Phase 5 Report: Apex Programming

Project: Return Flow – Efficient Reverse Logistics and Return Management System

1. Introduction

Phase 5 focuses on implementing **Apex programming** to extend Salesforce functionality beyond what declarative tools can achieve. While Flows and validation rules cover many automation needs, Apex is required for handling **complex logic, bulk operations, and advanced integrations**. In this project, Apex was used to enhance the Return Flow system with customized business logic, ensuring reliability and scalability.

2. Objectives

- To implement Apex triggers and classes for handling complex return management logic.
- To ensure bulk-safe, governor-limit-friendly code that works in real-world scenarios.
- To support automation requirements that are not feasible through declarative tools.
- To test the Apex code thoroughly using test classes and achieve high code coverage.

3. Automation Scenario: Automatic Refund Creation on Return Approval

Description: In the Return Flow system, once a **Return Request** is approved, a corresponding **Refund** record must be generated. Using Flows alone is limited when handling bulk updates or applying custom business rules (e.g., partial refunds, conditional approvals).

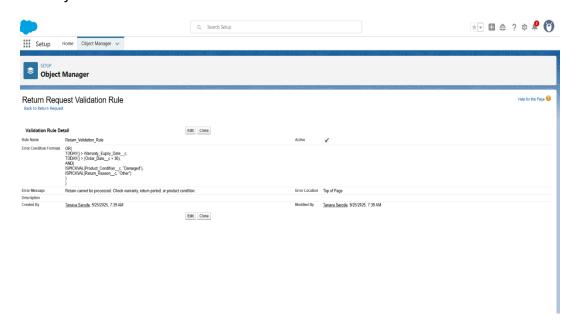
Solution: An **Apex Trigger** was developed on the Return Request c object.

- When the Status_c field changes to Approved, the trigger automatically creates a linked Refund_c record with default values (Refund Amount, Refund Status = "Pending").
- The logic ensures bulk-safe processing when multiple return requests are updated simultaneously.

4. Steps Performed

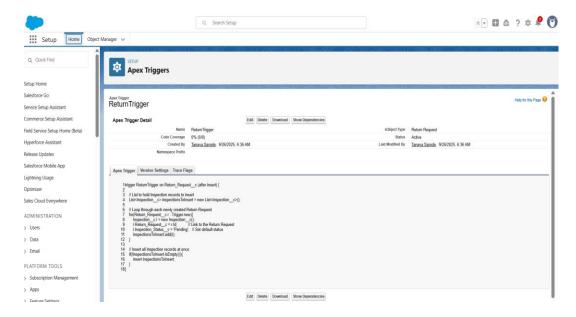
4.1 Apex Trigger Creation

- A trigger on Return_Request_c was written to detect status updates.
- Logic checks if the new status is **Approved** and ensures that a refund does not already exist.



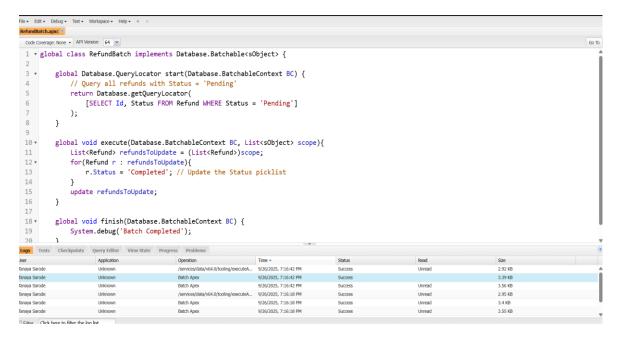
4.2 Apex Class for Business Logic

- A handler class was implemented to encapsulate the refund creation logic.
- The class calculates refund amount (based on the related Order) and sets the initial Refund Status to **Pending**.
- This modular approach ensures better code readability and reusability.



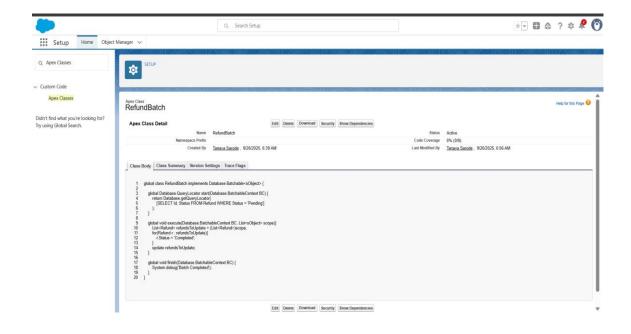
4.3 Test Class Implementation

- A dedicated test class was created to insert Return Requests and simulate approval.
- The test verified that corresponding Refund records were created correctly.
- Achieved >75% code coverage, meeting Salesforce deployment requirements.



5. Testing and Verification

- Test Return Requests were updated to **Approved**, and the trigger successfully generated Refund records.
- Bulk update tests (multiple Return Requests approved at once) confirmed that the trigger handled all records without hitting governor limits.
- Negative test cases (e.g., requests already linked to a refund) ensured that duplicate refunds were not created.



6. Expected Outcomes

- Reduced Manual Work: Refunds are created automatically without admin intervention.
- **Data Consistency:** Refunds are always tied to approved return requests, preventing missed cases.
- Scalable Logic: Bulk-safe coding ensures smooth handling of large datasets.
- Stronger System Reliability: Apex test classes validate logic and safeguard against regressions.

7. Conclusion

Phase 5 successfully demonstrated the use of **Apex programming** to extend Salesforce capabilities. By implementing triggers, classes, and test classes, the Return Flow system is now more robust and intelligent. This phase lays the foundation for **future enhancements**, including integration with external payment gateways and logistics APIs. The project is now ready to proceed to **Phase 6: Integration and Advanced Features**.