



BPA
Platform

Technical Overview

Convert XML to Recordset Tool

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Head Office:

Codeless Platforms

Suite 1 & 2 Bourne Gate

25 Bourne Valley Road

Poole

BH12 1DY

United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0) 330 99 88 700

Email: enquiries@codelessplatforms.com

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Introduction






The **Convert XML to Recordset** tool is used to convert XML data into a flat-format BPA Platform recordset, allowing the data to be used by recordset-only consuming tools. This could then be used to power alerts via fax, email, or SMS, create reports, power a workflow, perform FTP transfer, and so on.

Working with other Tools

The **Convert XML to Recordset** tool can directly interact with the following steps:

Consuming from Other Tools

The **Convert XML to Recordset** tool can consume objects outputted by the following tools:

| Icon | Tool Name | Tool Category |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------------|
|  | Import XML Document | Input |
|  | Retrieve Text Message | Input |
|  | Convert Recordset to XML | Format |
|  | Transform Data | Format |
|  | Applications Platform Connector | Data Connectors |








Objects Consumed

The **Convert XML to Recordset** tool can consume the following objects outputted by the above tools:

- ▶ **XML** — XML data from any BPA Platform tool capable of exposing such data (see above)

Exposing to Other Tools

The **Convert XML to Recordset** tool outputs objects that can be consumed by the following tools:

| Icon | Tool Name | Tool Category |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
|  | Call Stored Procedure (OLEDB) | Input, Data Connectors, Output, and Execute |
|  | Convert XML to Recordset | Format |
|  | Create Workflow Job | Format |
|  | Format as Flat File | Format |
|  | Format as HTML | Format |
|  | Format as HTML Pro | Format |
|  | Format as Text | Format |

Objects Exposed

The following objects, outputted by the **Convert XML to Recordset** tool, can be directly consumed by the above tools:

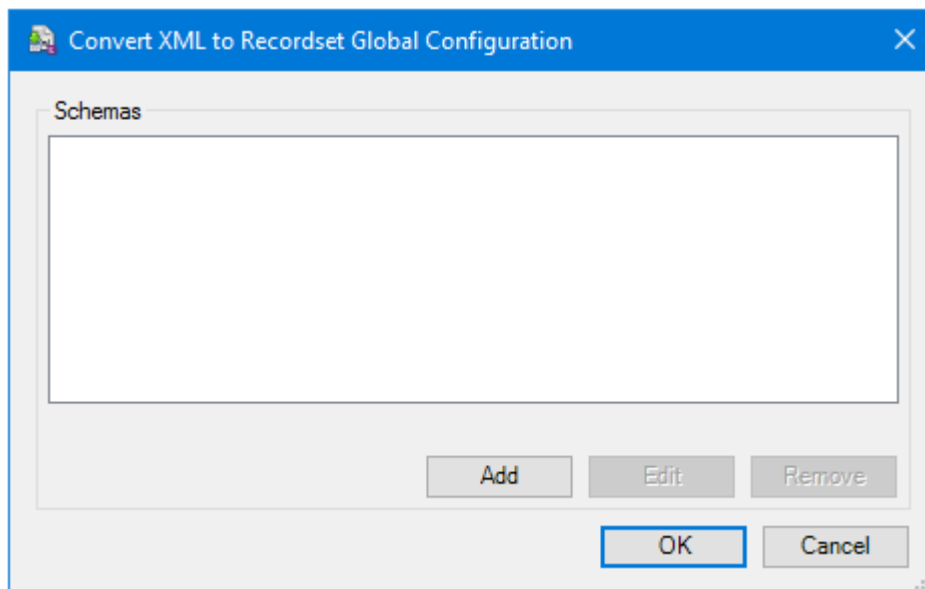
- ▶ **Recordset** — Tabular data from any BPA Platform tool capable of exposing such data (see above)
- ▶ **Step Properties** — Standard step properties are available allowing you to use statistical data of the tool

Global Configuration

You can use the **Convert XML to Recordset** tool immediately in a task step. However, if the task step consumes a variable containing XML rather than an XML document from a previous task step (see [Main tab](#)), you must define a XML schema to validate against. You can choose to define the schema local to the task step only, or create a library of schemas for all **Convert XML to Recordset** tasks steps to share.

You open the **Convert XML to Recordset Global Configuration** dialog by either:

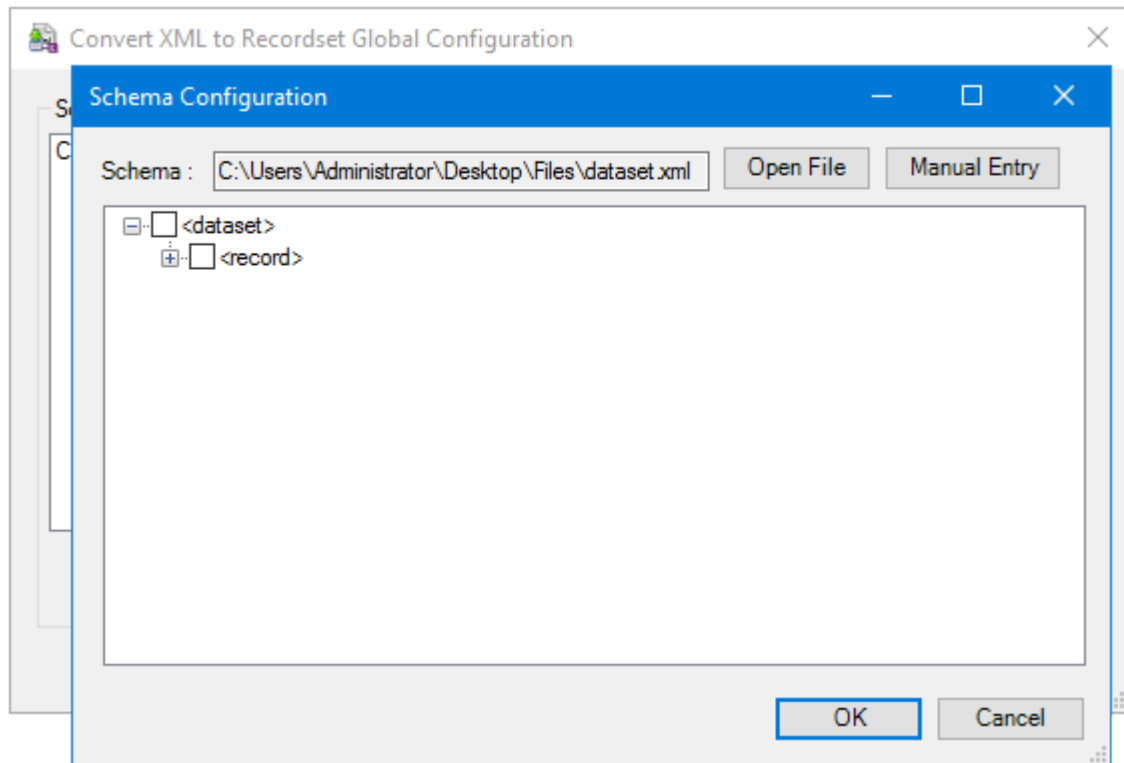
- ▶ Going to **Manage > Tools > Format > Convert XML to Recordset**
- ▶ From the Task Manager, expanding **BPA Platform > System > Tools > Format** and double-clicking **Convert XML to Recordset** in the Items List



Click **Add** to add a new XML schema.

Defining the XML Schema

You can either import existing XML schema or XML document, or manually create the schema to validate the XML source for the **Convert XML to Recordset** task step.



An XML schema defines the structure of the XML — what elements are present and the nesting of said elements. The format used by the **Convert XML to Recordset** tool is the industry standard XSD format.

If you have an existing XSD file, click **Open File** to import and make it available to **Convert XML to Recordset** task steps. If you do not have an existing XSD file but do have an XML file with the same structure as that being converted, you can import it (**Open File**) and **Convert XML to Recordset** can infer the schema from it.

Alternatively, click **Manual Entry** to either enter the XML schema yourself, or copy and paste an XSD or XML file's contents into the provided text box.

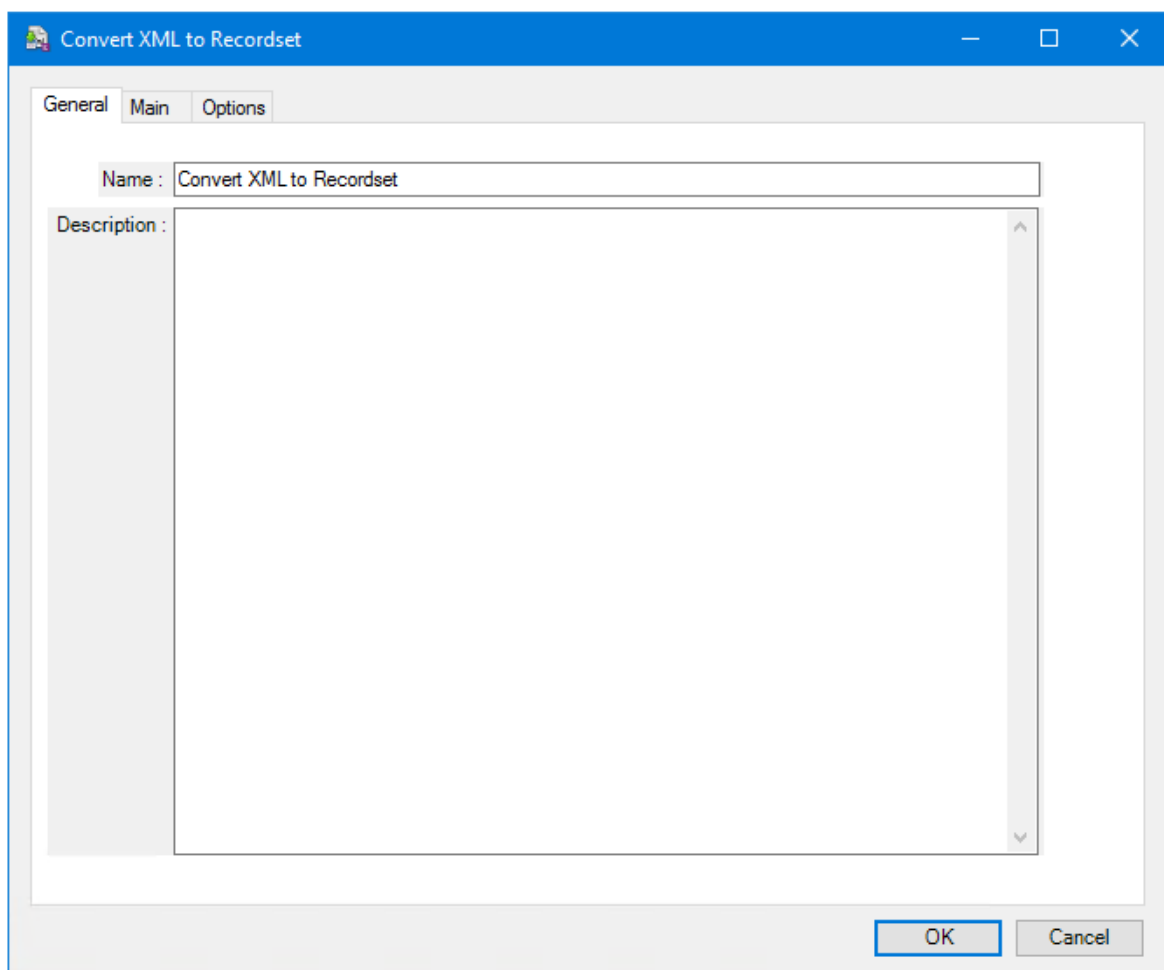
Step Configuration

To add a new **Convert XML to Recordset** step to an existing task, you either:

- ▶ Click and drag the **Convert XML to Recordset** icon from the **Task Browser** to the task **Design** area.
- ▶ From the task's **Design** tab, right-click on empty space and select **Add > Format > Convert XML to Recordset**.

For a detailed description of how to create new tasks, refer to the product help.

About the General Tab



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Convert XML to Recordset". It has three tabs: "General", "Main", and "Options". The "General" tab is selected. Inside the dialog, there is a "Name:" label followed by a text box containing "Convert XML to Recordset". Below this is a "Description:" label followed by a large, empty text area with a vertical scrollbar on the right. At the bottom right of the dialog are "OK" and "Cancel" buttons.

The **General** tab is used to enter the following details for the step:

- ▶ **Name** — Enter a meaningful name for the step

TIP: If this task instance makes use of two or more **Convert XML to Recordset** steps, ensure the **Name** used is unique for each individual step.

- ▶ **Description** — If required, enter a description of this step

About the Main Tab

You use the **Main** tab to specify how to convert the consumed XML to the required recordset.

The screenshot shows the 'Convert XML to Recordset' dialog box with the 'Main' tab selected. The 'Data source' section has 'Task step' selected with a dropdown menu showing 'Output Data from AP - Update Customer'. The 'Variable data source options' section has 'Predefined schema' selected. The 'Output recordset configuration' section shows a tree view with '<DataOutput>' expanded, and '<SSN_Customer>' selected. Below the tree view are 'Select fields' buttons: 'All' and 'None'. The 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons are at the bottom right.

Specifying the Data Source

You source your XML from either:

- ▶ A previous **Task step** — If consuming from a previous task step, choose the relevant XML document from the provided drop-down.
- ▶ A **Variable** populated by another task step — If consuming from a variable, a few extra configuration steps are required.

Because the XML from a task or global variable has not been validated yet, you must also provide the XML schema which the **Convert XML to Recordset** tool uses to validate the XML at task run-time. You can either choose:

- ☐ A **Predefined schema** created in the [global configuration](#) for this tool
- ☐ To create a **Custom schema** — Click **Define** and either manually define the schema or input an existing one into the [Schema Configuration](#) window.

Finally, from the Task Browser, drag-and-drop the variable which contains the required XML at run-time into **Data source variable**.

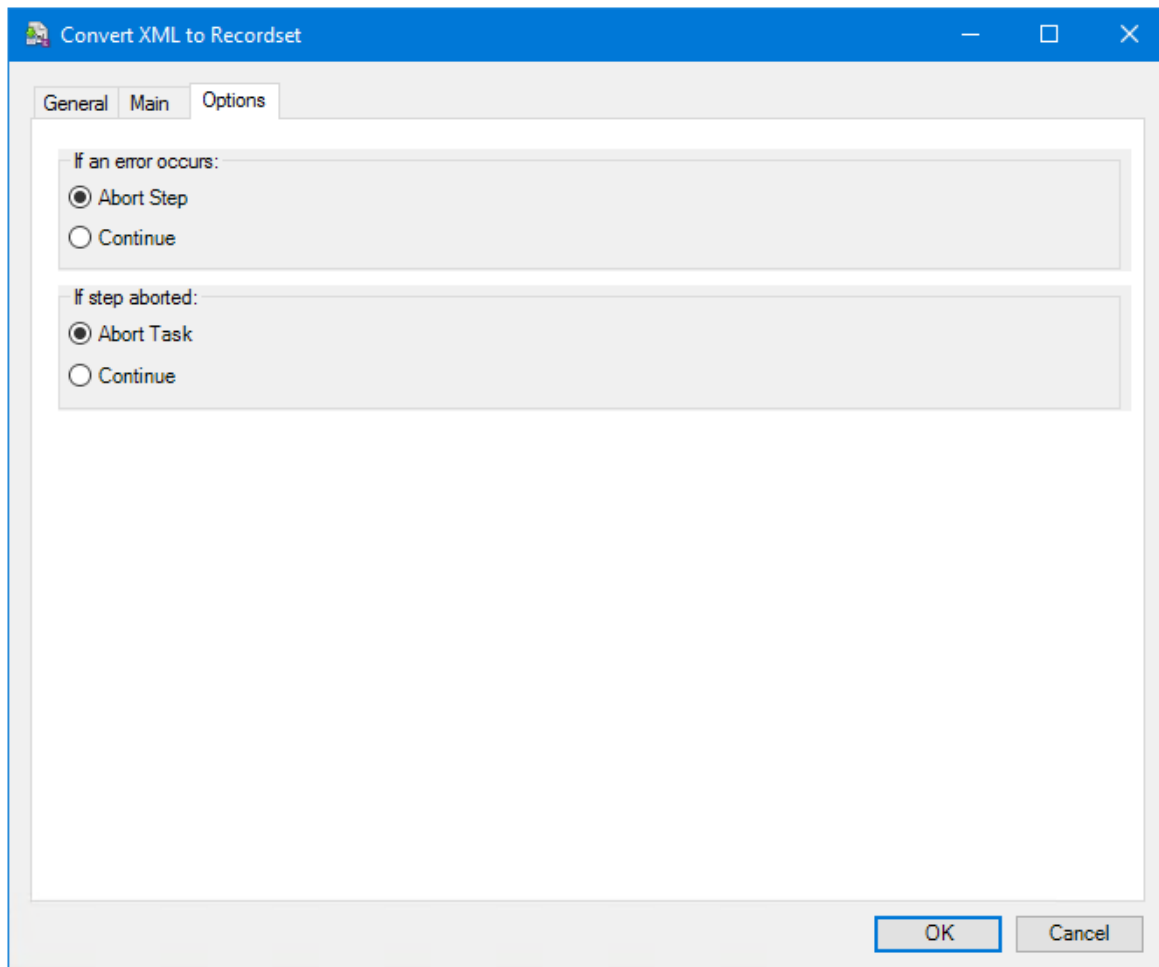
Configuring the Output Recordset

By default, all elements from the consumed XML or XML schema are provided as potential columns from the output recordset. Either select those elements to output to the recordset, or click **All** to have all elements in the recordset.

NOTE: If consuming XML from a previous task step, be aware that some steps can output two XML documents — **Output Data** and **Error Data** — so care should be taken when selecting the task step data source.

About the Options Tab

The **Options** tab allows you to define how errors in this step are handled at task runtime.



If an error occurs, you can decide whether the step should **Continue** processing, or terminate the step immediately (**Abort Step**).

If the step is aborted, you can choose to **Continue** processing onto the next step in the task, or terminate the whole task immediately (**Abort Task**).

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+44 (0) 330 99 88 700



enquiries@codelessplatforms.com



www.codelessplatforms.com

