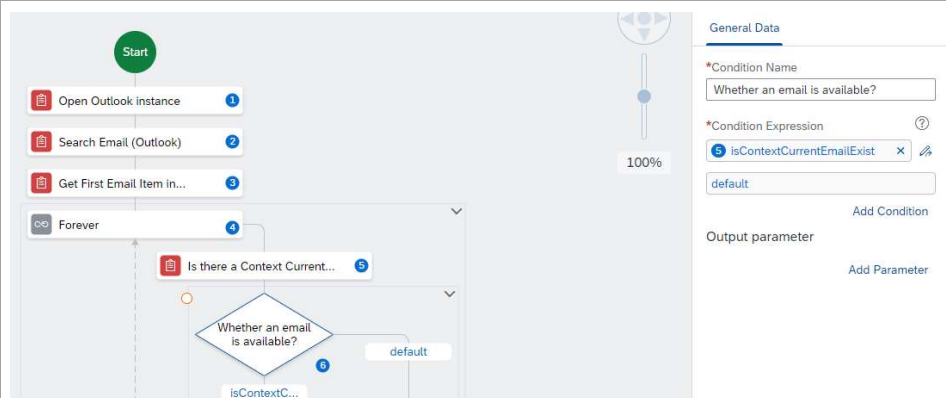
Drag and drop the activity **Is there a Context Current Email** before the **Condition** in the **Forever** loop.



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

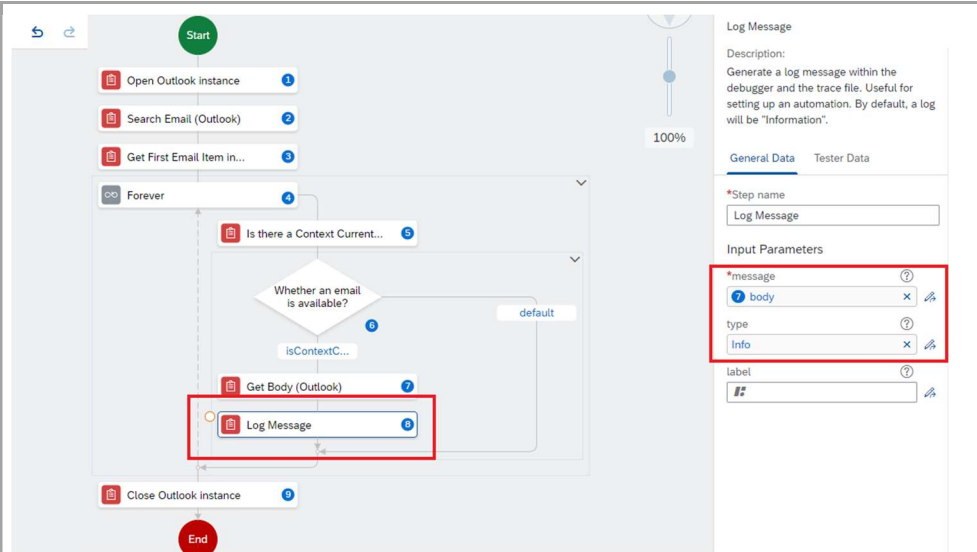


<p>previous step isContextCurrentEmailExist.</p>	
<p>Search, drag and drop the activity GetBody (Outlook) in the condition branch where the condition is satisfied.</p>	<pre>graph TD; Start((Start)) --> 1[Open Outlook instance 1]; 1 --> 2[Search Email (Outlook) 2]; 2 --> 3[Get First Email Item in... 3]; 3 --> 4[Forever 4]; 4 --> 5[Is there a Context Current... 5]; 5 --> 6{Whether an email is available? 6}; 6 -- "isContextC..." --> 7[Get Body (Outlook) 7]; 6 -- "default" --> 7; 7 --> 4; 4 --> 8[Close Outlook instance 8]; 8 --> End((End));</pre> <p>The flowchart illustrates a process for checking and retrieving email body content. It begins with a 'Start' node, followed by a sequence of activities: 'Open Outlook instance' (1), 'Search Email (Outlook)' (2), and 'Get First Email Item in...' (3). A 'Forever' loop (4) then enters a decision diamond (6) asking 'Whether an email is available?'. This diamond has two outgoing paths: one labeled 'isContextC...' leading to 'Get Body (Outlook)' (7), and a 'default' path also leading to 'Get Body (Outlook)' (7). The 'Get Body (Outlook)' activity (7) is highlighted with a red border. After activity 7, the flow returns to the 'Forever' loop (4). Once the loop completes, the process ends with 'Close Outlook instance' (8) and an 'End' node.</p>

Search, drag and drop the activity **Log Message**.

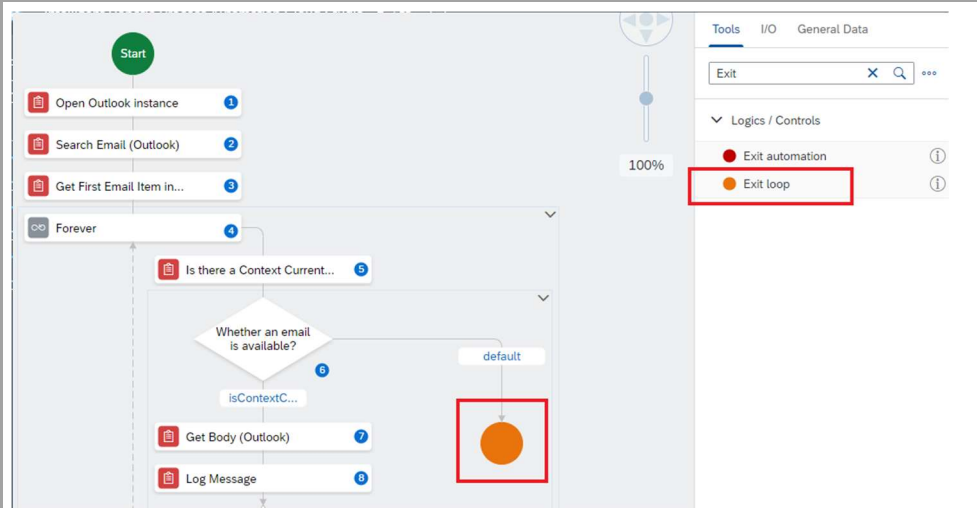
Edit this step to put the **body** output from the Step 7 in **message** parameter.

The step parameter **type** is **Info**.

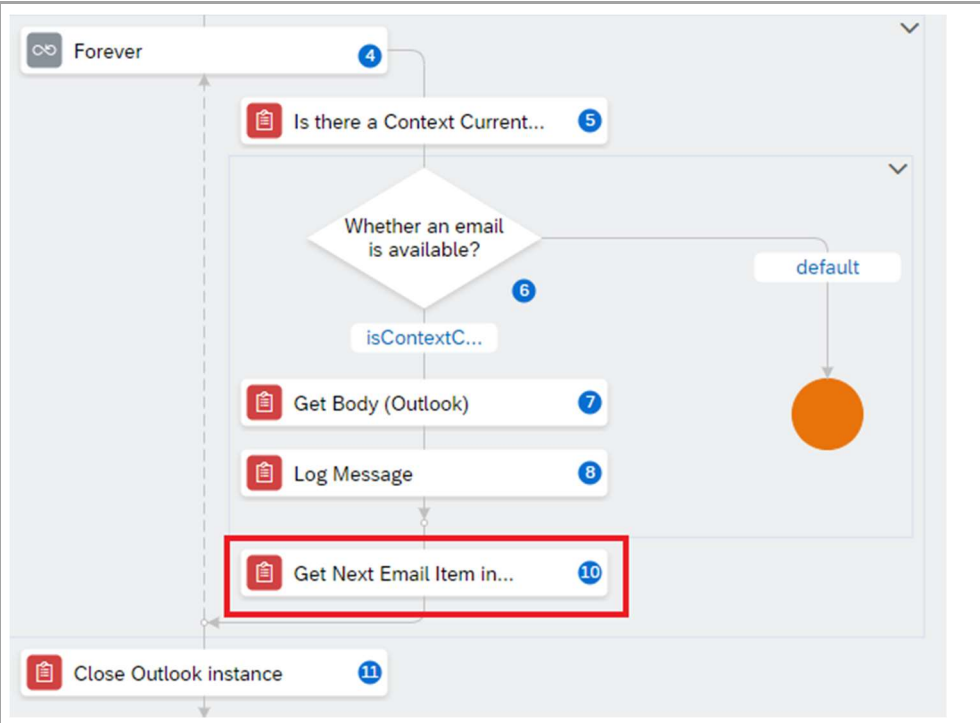


Search, drag and drop the control element **Exit loop** in the condition **default** branch.

The objective is to exist the loop when there's no more email to process.

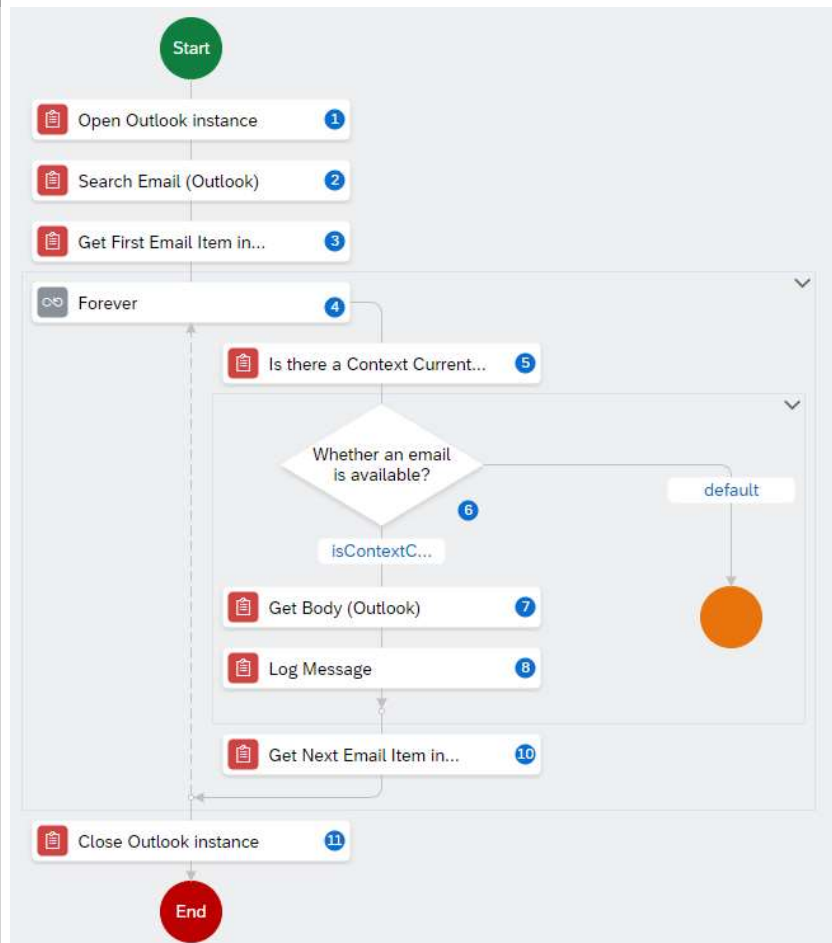


Search, drag and drop the activity **Get Next Email Item in Context** in the automation, in the loop, after the condition block.



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.

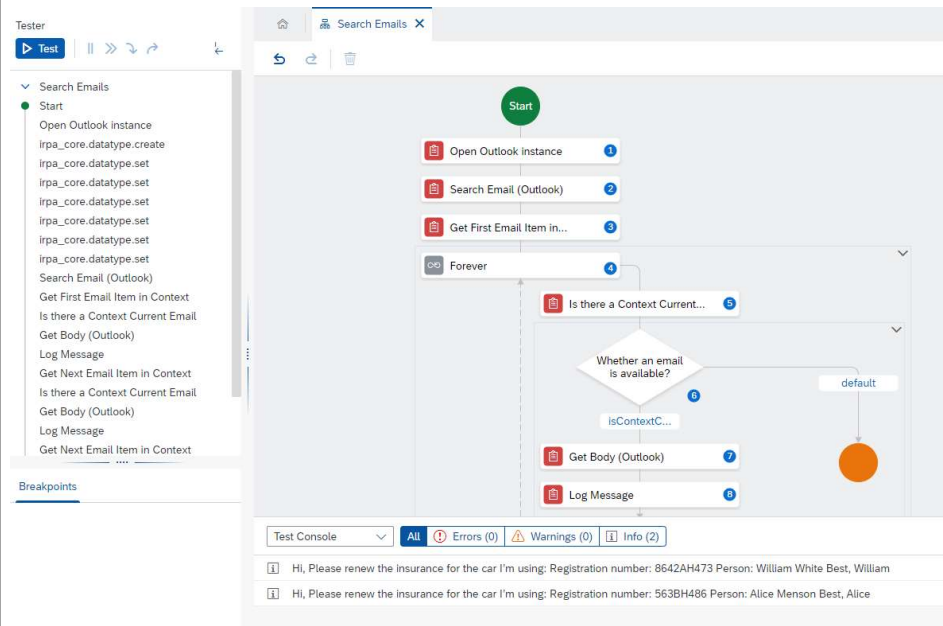


Test your automation by clicking on the Test button.

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															
<p>Create a Data Type in the project.</p> <p>In the pop-up dialog, put Car Information as Name.</p> <p>Click on Create.</p> <p>This will open the data type editor.</p>																
<p>Click on New Field 2 times to create two fields:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- registrationNumber- person <p>Both are of String type.</p> <p>Save the data type.</p>	<table><thead><tr><th>Name</th><th>Type</th><th>Sample</th><th>List</th><th>Required</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>registrationNumber</td><td>String</td><td></td><td>No</td><td>No</td></tr><tr><td>person</td><td>String</td><td></td><td>No</td><td>No</td></tr></tbody></table>	Name	Type	Sample	List	Required	registrationNumber	String		No	No	person	String		No	No
Name	Type	Sample	List	Required												
registrationNumber	String		No	No												
person	String		No	No												

Now, create a new automation again. Name it **Batch Process Car Insurance Renewals**.

Click on **Create** to create the Automation.

Create Automation

*Name:
Batch Process Car Insurance Renewals

*Identifier:
batchProcessCarInsuranceRenewals

Description:
e.g. An automation that books flights

Triggerable:
☒

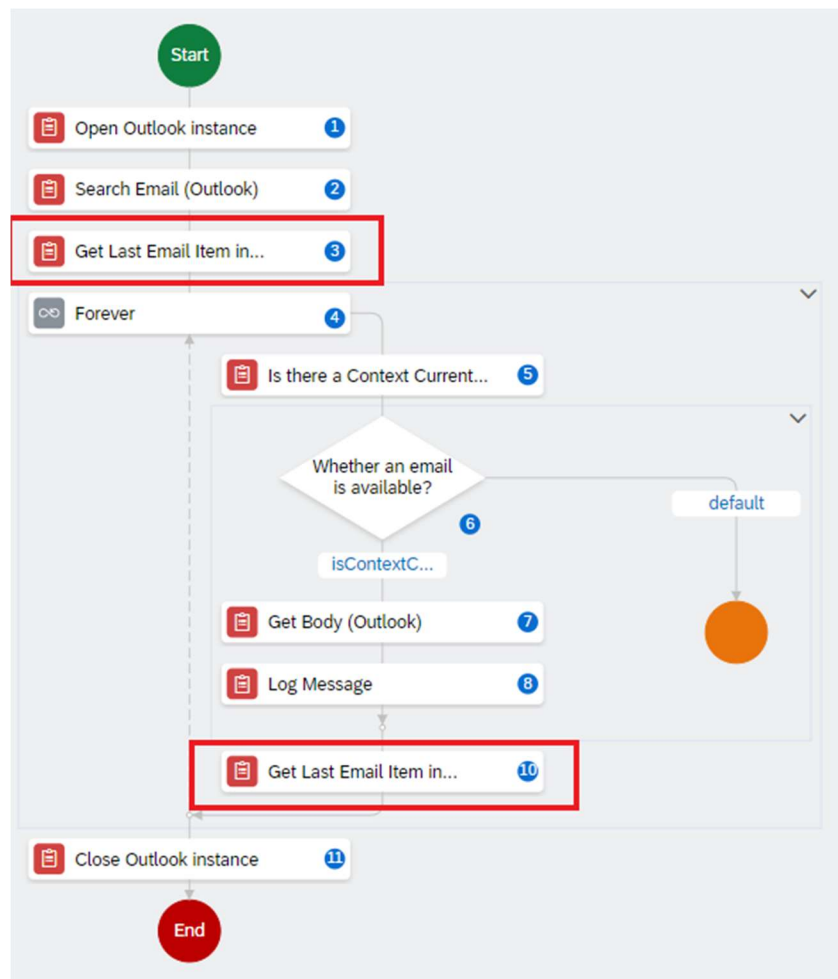
Create Cancel

Create an automation that is similar from the previous section.

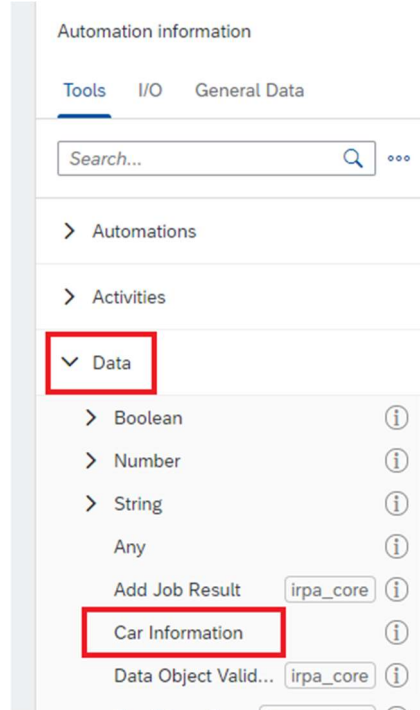
But this time, uses the activity **Get Last Email Item in Context** to replace:

- 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)**!



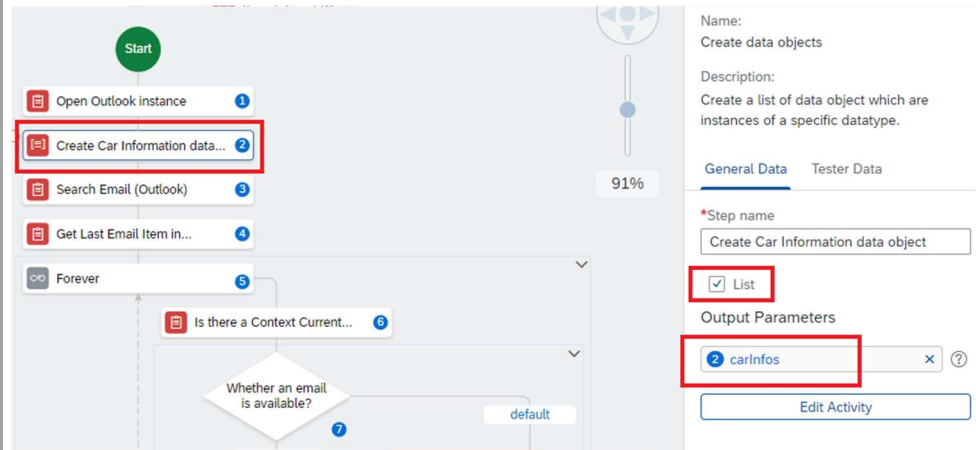
Locate in the right panel, the data type **Car Information** previously created in the project.

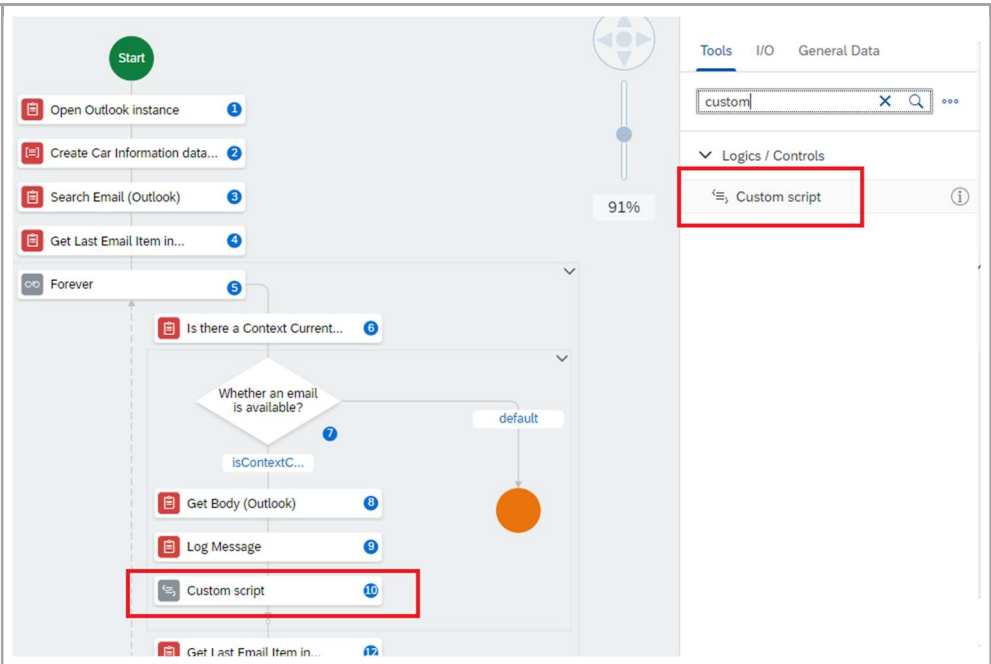
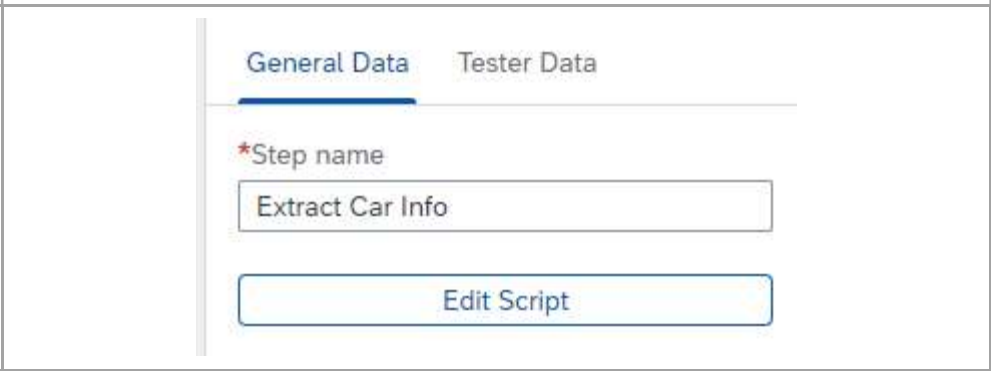


Drag and drop this data type in the automation before the step Search Email. This means the automation will create and instance of this data type.

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



<p>Search for Custom Script in Tools.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Click on the Custom Script to edit it.</p>	
<p>In the right panel, put Extract Car Info as Step name;</p> <p>Click on Edit Script to edit the custom script.</p>	

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**

×

Step Details

Input parameters

emailBody

Description

String

×

✓

☐ List

Delete input

carInfos

Description

Car Information

×

✓

☒ List

Delete input

Add new input parameter

Output parameters

carInfo

Description

Car Information

×

✓

☐ List

Delete output

Add new output parameter

In the code editor, copy-paste 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.

```

1 //Extracting registration number
2 const regStart = emailBody.indexOf("Registration number:");
3 const regEnd = emailBody.indexOf("\n", regStart);
4 const rgNumber = emailBody.substr(regStart+21, regEnd-regStart-21);
5
6 //Extracting person
7 const ownerStart = emailBody.indexOf("Person:");
8 const ownerEnd = emailBody.indexOf("\n", ownerStart);
9 const ownerName = emailBody.substr(ownerStart+7, ownerEnd-ownerStart-7);
10
11 const carInfo = {'registrationNumber': rgNumber, 'person': ownerName};
12
13 carInfos.push(carInfo);
14
15 return carInfo;
16
17

```

Step Details

Input parameters

emailBody

Description

String

☐ List [Delete](#)

carInfos

Description

Car Information

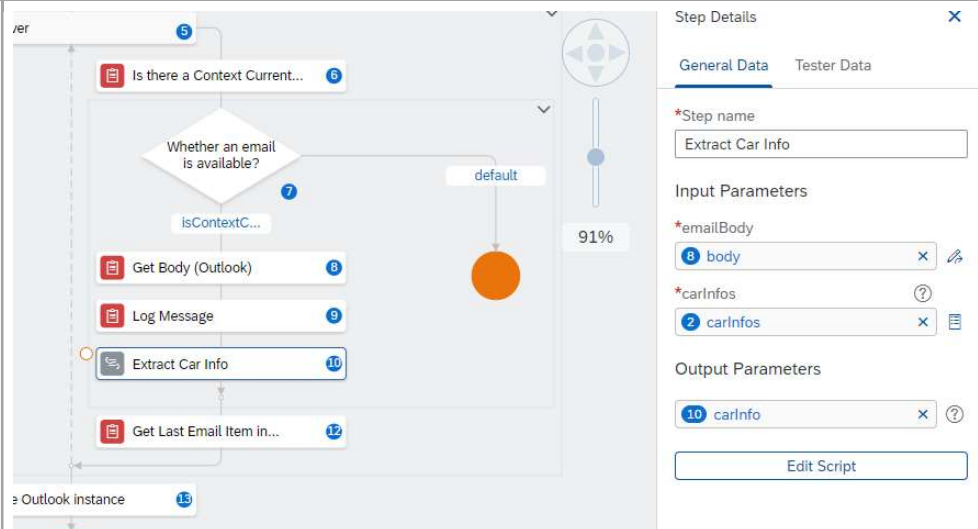
☒ List [Delete](#)

[Add new input parameter](#)

Go back to the automation and click again on the step **Extract Car Info**.

Bind the input parameters as follows:

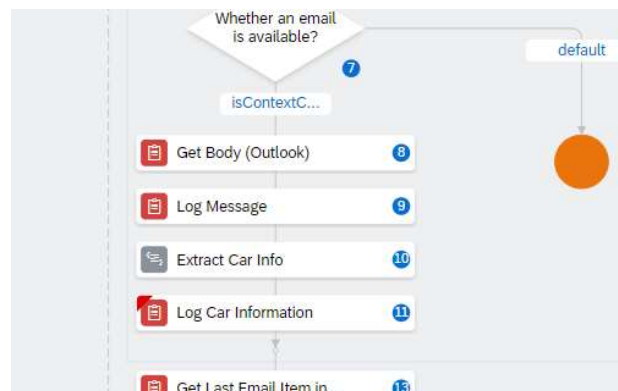
- Input: **emailBody** takes the output of the **step 8**
- Input: **carInfos**, takes the output of the **Step 2** which is the list of **Car Information**

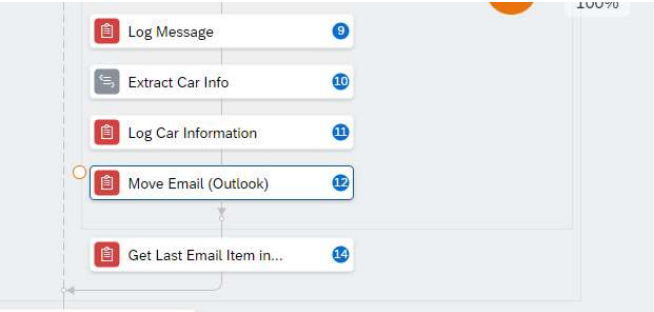


Drag and drop again the activity **Log Message** to add it as a step in the Automation, right after the step **Extract Car Info**.

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**.



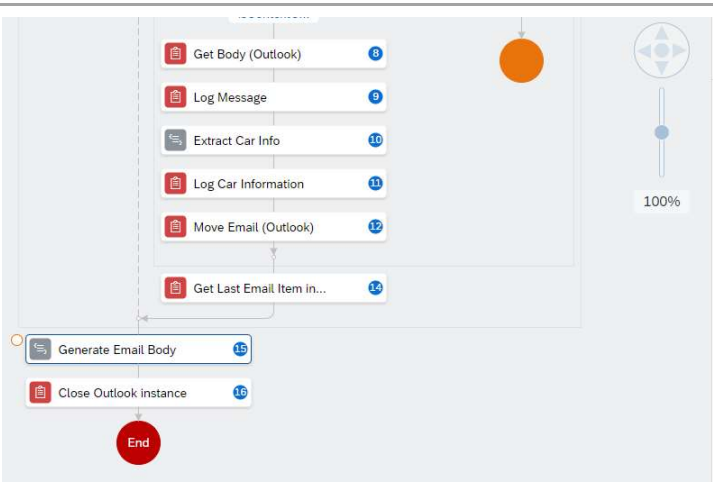
	<p>*Step name</p> <p>Log Car Information</p> <p>Input Parameters</p> <p>*message ?</p> <p>A-z ✎</p> <p>type ?</p> <p>Info ✕ ✎</p> <p>label ?</p> <p>! ✎</p>
<p>Enter the expression</p> <p><code>Step10.carInfo.person + "--" + Step10.carInfo.registrationNumber</code></p> <p>And click on Save expression to save it and go back to the automation.</p>	<p>Edit Expression</p> <p><code>Step10.carInfo.person + "--" + Step10.carInfo.registrationNumber</code></p> <p>> Variables</p> <p>> Operators</p> <p>> Functions</p> <p>For more information, click here.</p> <p>Save Expression Test Cancel</p>
<p>Search the activity Move Email (Outlook) and drag and drop it right after the Step Log Car Information.</p> <p>Click on it to edit.</p> <p>The folder input is Car Insurance renewal processed.</p> <p>The folder type is olFolderInbox.</p>	 <p>*Step name</p> <p>Move Email (Outlook)</p> <p>Input Parameters</p> <p>folder ?</p> <p>Car Insurance renewal processed ✎</p> <p>folderType ?</p> <p>olFolderInbox ✕ ✎</p> <p>storeName ?</p> <p>A-z ✎</p>

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.



Step Details

General Data Tester Data

*Step name

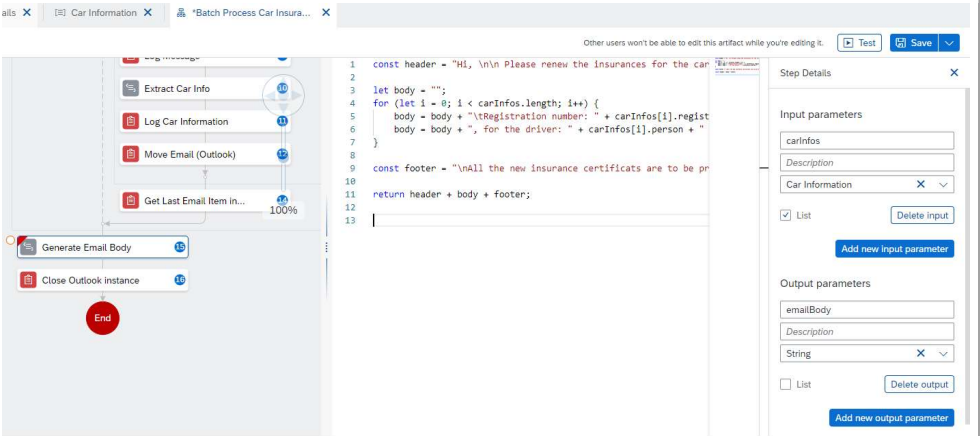
Generate Email Body

Edit Script

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**



Step Details

Input parameters

carInfos

Description

Car Information

List

Add new input parameter

Output parameters

emailBody

Description

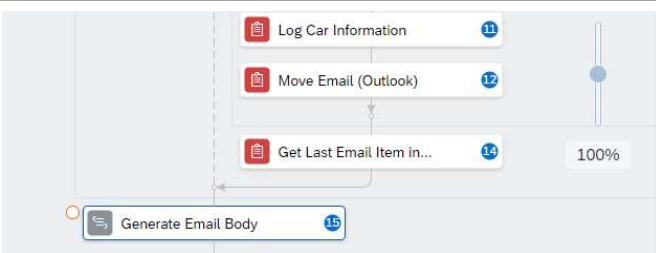
String

List

Add new output parameter

Go back to the automation and click on the Step **Generate Email Body**.

Bind the input with the output from **Step 2 – carInfos**.



Step Details

*Step name

Generate Email Body

Input Parameters

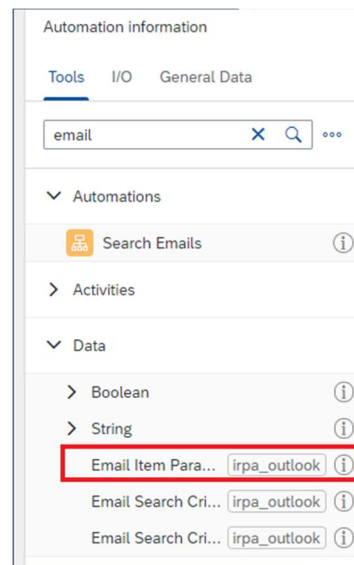
*carInfos

carInfos

Output Parameters

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

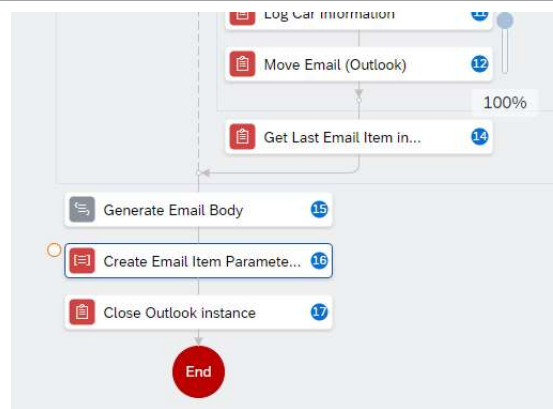
Drag and drop this data type in the automation right after the step **Generate Email Body**.



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**.



Create a data object which is an instance of a datatype. Can create object which contains data or default data according to the given parameters.

General Data Tester Data

*Step name
Create Email Item Parameters data object

☐ List

Output Parameters
16 emailToSend x ?

Edit Activity

[=] Email Item Parameters

To
<the email of your choice> ✎

CC
A-z ✎

BCC
A-z ✎

Subject
Insurance renewal ✎

Body
15 emailBody x ✎

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**.

The screenshot shows an automation flow with steps: 12. Move Email (Outlook), 14. Get Last Email Item in..., 15. Generate Email Body, 16. Create Email Item Parameters, 17. Send Email (Outlook), and 18. Close Outlook instance. The 'Send Email (Outlook)' activity is highlighted with a selection box.

Send an email.

General Data Tester Data

*Step name

Send Email (Outlook)

Input Parameters

*emailItemParameters

16 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.

The screenshot shows the automation flow with an additional step: 18. Wait, added after step 17. The 'Wait' activity is highlighted with a selection box.

Automation information

Tools I/O General Data

wait

Activities

Core SDK

Wait

General Data Tester Data


*Step name

Wait

Input Parameters

delay

20000

<p>At the end, your automation should look at this.</p> <p>Save it.</p>	
<p>Test the automation.</p> <p>As the result from the testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.

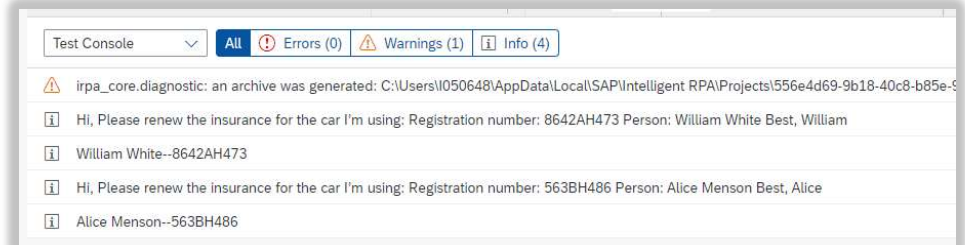
Hi,

Please renew the insurances for the cars our company are currently using:

Registration number: 8642AH473, for the driver: William White

Registration number: 563BH486, for the driver: Alice Menson

All the new insurance certificats are to be provided by replying this email.
Best



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

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