



# LAB- Spring Mvc -Custom Formatters

In this lab you will be understanding how to write custom formatters

## STEP -1

- 1) open SocialSecurityNumber.java under com.way2learn.entity package and observe it
- 2)Open RequestInfoData.java and observe that it has a property of type SocialSecurityNumber
- 3)Open RequestInfoController.java and observe requestInfoPost() method that it is taking RequestInfoData as a model attribute.  
When post request comes for /requestInfo.htm, ssn will come as string. But it has to be converted to SocialSecurityNumber

So, to convert string to custom type during databinding, we need to write a custom formatter.

You need to write a class implementing Formatter .

Fortunately, we have provided SSNFormatter for you.

Open the file and observe the code.

We have to register a formatter by writing a conversionService bean as shown below :

```
<bean id="conversionService"
    class="org.springframework.format.support.FormattingConversionServiceFactoryBean"
">
    <property name="formatters">
        <list>
            <bean class="com.way2learnonline.controllers.SSNFormatter" />
        </list>
    </property>
</bean>
```

We have to give the reference of conversionService to <mvc:annotation-driven /> as shown below :

```
<mvc:annotation-driven conversion-service="conversionService"/>
```

Deploy the application and submit the form with ssn value as AAA-BBB-CCCC

Observe how String is converted into SocialSecurityNumber

**Congratulations !! You know how to write custom formatters**