# Spreadsheet integration with EBS

Oracle E-Business Suite data management efficiency. A comparison of the most popular methods to data handling efficiency

What are the options?

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Former Oracle Specialist – Tetra Tech Inc., Project Functional Consultant

15+ Years Experience in Oracle EBS 10+ Years Experience using More4Apps, using DataLoader & Oracle Web ADI



#### Be Accurate. Be Efficient. Be Productive.

Which solution do you need?

#### More4Apps Wizards

Improve your business process efficiency and data accuracy using our range of feature rich Excel based solutions which allow **end-users** to quickly upload mass data.

#### More4Apps Mobile

Manage **Supply Chain** anytime, anywhere. Eliminate paper lists and handheld barcode scanners with real time Oracle transactions via your smartphone.



# Application Interface Wizard

Empower your **developers** with the ability to create customized Excel integration solutions to improve your business productivity.

#### **Automation Solutions**

Save time by digitally extracting accurate invoice data and eliminate the need for manual data entry.



Specialists in providing easy to use integration solutions for mass data handling.

# Data Management Options

Manual Data Entry

DataLoader

Oracle SQL\*Loader

Oracle Web ADI

More4Apps
Application
Interface Wizard

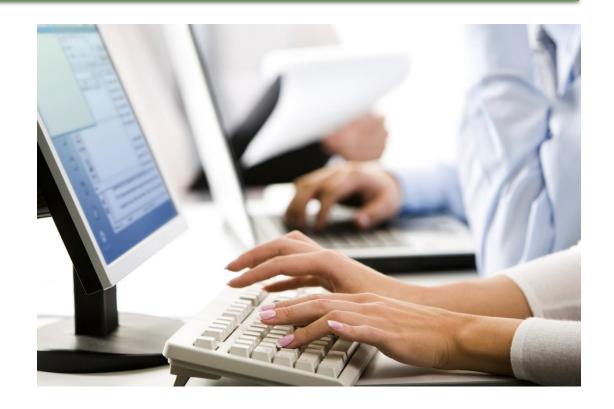
More4Apps End User Wizards



# Manual Data Entry

#### **Pros**

- ✓ User Controlled
- ✓ No Dependency on IT
- ✓ No Dependency on other software
- ✓ Fully Supported by software vendor





# Manual Data Entry

#### Cons

★ Slow – Labor Intensive

More data means...

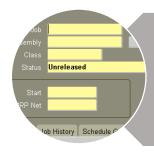
- More Data Quality Issues
- More resources
- More time
- More money



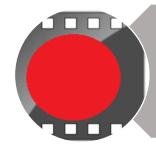


#### DataLoader

Automated manual data entry.



Uses Macro, Browser Control and Forms Playback



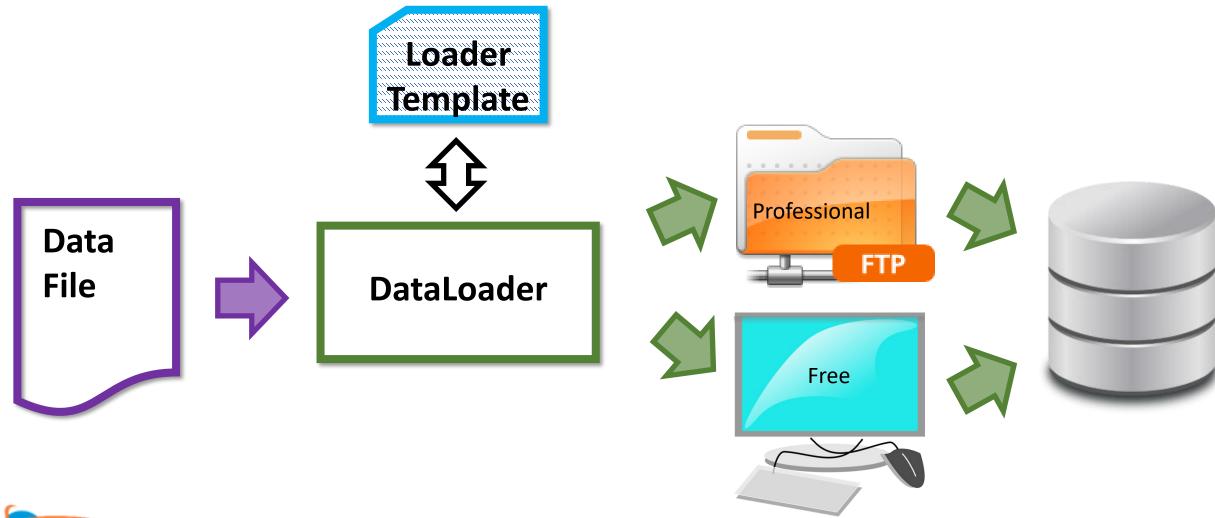
Experienced Users Setup Playback Steps



End user runs load with forms validation



### DataLoader Automated manual data entry.





# DataLoader Automated manual data entry.

#### Data vs Keystrokes

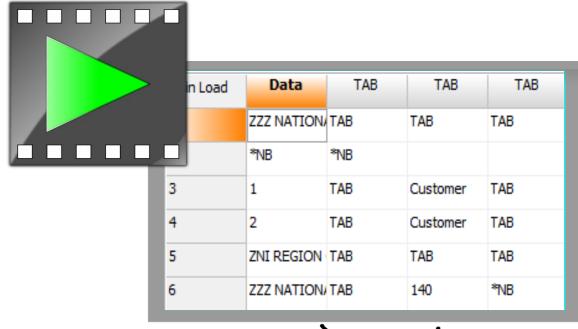
Main Load	Data	TAB	TAB	TAB	Data	TAB	Data	TAB	Data	TAB	Key Strokes	*NB	*NB	*NB
1	ZZZ NATION/	TAB	TAB	TAB	National Cost	TAB	NZD	TAB	-4	TAB	\{DELETE}	*NB	*NB	*NB
2	*NB	*NB												
3	1	TAB	Customer	TAB	Customer Cla	TAB	310	TAB	=	TAB	STAFF	ENT	*DN	
4	2	TAB	Customer	TAB	Customer Cla	TAB	310	TAB	=	TAB	INTERBRANC	ENT	*SP	
5	ZNI REGION	TAB	TAB	TAB	North Island	TAB	NZD	TAB	-4	TAB	\{DELETE}	*NB	*NB	*NB
6	ZZZ NATIONA	TAB	140	*NB	*NB									
7	1	TAB	Order	TAB	Ship From	TAB	540	TAB	=	TAB	PMB Whanga	ENT	*DN	
8	1	TAB	Customer	TAB	Customer Cla	TAB	310	TAB	=	TAB	STAFF	ENT	*DN	
9	2	TAB	Order	TAB	Ship From	TAB	540	TAB	=	TAB	PMB Whanga	ENT	*DN	
10	2	TAB	Customer	TAB	Customer Cla	TAB	310	TAB	=	TAB	INTERBRANC	ENT	*DN	
11	3	TAB	Order	TAB	Ship From	TAB	540	TAB	=	TAB	PMB Mangaw	ENT	*DN	
12	3	TAB	Customer	TAB	Customer Cla	TAB	310	TAB	=	TAB	STAFF	ENT	*DN	
13	4	TAB	Order	TAB	Ship From	TAB	540	TAB	=	TAB	PMB Mangaw	ENT	*DN	

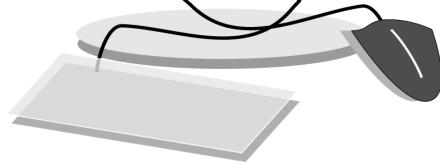
#### DataLoader

Automated manual data entry.

#### Pros

- ✓ Super User Friendly
- ✓ Non Technical Solution
- ✓ Doesn't need other tools (e.g. spreadsheet software)
- ✓ Replicates Manual Data Entry
- ✓ Free for basic version







#### DataLoader

Automated manual data entry.

#### Cons

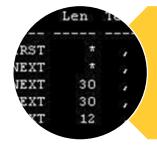
- Ties up your PC
- Convoluted Data Layout
- Each load requires configuration demand on a resource that knows the tool
- High failure rate especially on large quantity of data & Complex Data Entry
- Limited Validation. Easy to lose track and hard to fix errors
- Templates not stored or saved in the server







Technical Product Used by DBA's and Developers

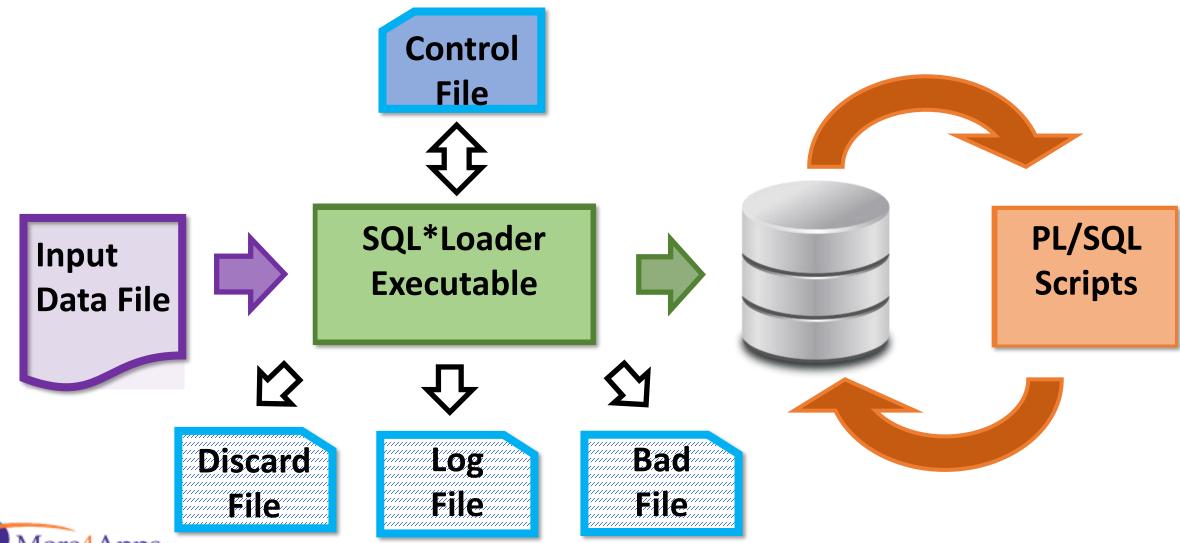


Command Line Based Solution



Database Level Loading and Security



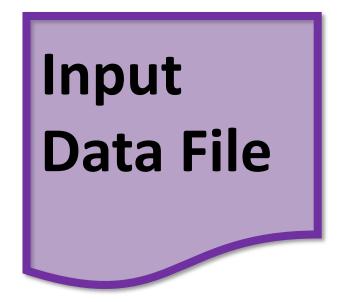




#### **Control File**

```
load data
 infile *
 replace
 into table departments
 ( dept
         position (02:05) char(4),
    deptname position (08:27) char(20)
begindata
     COMPUTER SCIENCE
COSC
ENGL
     ENGLISH LITERATURE
     MATHEMATICS
MATH
POLY
     POLITICAL SCIENCE
```





```
10001, "Scott Tiger", 1000, 40
10002, "Frank Naude", 500, 20
```

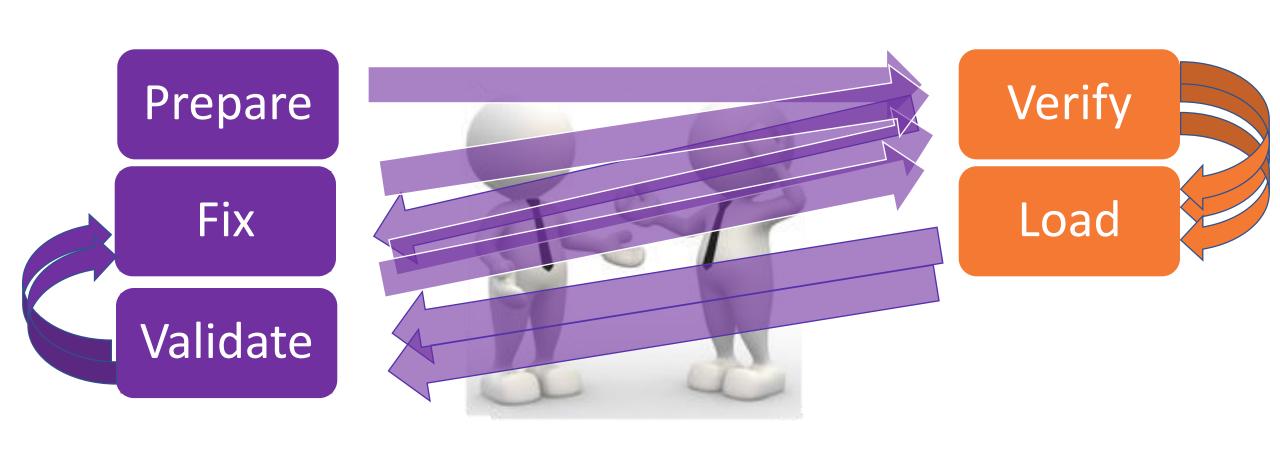


#### **Pros**

- Handles massive data loading
- Supports fixed format and variable data files
- ✓ Very fast

```
Number to load: ALL
     Number to skip: 0
     Errors allowed: 50
     Bind array:
                     64 rows, maximum of 256000 bytes
     Continuation:
                     none specified
     Path used:
                    Conventional
    Table SCOTT. JREYMER, loaded from every logical record.
     Insert option in effect for this table: APPEND
       Column Name
                                    Position Len Term Encl Datatype
                                        FIRST
                                                              CHARACTER
    PASSPORT ID
                                         NEXT
                                                              CHARACTER
                                         NEXT
     NAME
                                                              CHARACTER
     CITY
                                                              CHARACTER
    LAST UPDATE
                                         NEXT
                                                 12
                                                              DATE DD-MON-YYYY
Table SCOTT. JREYMER:
 33 Rows successfully loaded.
 O Rows not loaded due to data errors.
 O Rows not loaded because all WHEN clauses were failed.
  O Rows not loaded because all fields were null.
     Space allocated for bind array:
                                                     38016 bytes (64 rows)
    Read buffer bytes: 1048576
    Total logical records skipped:
                                            0
     Total logical records read:
                                           33
     Total logical records rejected:
                                            0
     Total logical records discarded:
                                            0
```





Where's My Data Updates?



#### Cons

- Internal Development and testing (never end projects)
- Highly Technical Resources Required to import data
- High level of maintenance/Change Control
- Risk of staff changeover –knowledge transfer
- Definitions not stored on the database
- Requires functional staff overview of data and Errors
- Likely affected by Oracle patches & upgrades
- Doesn't support Parent/Child data loading
- Direct Database User (APPS).
- Unaudited, insecure

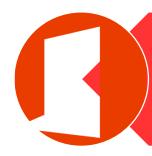
More4Apps

- Hard to scope lots of people involved (user expectations may be different to IT)
- Hard to deliver to everyone's expectations



### Web ADI

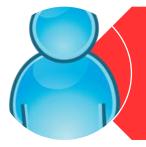
#### Create Integrator



Integrate desktop applications with Oracle

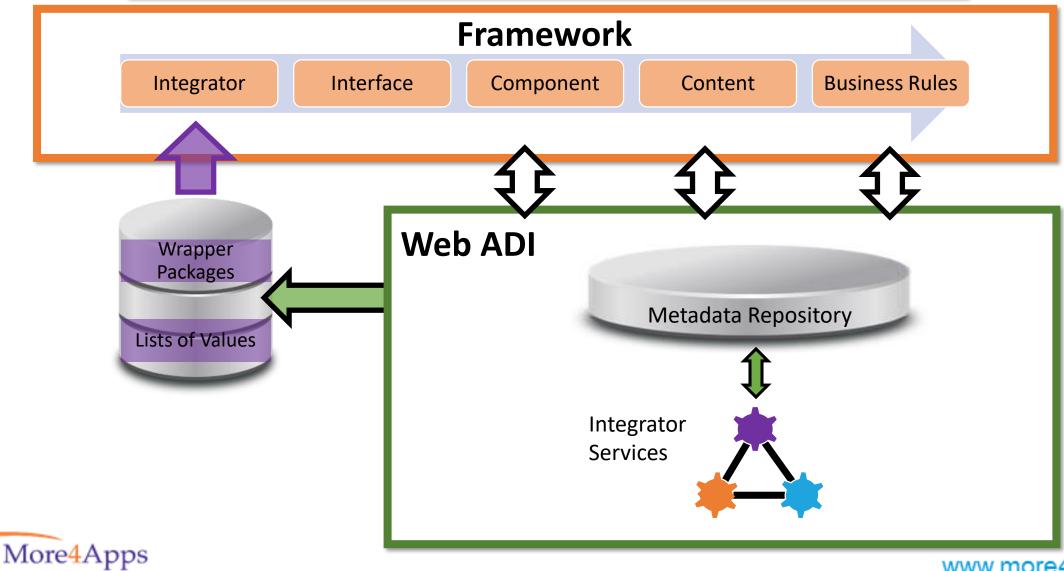


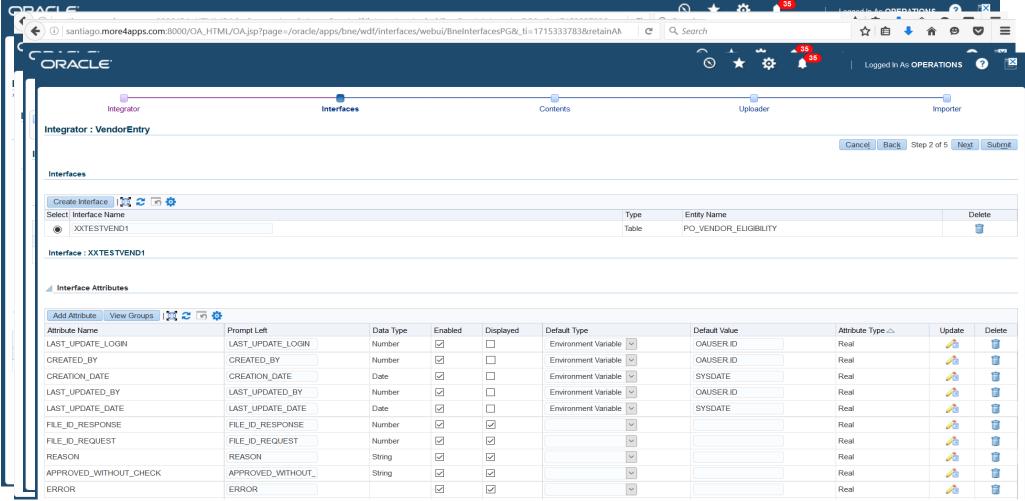
Developers create loaders



Data load executed by end users





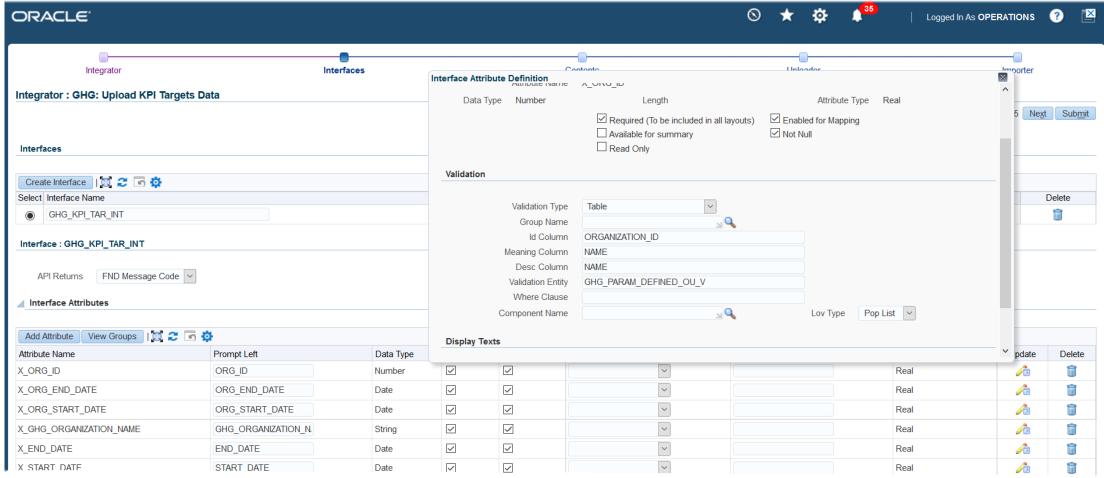




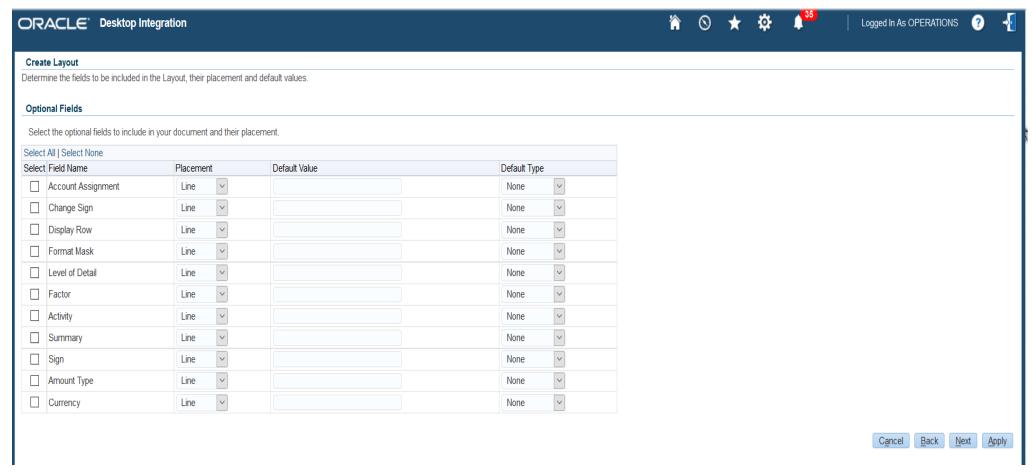
### PL/SQL Scripts

```
DECLARE
BEGIN
BNE_INTEGRATOR_UTILS.CREATE_TABLE_LOV
(P APPLICATION ID => 20003, -- your application id
P_INTERFACE_CODE => 'XXCCVEND1_XINTG_INTF1', --your interface name
P INTERFACE COL NAME => 'P VENDOR NO', -- your column name from
bne inetrface cols b column
P ID COL => 'SEGMENT1', -- LOOKUP CODE UPLOADED --
P MEAN COL => 'SEGMENT1', -- Shown in sheet --
P DESC COL => 'VENDOR NAME',
P TABLE => 'PO VENDORS',
TP ADDL W C => '1=1',
P WINDOW CAPTION => 'Vendors',
P WINDOW WIDTH => 450,
P WINDOW HEIGHT => 300,
P TABLE BLOCK SIZE => 10,
P TABLE SORT ORDER => 'SEGMENT1', -- sortable by meaning, not description-
P USER ID => 1562,
P POPLIST FLAG => 'N'
END;
```

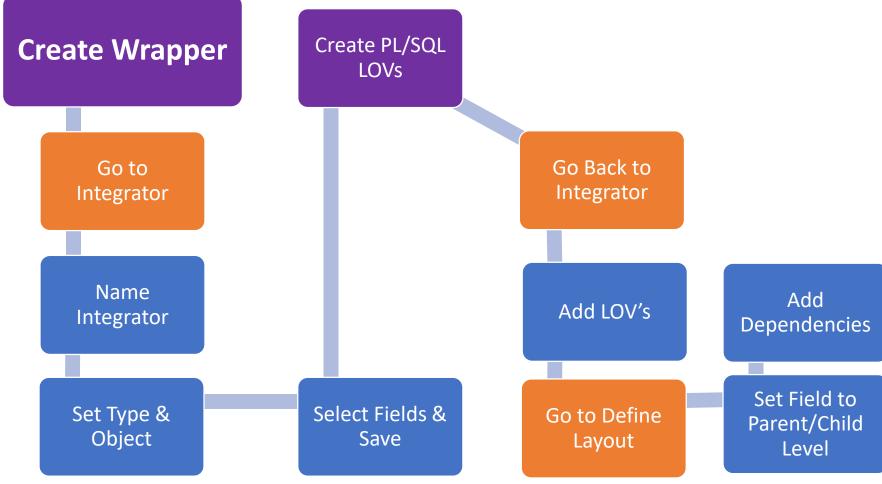






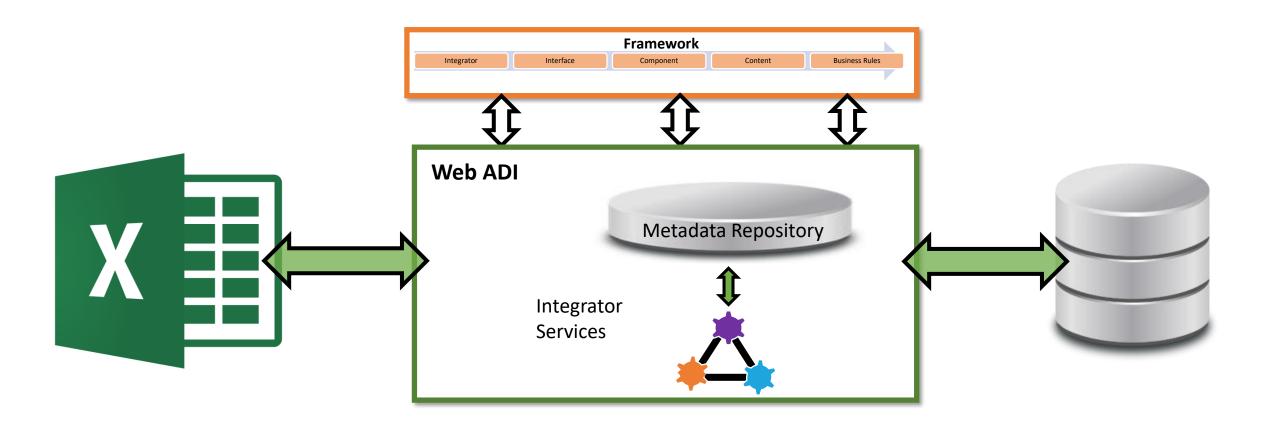








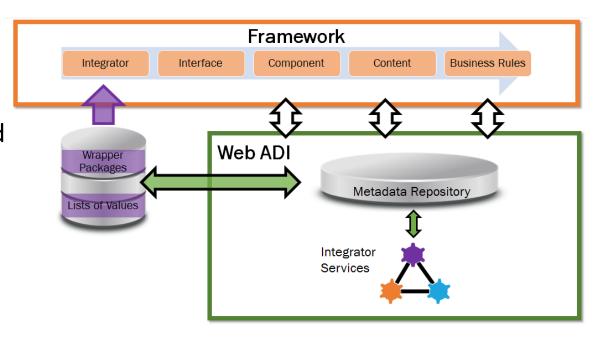
# Web ADI Run Integrator



#### Web ADI

#### **Pros**

- ✓ Included in Oracle licence
- ✓ Oracle Development Platform Supported
- ✓ Some prebuilt, supported integrators
- ✓ Specific to your needs
- ✓ Loaders kept in Repository

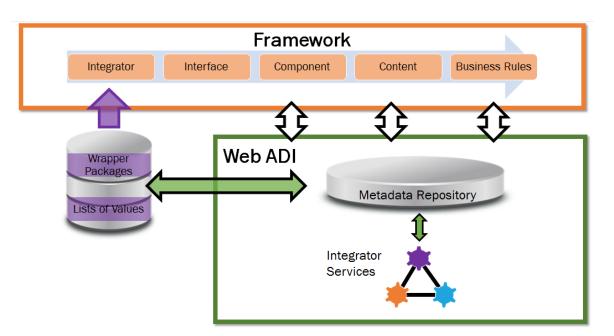




#### Web ADI

#### Cons

- Convoluted Development & Design Process
- Requires Maintenance/Patching
- Requires Technical Expertise
- Affected by Patches & Upgrades
- Complex knowledge transfer
- Wrapper packages normally required
- LOVs difficult to build
- Hard to deliver to everyone's expectations
- Internal Development & testing
- Difficult to debug



- Very Basic User Interface
- Each data element is a separate spreadsheet
- Limited download functionality



#### More4Apps Application Interface Wizard



Integrate Excel with Oracle



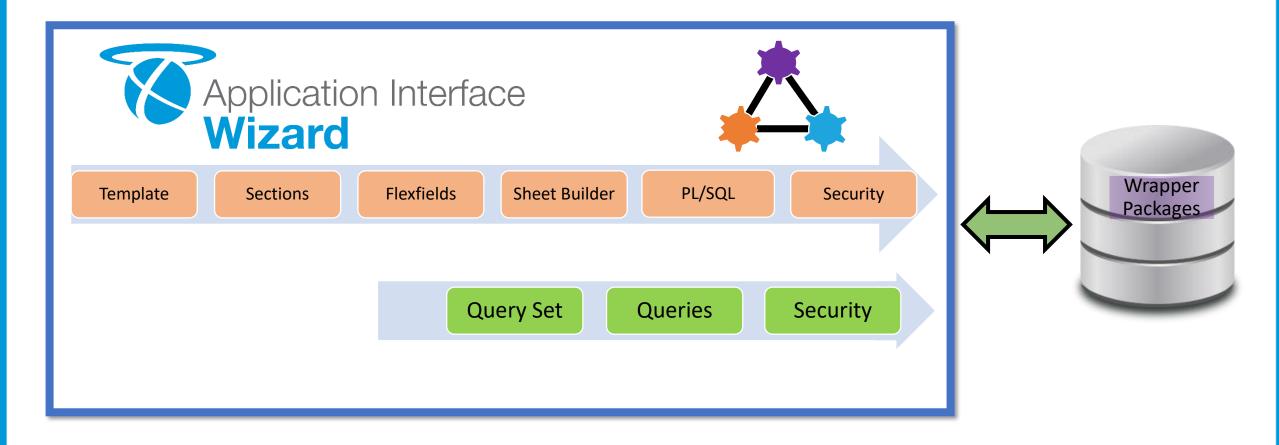
Developers create loaders



Data load executed by end users

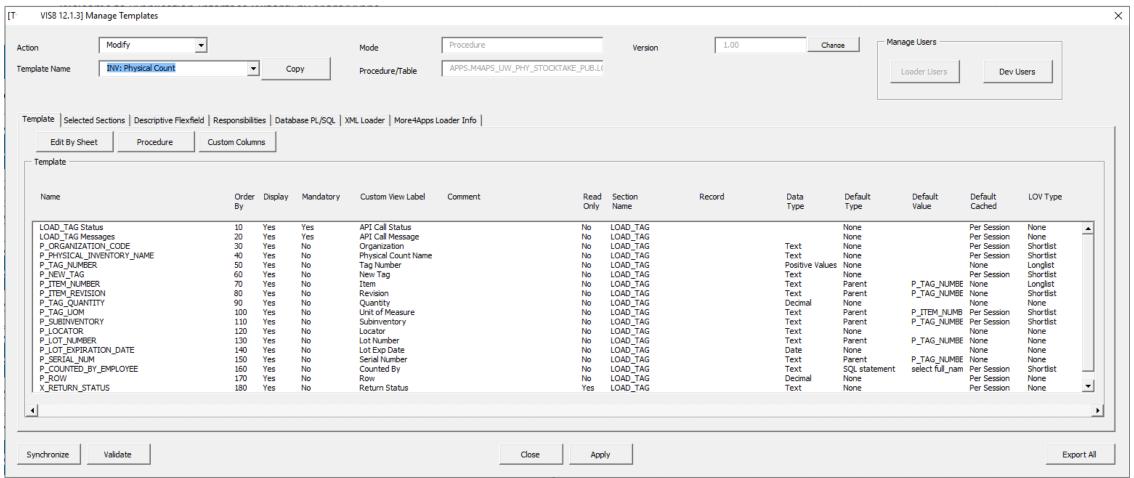


### More4Apps Application Interface Wizard



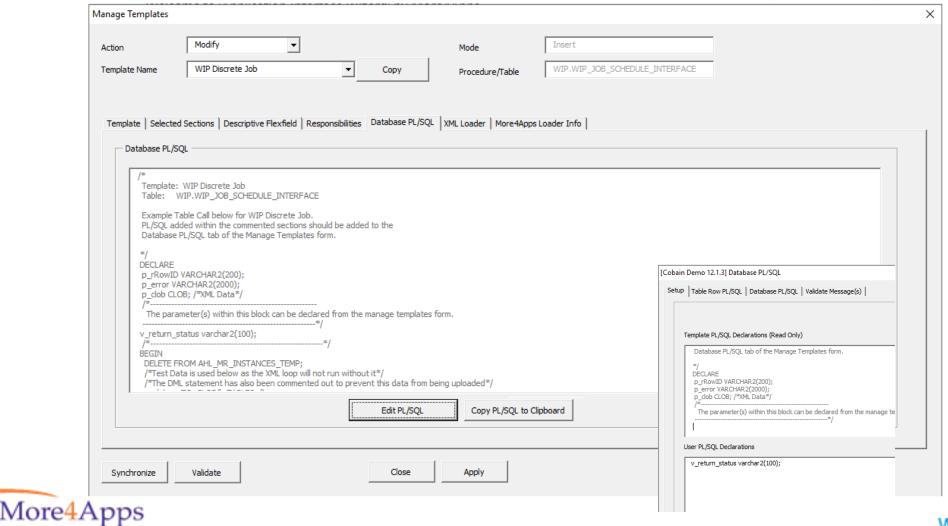


#### Application Interface Wizard – Define Template

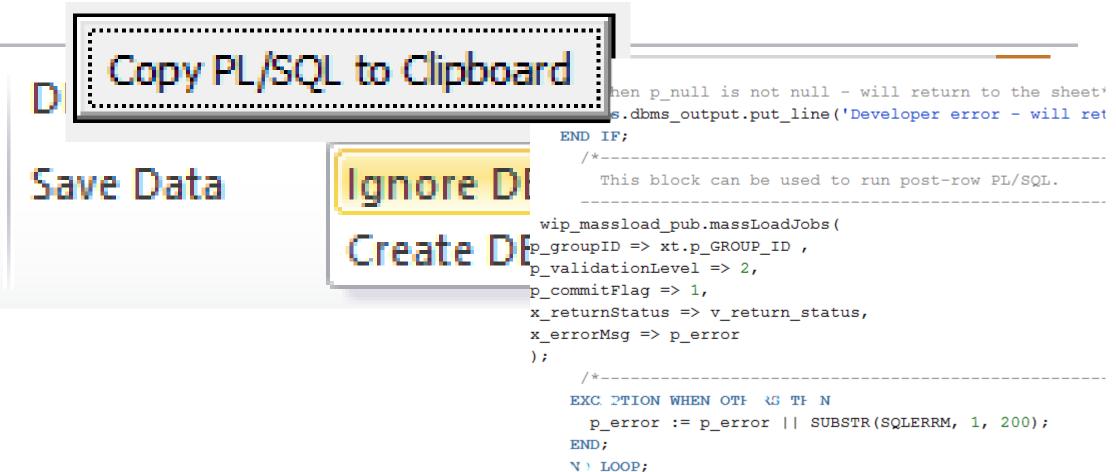




#### Application Interface Wizard - Runtime PL/SQL

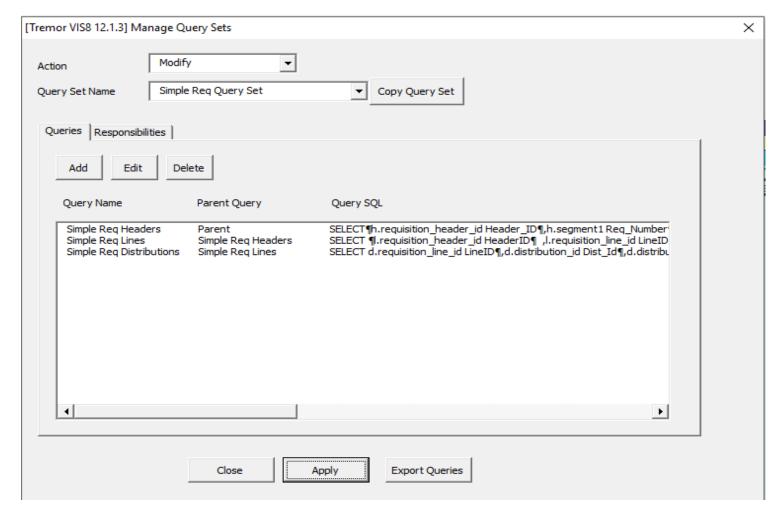


#### Application Interface Wizard - Debugging



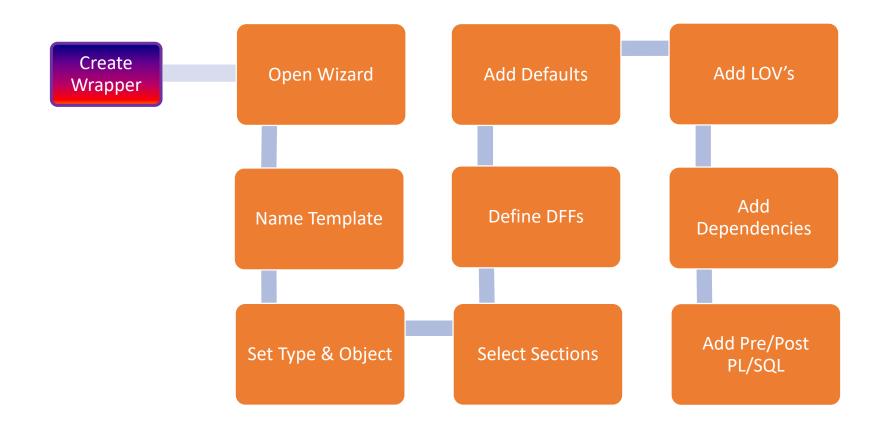


#### Application Interface Wizard - Downloader





### Application Interface Wizard





#### More4Apps Application Interface Wizard

#### **Pros**

- Can build many loaders for End Users
- Development tool where the platform is supported by More4Apps
- Standardization with a "template library"
- Easier transfer of knowledge because development is all in Excel
- ✓ Embedded PL/SQL at run time for complex validation
- Embedded PL/SQL to reduce custom database objects
- ✓ Supports DBMS\_OUTPUT
- ✓ Supports copy code to Toad/SQL Developer to help understand API

- ✓ Supports Attachments
- ✓ Handles multilevel PL/SQL packages
- ✓ Easy implementation of Flexfields
- ✓ User form with all data elements per section
- ✓ Flexible sheet design, users can move columns
- Embedded downloader to make data updates easy



### More4Apps Application Interface Wizard

#### Cons

- Requires technical expertise
- Effected by patches/changes from Oracle
- Hard to deliver to everyone's expectations
- Internal Development & testing









Integrate Excel with Oracle



**Prebuild Loaders** 



Designed for End User Data loading



Procure to Pay

Order to Cash

Projects

Manufacturing & Inventory

Finance

AP Invoice (with automation)

**Suppliers** 

**Purchase Orders** 

Requisitions

PO Receipts

**Price Lists** 

**Pricing Modifiers** 

Customers

**AR Invoices** 

AR Receipts

Sales Orders

Sales Quotes

**Price Lists** 

**Pricing Modifiers** 

**Projects** 

Budgets

**Transactions** 

**Events** 

Agreements & Funding

Labor Cost Rates **Items** 

Item Extension

Item Costs

Bills of Material

Routings

Material

**Transactions** 

Assets

**GL** Journal

**Human Resources** 

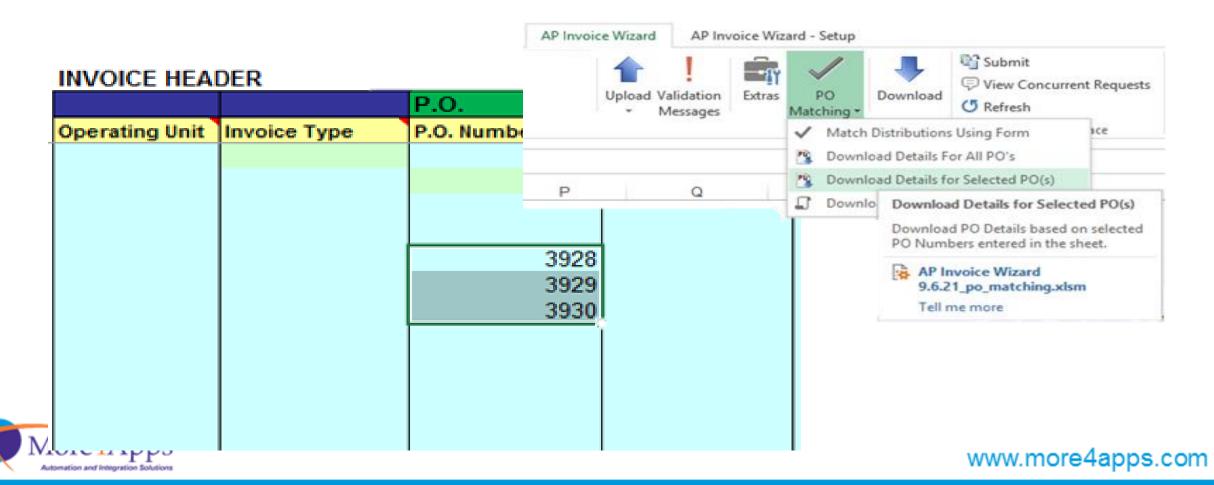
Employees

Special Info

**Elements** 



### Designed for the task at hand





# Need to understand the API's?



#### **Pros**

- Designed for the End user
- ✓ Work out of the box
- Validates before data before uploading
- Tested and supported by More4Apps
- Consistently enhanced and improved
- ✓ Uses Oracle Public APIs and/or open Interfaces\*\*
- ✓ Same tool works in Oracle EBS 11i and R12\*
- Controlled and predictable cost (can anticipate annual support cost and the need for additional users)
- ✓ Supported by Oracle\*\*

#### Cons

- Not built to be a complex reporting tool
- Designed for specific function





- Some exceptions apply. Support for Oracle Cloud development is underway.
- \*\* Some products use custom API or insert scripts. Use is controlled by profile options.

Let's take a look at a few

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Oracle E-Business Suite data management efficiency. A comparison of the most popular methods to data handling efficiency

What are the options?

Rick Matthews – More4Apps

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