

How Do I Concatenate Fields?

Many times, enterprise solutions impose character limits on specific fields in a form, making it challenging for suppliers to enter all their information. For example, if the software has a limit of 15 characters in a particular field, a supplier will not be able to enter more than 15 characters in that field, and this may lead to incomplete information being sent back.

Data Assure helps you overcome this challenge through the feature of concatenation of fields. This article describes this feature and the steps you can follow to use it.



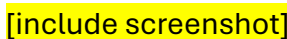

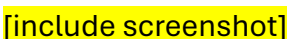
What is concatenation of text?

Concatenation of text simply means that two or more individual texts are combined, creating a single text that is a combination of the two separate texts.

Concatenation of fields in Data Assure

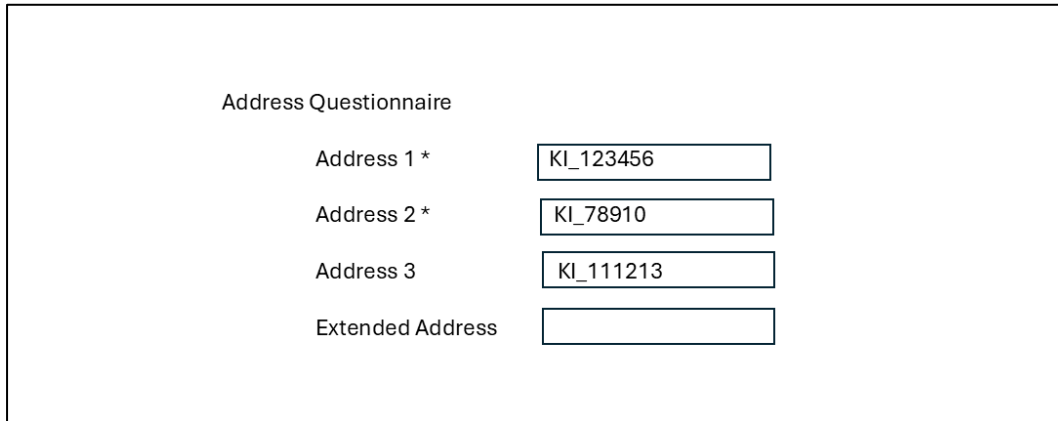
Data Assure now uses the concatenation of fields feature to combine two separate field values, so that the system reads them as a single field. While the individual fields may have character limits, the field that will be holding the resulting concatenated value will not be restricted, and hence no information will be lost. The resulting field value includes a space between the two or more field values to make it easier for the target system to read.

In a Relish validation that Data Assure will apply to all invitations to suppliers, you may configure concatenation of a group of fields by following the steps below:

1. Go to **Forms**. 
2. Click on the **Add Validation** button next to the questionnaire you wish to edit. (For example, *Name*, *Address*, etc.) 
3. Click on the pencil icon to edit the individual questions within the questionnaire. 
4. Each individual field in the questionnaire is associated with a unique identifier called its Key Index (KI). The UI will show the KIs of the fields that you want to concatenate. 
5. In the “result” field which would show the final concatenated result, enter the KIs of the participating fields to be concatenated, each pair separated by a ‘+’ sign. Refer to the example below.
6. When you’ve added all the field concatenations that you need, click the **Confirm** button to save your changes. 

Concatenation configuration example

For a quick example of question fields' concatenation using Data Assure, let's assume that you wish to combine the field values of *Address 1*, *Address 2*, and *Address 3*, and hold the resulting value in *Extended Address*. The identifiers for *Address 1*, *Address 2*, and *Address 3* are KI_123456, KI_78910, and KI_111213 respectively, as seen in the screenshot below [Screenshot to be included].



Address Questionnaire	
Address 1 *	<input type="text" value="KI_123456"/>
Address 2 *	<input type="text" value="KI_78910"/>
Address 3	<input type="text" value="KI_111213"/>
Extended Address	<input type="text"/>

Follow the steps below to achieve the desired concatenation.

1. Click on the **Add Validation** button next to the *Address* questionnaire. [Screenshot to be included]
2. Click on the pencil icon to edit the individual questions. [Screenshot to be included]
3. Go to the *Extended Address* question, and in its KI field enter the following:
KI_123456+KI_78910+KI_111213
4. Click on the **Confirm** button to save the changes. [Screenshot to be included]

Now, you have successfully concatenated the three fields, *Address 1*, *Address 2*, and *Address 3*.

After this, if a supplier were to enter “12345” in *Address 1*, “Palm Tree Lane” in *Address 2*, and “Suite 182930” in *Address 3*, then the *Extended Address* field would concatenate these values as: 12345 Palm Tree Lane Suite 182930.