

Lab 11-1

Lab – Working with Excel

In this lab, you will develop a simple Robot that will extract information from an Excel spreadsheet we've provided to you and output to the development database.

1. Open Design Studio and create a new Robot under the HardyHardware project called "createzipcodedatabase.robot." Instead of using a web page as a URL, enter "C:\Kapow Resources\trainingzipcodes.xlsx" to load the Excel spreadsheet.
2. Add a new Type called "zipcodeList.type." Add the following Attributes:

a. zipcode	Attribute Type: Short Text	Required: No	Part of Database Key: Yes
b. city	Attribute Type: Short Text	Required: No	Part of Database Key: No
c. state	Attribute Type: Short Text	Required: No	Part of Database Key: No

When you're done, it should look like this:

Name	Storage Name	Attribute Type	Default Value	Storable	Required	Part of Database Key
zipcode		Short Text		✓		✓
city		Short Text		✓		
state		Short Text		✓		

3. Go back to your Robot. Add a new Variable from the zipcodeList Type you just created.
4. In the robot view, add a new "View as Excel" Action step before the end step: The easiest way to do this is to right mouse-click in the spreadsheet displayed in the browser panel and select "Open (Read-only)."
5. Now you'll need a step to loop through the rows in your spreadsheet. With the end step selected, click on the left top-most cell on the spreadsheet presented in the browser panel. This selects the entire spreadsheet. Follow the picture below:

Click here to select entire sheet

Then right mouse-click and select Loop | Loop Rows in Selection | Exclude First Row
(The first row contains the column headings)



TECHNICAL TRAINING LAB INSTRUCTIONS

6. Test your loop.
7. Once you've set up and tested your loop, you need to set up Extract steps to get the data you want. Select the first zip code in the browser panel, right mouse-click and select "Extract," "Text" and "zipcodeList.zipcode" from the context menus.
8. Then set up similar extraction for city and state.
9. Go to the "Tools" menu on the main menu bar and create a new database table in your development database from the zipcodeList Variable.
10. Then add a "Store in Database" step immediately preceding the end step.
 - a. Database: objectdb
 - b. Variable: zipcodeList
 - c. Execute in Design Mode: checked
11. Save your Robot
12. Run in Debug Mode. Your data will quickly be output to the new table in the development database.
13. Open the Management Console, go to the databases tab and verify that the data is there. You will be using this data in a later lab.