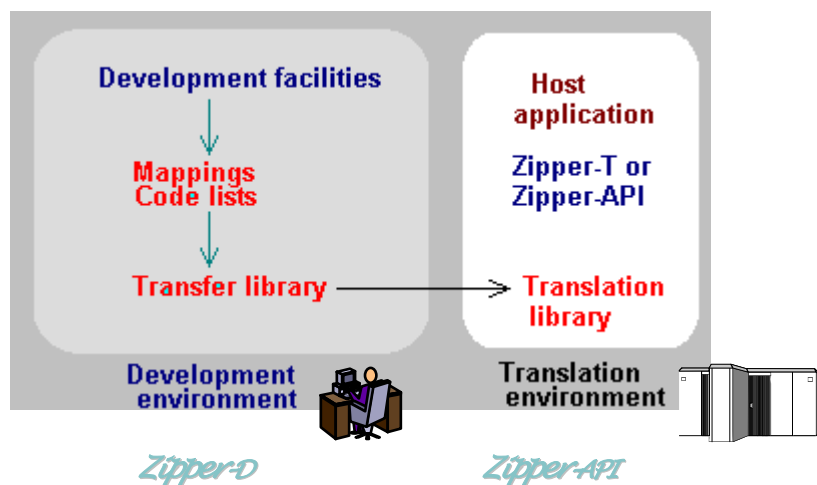# ZIPPER

Product Overview

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Zipper is Object Oriented Software designed specifically to perform data conversion between different document formats on any platform including: Windows, Linux, Unix, AS-400, and others.

Zipper provides a simple way to format EDI enabled business applications, or to add EDI capability to existing programs. The application can operate on data in its own format, letting *Zipper* handle the complex task of generating, validating, and parsing standard EDI messages.

Zipper is suitable for a wide range of applications from low end PC based workstations to heavy-duty corporate gateways. The system has two independent components:

Zipper-D A Windows based Map Development System providing a highly productive tool to create, edit, test and compile any-to-any data format conversion "maps" using a simple graphical user interface (GUI) and easy-to-use drag-and-drop mapping features. Once tested, the maps can be exported to any platform or production environment to be executed in conjunction with *Zipper-D* our stand-alone, cross-platform translation Engine.

Zipper-API A translation engine in the form of a C++ object library or Windows DLL to convert data from any format to any other format. *Zipper-API* offers over 25 translation and acknowledgement functions that can be invoked directly from any application or executed as a batch application using with a command (.bat) file. Data files of any format can be placed in any 'Source' directory and then converted to other formats. Output can be directed to any 'Target' directory, given the user total control over how, when and where to translate, acknowledge and archive data. A log file is generated for every translation session providing the user with detail information to trace and correct errors. Functional Acknowledgements (997 and/or CONTRL) can be generated automatically whether requested by sender or not.

Features:

Blasting Speed

- A *Zipper* translation definition or 'map' is held as a binary 'object' which is executed directly in memory without the need to install and interpret large EDI standards tables or other structures
- Initialization is instant
- Program is lean and super-fast, occupying very little space in memory
- Raw translation speed is extremely high: hundreds of thousands of characters per second
- Up to 20 times faster that traditional translators

Platform Independence

- Develop and test your maps on a Windows or Linux desktop using ZIPPER Mapper
- All maps can be exported to any platform as an ASCII file
- The Translation Engine (Zipper-API) runs on any platform that supports a C++ compiler including: Windows 98, 2000, NT, XT, Linux, UNIX, Mac OS, AS/400, and others.
- The Zipper Translation Engine can be executed in batch form driven by a command file, or its translation functions can be called directly from an application or gateway.

Flexible Proprietary formats

- Just about any formatted document can be interpreted: ANSI X12, EDIFACT, XML, Proprietary files.
- The ordering of data items in a proprietary file is not significantly limited by EDI requirements.
- Formats are quickly specified via a simple mouse interface, using an sample document as guide
- A proprietary definition can be automatically checked against sample documents.
- A variety of flat file translations can be set up automatically, as described below.

Two way Standards support

- All versions of UN/EDIFACT and ANSI X12 standards are supported
- Message and transaction set definitions can be imported directly from release specification files
- Powerful interactive facilities to generate new/modified messages or transaction set types
- Structure diagram documentation can be generated automatically from message/map definitions
- Automatically generate a wide variety of 'flat file' proprietary document definitions and set up translation definitions from a ZIPPER EDI message definition at the same time it generates documentation of the flat-file format

Comprehensive Data Mapping

- Source and target definitions are displayed side-by-side on the screen. You link corresponding items by simple drag-and-drops
- Source items may be mapped to any number of target items.
- Source items may appear in a different sequence from target items.
- The source item to be mapped to a target item can be selected from a repeating structure according to its content.
- The target items can be mapped from sums or counts of repeating source items.
- Any number of source items, sums and counts may be combined by a succession of additions, subtractions, multiplications, divisions and concatenations to form a single target item.
- Test translations 'on-the-fly' and examine the results
- Automatically generate complete documentation for any translation

Code List Checking and Conversion

- Any coded value in a source document can be checked against a code list and, if required, replaced by another value during translation.
- ZIPPER code checking tables can be set up automatically from EDIFACT or X12 release files.
- Create code checking and conversion tables from scratch, or edit existing tables.

Any to any format conversion

- Generate formatted text from EDIFACT and/or X12 messages
- Convert an EDI message to another kind of EDI message (turn-around map)
- Convert EDIFACT to ANSI X12 and vise-versa
- Convert a flat-file into another flat-file with a different structure
- Translate the output file of an Accounts Receivable program into the format required by a different brand of General Ledger program.
- A company's proprietary purchase order format can be translated into the format used by a major supplier.
- A composite format that includes a formatted text header followed by an EDIFACT interchange can be translated to a proprietary format
- Convert files from one data base format to another

Intelligent Translation

- Discriminate between EDIFACT and X12 interchanges, with their syntax variants, and automatically select the appropriate translation map
- Handle multiple versions of message or transaction set types and select the appropriate translation for each
- Select the translations to be applied to an interchange according to the values of data elements in its header (UNB or ISA) segment
- Select translation at the functional group level
- Generate Functional Acknowledgements (997/CONTRL) automatically whether requested or not.

Keeping the user informed

- Event log containing details of major activities and error diagnostics
- Audit trail of details for each interchange, functional group, message and transaction set that is translated or generated by the translator.
- Generating log into memory buffers to provide greater flexibility for the host application
- Retain a copy of any incoming interchanges that give rise to a translation error
- Access to all data elements in incoming and outgoing service segments, giving an application the ability to maintain its own audit trail in arbitrary form.
- Disable the logging of everything except success messages.

Accessible and adaptive

- *Zipper* can be directly controlled by any application (over 50 callable API functions)
- Convert very large EDI files with blasting speeds
- Migrate seamlessly between platforms
- Integrate automatically with TEMPLAR
- Add EDI capability to your existing applications
- Distribute runtime "kits" with a translation engine and a map library to any non-EDI compliant trading partner
- EDI enable large communities at once

For more information or to receive a free evaluation kit please contact:

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