Configuring

List

When the batching method is **List**, the hot folder or SFTP input device submits one or more files as a group, based on the contents of a list file that is received by the input device.

The hot folder or SFTP input device looks for a text-based **list file** containing a list of all the files that make up the job. When the hot folder or SFTP input device finds a list file, it reads the list and looks for all the files; as soon as it finds all the files, it submits them as a single job. The files print in the order specified in the list file.

The list file must meet these criteria:

- The file name must match the pattern specified in the **List patterns** property. The default pattern matches files that have the extension `.lst`.
- Each file in the print job must be on a separate line in the list file.
- The file names listed in the list file must include only file names, not path information; all files must be in the same directory.

The contents of the list file might look like this:

```
afpinput1.afp
afpinput2.afp
afpinput3.afp
inputfile.afp
```

When you use the **List** batching method, set these input device properties as indicated:

- **Workflow**: ParentNoPrint
- **Child workflow**: The workflow that is appropriate for the print files in the job.
- **Submit step**: SubmitInputFiles
- **Create .zip file**: If this property is set to **Yes**, all input files that match the value set in the **Data patterns** property are combined as a ZIP file and submitted as a single job. If this value is set to **No**, all input files are submitted as child jobs.
- **List patterns**: A pattern that matches some part of the file name of your list files.
  By default, this value is the regular expression `.*lst$`.
- **Data patterns**: A pattern that matches some part of the file name of your print files. For hot folder or SFTP input devices, the default value is the regular expression: `.*$`. That pattern matches all file names.
  If a print file is listed in the list file, but the file name does not match the **Data patterns** value, the input device does not identify the file as a print file. Because a listed print file appears to be missing, the input device waits for it and does not create the job.
- **Overrides patterns**: if you use overrides files, a pattern that matches some part of the file name of your overrides files.

Parent topic: [Batching methods](#)