FormTrap JDE Implementation – Customer Pharmacare

This project came from an existing FormTrap customer running QAD ERP who moved to JDE. We told CIO Stuart Hedger that he could run both his existing QAD forms and the new JDE forms from Version 8 FormTrap Spooler and the Version 8 would allow input of XML files. At this point Pharmacare's JDE implementation team was building WORD invoice forms using XML and Stuart was comfortable with that as the recommendation from the JDE implementation team.

At some later point, Stuart became aware that the cost of forms building was becoming excessive and that many more forms were required than he had expected. He approached us for a FormTrap solution. We produced a free-of-charge prototype form – visibly very much improved on the WORD forms and with many additional functions and features that WORD does not have– said we could do the job and sold the concept.

From there it took some time to realize the JDE XML input to FormTrap was deficient in that it would not produce what we expected, which was a logical structure. In addition it had "features" such as not outputting zero values for unused numeric and amount information – which FormTrap flagged as a formatting error – so some minor changes were required to FormTrap.

We found the technique to "unpick" the JDE XML input in late December and were able to finalize the three required formats of invoice as well as the T&C document in the three days following, in time for Stuart's go live date. This from Stuart says it very well:

From: Stuart Hedger Sent: Thursday, 10 January 2013 9:25 AM To: 'paul' Subject: RE: Outstanding ...

Hey Paul,

Sorry for the delay in getting back to you, been a wee bit hectic this end.

At present I have quickly knocked up an adjustment note based on the invoice template.

Requested the extra address line to come through for export.

Statements, I have asked the business to run some off so will fwd once I get the xml files.

Other forms, I have requested a price from Red Rock to move all other forms to an XML type so we can handle them in FormTrap:

Pallet ID QA Form Purchase Order Pick Slip(s)

Once I get more info I will fwd on.

Again thanks for doing all you have to get us over the line at such short notice, it is appreciated.

Stu

Issues with JDE XML were primarily the structure did not follow expectations of a three-level document showing: INVOICE

ORDER(s) within Invoice

PRODUCT(s) within Order.

Instead, order detail were subordinate to product on each change of order number. This was easily handled by defining two conditional product lines based on the presence/absence of order details, with the "SO Present" case showing order details. Shading detail lines makes this clear on output.



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TAX INVOICE

Invoice No: 1019772 Account No: 10012923 Invoice Date: 18 Dec 2012

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Item Code	Product Description	Ship'd Qty	BO Qty	NIS Price	List Price	RRP Price	Disc. %	GST	Line Amount (inc GST)
	Brought forward from Page 1							91.86	1,010.30
100000	iber: 108193 SP nce: PETest1								
530152	BOUNCE BACK 28s (24+6)	3 EA		303.60	303.60	539.70		91.08	1,001.88
522606	BOUNCE BACK DAILY 28s	90 EA		0.00	12.63	19.99	100.00		
52535	MADDIE'S BIN + TRAY + MOUNT	3 EA		0.00	0.00	0.00			
52554	MADDIE'S RESTORE BIN H/C	3 EA		0.00	0.00	0.00			
300048	MADDIE'S FOOT&HEEL BALM 50g	3 EA		7.90	7.90	12.65		2.37	26.07
522369	MADDIE'S EPO 1000mg 200s	3 EA		1.50	13.38	19.99	88.79	0.45	4.95
	nber: 108194 SP nce: PE237147								
250600	DIAMOXSILT DS TABS 30s		3 EA	26.23	32.79	54.95	20.00		
250611	DIAMOXSILT DS TABS 60s		3 EA	41.96	52.45	87.95	20.00		

Product with an Order ...

<pre>- <detail_line_1_section_s2></detail_line_1_section_s2></pre>					
- <print_order_number_information_s14></print_order_number_information_s14>					
<order_number_type_co_id1>Order Number/Type/Co</order_number_type_co_id1>					
<documentorderinvoicee_id2>108193</documentorderinvoicee_id2>					
<ordertype_id5>SP</ordertype_id5>					
<companykeyorderno_id8>00001</companykeyorderno_id8>					
<costcenter_id9>Business Unit</costcenter_id9>					
<costcenter_id10>0100</costcenter_id10>					
<rma_number_type_id11>RMA Number/Type</rma_number_type_id11>					
<related_po_number_id17>Related PO Number</related_po_number_id17>					
<reference_id19>PETest1</reference_id19>					
<customer_p.oid20>Customer P.O.</customer_p.oid20>					
<pre></pre>					
<amtpriceperunit2_id148>303.6000</amtpriceperunit2_id148>					
<taxable_flag_id33>Y</taxable_flag_id33>					
<s_id25>S</s_id25>					
<extended_pricedisplay_id235>910.80</extended_pricedisplay_id235>					
<net_price_id142>Net Price</net_price_id142>					
<dsc2_description_wfid89>BOUNCE BACK 28s (24+6)</dsc2_description_wfid89>					

... and Product without an Order

- <Detail_Line_1_Section_S2>
<AmtPricePerUnit2_ID148>.0000</AmtPricePerUnit2_ID148>
<Taxable_Flag_ID33>Y</Taxable_Flag_ID33>
<S_ID25>S</S_ID25>
<Net_Price_ID142>Net Price</Net_Price_ID142>
<DSC2_Description_wf_ID89>BOUNCE BACK DAILY 28s</DSC2_Description_wf_ID89>

Once the data issues were resolved, the remaining design time was minimal as the same JDE XML file was available for all forms, with rules on Order Type used to segregate the required invoice formats. These features and standards are shown in the attached PDF document file:

 Differentiation of form types based on <<u>OrderType_ID5>SM</u></<u>OrderType_ID5></u> where this form is produced for types SM, SP and SO and other values represent different forms, such as Export or Retail.

- 2. All company demographics and the logo are inserted at run time from lookup tables rather than input data. This makes any future change to data (or to more than one invoicing entity) a simple table change with no impact on forms nor production.
- 3. Background colors are chosen close to the Pharmacare logo, this produces a finished document that looks elegant while properly conveying the information.
- 4. Zero values are conditionally suppressed using logic. This removes clutter, and in conjunction with alternate line shading ensures the document is easily read. Meaningful zero values (**NIS Price**) are retained. On review, we should also suppress zero **List** and **RRP** values.
- 5. Brought and Carried Forward values are included, with previous and next page numbers shown.
- 6. Details extend down to the bottom of the page on pages prior to the last. This form does not use a suppressed second and subsequent page header which is a useful feature of FormTrap for efficient space utilization.
- 7. This form has a full page of T&Cs constructed with FormTrap's indentation facilities designed specifically for verbose text options. The same facilities are used for direct mail, debtor control letters, etc. part of what we call FormTrap "automated word processing" facilities. As you can see, the company name is embedded from lookup tables, so this too can be changed with zero impact on the form set or production.
- 8. Our approach which completes the most difficult form in detail until all issues are resolved, then to use that as a model for other forms and for "snippets" that are re-used on other forms is proven over many customers and is recommended for persons doing their own form design. A small investment in having FormTrap either design or review your first form will pay big dividends down the track.

Finally, we have reviewed the XML functions in FormTrap and can see a very simple solution to simply "move" nodes around to format the logical structure required specifically for JDE but applicable to any other "illogically formatted" XML inputs.