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SECOND EDITION

BizTalk 2013 Recipes

A Problem-Solution Approach

*SPEED YOUR BIZTALK DEVELOPMENT
USING THIS POWER-PACKED COLLECTION
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SOLUTIONS*

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CHAPTER 1



Recent Developments

The two latest releases of BizTalk (2010 and 2013) provide a number of new features that will aid developers and increase the ability of the platform to support solutions built on it.

New Functionalty in BizTalk 2013

BizTalk 2013 introduces a number of new adapters, but the main focus of this release is on cloud-based technologies and functionality. Recipes 1-1 through 1-16 outline several aspects to this functionality, while Chapter 6 has coverage for many of the new adapters and Chapter 12 focuses entirely on cloud-based concepts. The following bullets list some of the key areas of functionality:

- Updates for HL7, SWIFT, X12, and EDIFACT. These schemas and processes are updated to support the latest requirements for the various standards. Chapter 8 demonstrates how to work with X12 EDI.
- View artifact dependencies (see Recipe 1-12).
- New adapters (SFTP, SharePoint, REST support, LOB, etc.). There is coverage of numerous adapters in Chapter 6.
- Simplified setup of ESB (see Recipe 1-11).
- Host handler association of dynamic send ports. See Chapter 10 for a recipe associated with administration.
- XslCompiledTransform maps (see Recipe 1-14).
- Building hybrid on-premise and cloud-based applications, connecting to Azure Service Bus and Azure Storage, Access Control Service, paying for use and other cloud-based solutions are covered in Chapter 12.
- Hosting BizTalk rapidly in the cloud (see Recipe 1-15).

New Functionalty in BizTalk 2010

The primary updates in BizTalk 2010, which are all still available in BizTalk 2013, centered around the BizTalk mapper user interface and EDI trading partner configuration and management. Additional updates included improvements to administrative functionality and the consolidation of tools within the BizTalk Admin Console. Recipes 1-1 through 1-10 are meant to introduce this new functionality, while Chapter 8 focuses entirely on the EDI components.

The most obvious piece of new functionality for all BizTalk developers was the mapper interface. A new toolbar offers a number of features allowing for better navigation, smarter linking, and an overall better user experience. Figure 1-1 shows this new toolbar.



Figure 1-1. *The BizTalk 2010 mapper toolbar*

The most innovative piece of new functionality released was the EDI Trading Partner management interface. The entire engine was revamped, and what was impossible before became possible. Exchanging documents among multiple business divisions and multiple partners with different envelope and document configurations and tracking settings became a snap. Developers of EDI solutions found this functionality refreshing and much needed.

Almost as important as asking “What’s new?” is considering “What’s gone?” Several core pieces of functionality were removed in BizTalk 2010. The most notable was the Health and Activity Tracking (HAT) application and the ability to do administration of ports and orchestrations directly from Visual Studio using BizTalk Explorer. These were both central to a developer’s everyday use of BizTalk, and in many respects, it is unfortunate that these tools are gone. Everything is now centralized in the BizTalk Administration Console, and most of the functionality of HAT and BizTalk Explorer became available in that console.

1-1. Using the Relevance Tree View

Problem

You have complex schemas in your map, and you are having difficulty seeing what nodes are being used.

Solution

By using the relevance tree view, only the nodes that are actually being used in mapping the active tab will be shown. Use the following steps to work with this functionality:

1. Open an existing map in Visual Studio. By default, the full tree view will be shown. Dotted lines show that some child node is being mapped, but the schema would have to be manually expanded to see what specific node it is. An example of this is shown in [Figure 1-2](#).

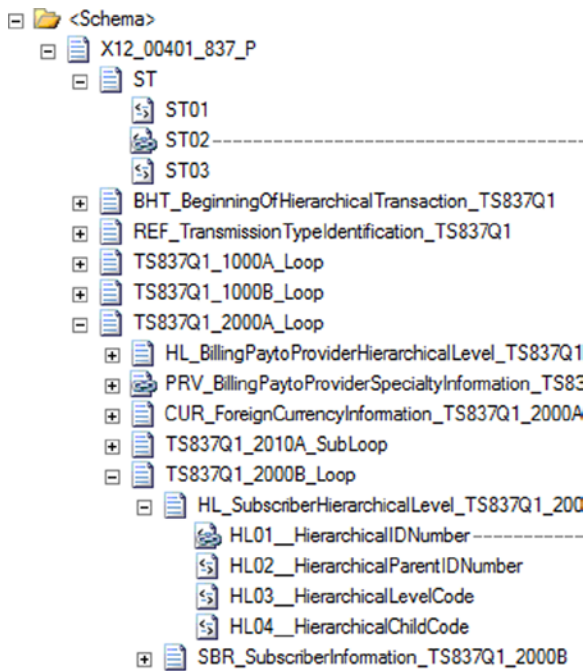


Figure 1-2. Default full tree view

2. Click the first button on the mapping toolbar to show the relevant links for the source schema, or click the last button to show them for the target schema. Clicking this button causes only the mapped nodes to be displayed, as shown in Figure 1-3.