

ERP - Oracle Apps

Lesson 7: Flexfields

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Lesson Objectives

➤ **At the end of the session you will understand:**

- What is Flex Field
- Types of Flex Fields
- Benefits of Flex Fields



Introduction

- A flexfield is composed of segments. The segments of a flexfield contain the flexfield values. Flexfield segments are combined in a grouping called a structure. The segments that make up a particular structure are logically or functionally related. A single flexfield can have more than one structure.

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A flexfield is a field made up of sub-fields, or segments.
A flexfield appears on your form as a pop-up window that contains a prompt for each segment.

Example

The screenshot displays a software interface titled "Item Information Flexfield" with a sub-header "Segments". On the left, a label "Segments: (Category, Item, Color)" is positioned next to a small inset window. This window, titled "Item Information", contains three input fields: "Category" with the value "COM", "Item" with "87A", and "Color" with "LTN". To the right of these fields, a list of corresponding values is shown: "Computer" for Category, "Monitor" for Item, and "Light tan" for Color. Below the inset window, the text "Structure: (Category Segment + Item Segment + Color Segment)" is displayed. The entire interface is set against a dark blue background. At the bottom of the slide, there is a footer with the date "August 14, 2014", the text "Proprietary and Confidential", a navigation icon, and the "IGATE" logo with the tagline "Speed. Right. Everywhere."

When you implement a flexfield, you decide how many segments you need for a particular structure and whether you need multiple structures. Being able to define different structures for the same flexfield allows you to tailor the same flexfield to the needs of different end users.

The example on the slide shows three segments:

Category

Item

Color

These three segments together form a structure.

Types

- **There are two types of flexfields:**
 - Key flexfields
 - Descriptive flexfields

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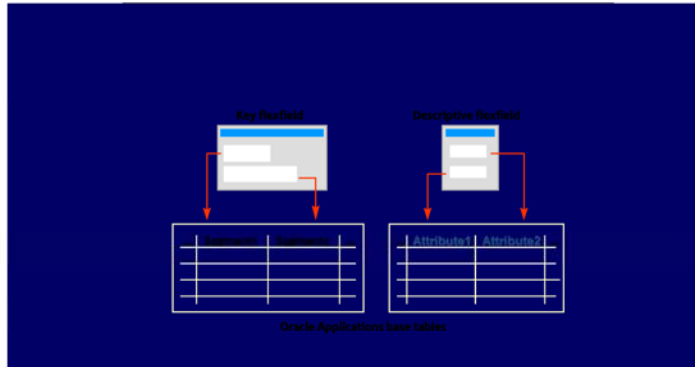
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Storage

➤ Storing FlexData Internally...



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Storing Flexfield Values in Database Tables

Each segment's value is stored in a column in one of the base tables.

The column name reflects the type of flexfield data it holds. In general, key flexfields store their data in columns called SEGMENT n , where n is a number. In general, descriptive flexfields store their data in columns called ATTRIBUTE n , where n is a number.

The number of SEGMENT and ATTRIBUTE columns available for use by a flexfield varies between flexfields. Not all flexfields can have the same number of fields defined. When implementing a flexfield, determining the number of fields available for use is an important planning step.

When To Use Flexfields?

➤ Descriptive flexfields

- To let your users create new data entry fields without programming.
- To provide user customizable “expansion space” in your forms
- To have context sensitive field arrangements that cannot be foreseen in advance.

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When To Use Flexfields?

➤ Key flexfields

- To uniquely identify an application entity with an intelligent key, where the key can be multipart and each part having a meaning.

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A flexfield appears on your form as a pop-up window that contains a prompt for each segment.

Which flexfield to Use....

- You use key flexfields to define your own structure for many of the identifiers required by Oracle Applications.
- You use descriptive flexfields to gather additional information about your business entities beyond the information required by Oracle Applications.

Benefits of Flexfields

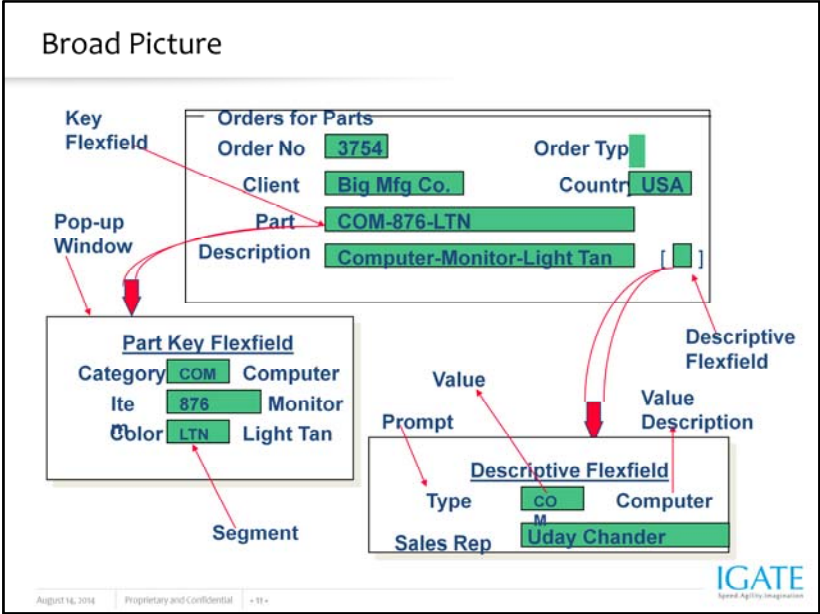
- Customize applications to support your own accounting, product, and other codes.
- Enable the construction of intelligent keys.
- Customize applications to capture additional data.
- Use the application to validate values and value combinations entered by the user.
- Support multiple field structures depending on data context.

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Summary

➤ **In this lesson, you should have learned how to:**

- What is Flex Field
- Types of Flex Fields
- Benefits of Flex Fields



Summary

➤ In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- What is Value Set
- Types of Value Set
- Validation Types of Value Set
 - NONE
 - INDEPENDENT
 - TABLE
 - DEPENDENT
 - SPECIAL
- Storing Method of Value Set
- Use of Value Set

