

Do you import and export data?

Do you reconcile the data?



If no then read this, we may change your mind....





Why reconcile

Reconciling data exports and imports is crucial for maintaining data integrity and accuracy. Here are a few reasons why it's important:

- Accuracy: Ensures that the data transferred between systems matches and is accurate.
- **Consistency**: Helps maintain consistency across different databases or systems.
- Error Detection: Identifies discrepancies or errors that may have occurred during the data transfer process.
- Compliance: Ensures compliance with data governance and regulatory requirements.
- **Efficiency**: Improves overall efficiency by catching issues early and preventing them from escalating.





Exports

- Keep track in database what you have sent.
- Get an output from your supplier every day reflecting what they have received, what's been processed.
- Import the output everyday.
- Use this data to reconcile with what you sent the previous day.
- Act on findings, e.g., create an addendum for the next day.





Imports

- Keep track of what's been imported and against what file
- Match what's been imported to what has been processed and updated.
- If we have 20 lines in a file, ensure 20 changes are made.







Keep the business involved

- Involve the business in this process
- Let them know of discrepancies
- Adapt your process where needed







Final Thoughts

We create imports and exports with the knowledge we have today, but data changes.

- Always log what was exported and imported for validation.
- Create the process assuming it will fail—you'll end up with a much more robust solution.
- Involve the business in the process. Let them know you are not just doing the bare minimum; you are checking and proactively informing them of issues.





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