



ELIXIR REPERTOIRE

Integrated Business Intelligence Suite



Intelligence On Demand



Elixir Report Migration Guide

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Migration Guide

This document describes how to migrate from Elixir Report version 4 to Elixir Report version 5 or later. The document is intended for Elixir Report version 4 users and developers who are performing the migration.

The migrator for converting from version 4 to version 5 is included in all versions from Elixir Report Designer version 5. Although Elixir Report is backwards compatible, the migration may not be 100 percent complete and templates may require some manual adjustment due to the changes listed below.

Migration Overview

Below is the list of report elements that will be handled by the migration process:

Template Migration

- Text component
- Label component
- Image component
- Line component
- Rectangle component
- Checkbox component
- Report Header/Footer
- Page Header/Footer
- Section Header/Footer
- Details
- Parameters
- Most Scheme Scripts
- All JavaScript Scripts

Data Source Migration

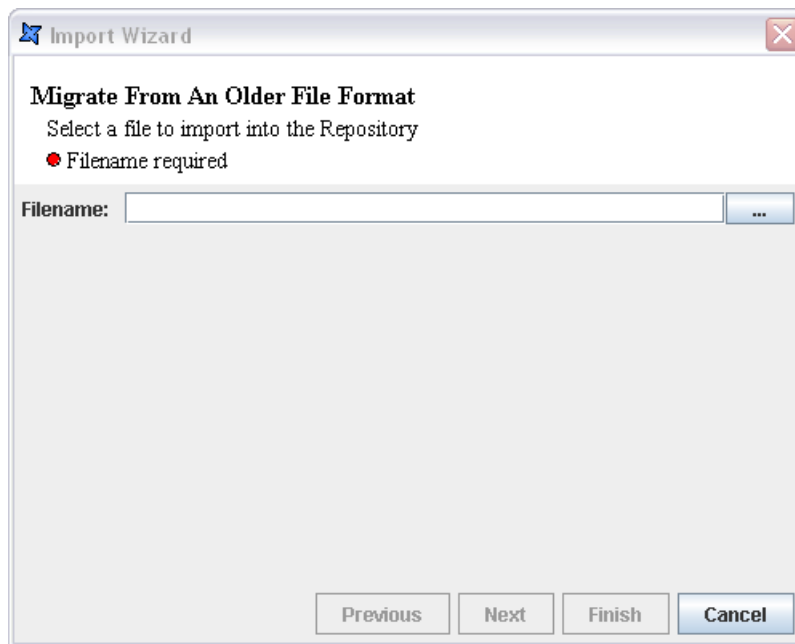
- Text Data Source
- JDBC Data Source
- XML Data Source

- XML2 Data Source

Template Migration Steps

1. Start Elixir Report Designer version 5 (or later). Click on the Toolbar icon at the top of the repository panel to create a new Local File system for report template.
2. Right-click at the Local File system that you have created. On selecting the Import . . . , the "Import Wizard" will appear as shown in Figure 8.1, "Import Wizard". Enter the name of the Report Template (.template) in the text box. Alternatively, you can click on the . . . button to launch the File Chooser dialog to select the Report Template that you wish to import.

Figure 8.1. Import Wizard



3. Click on the Finish button to complete the migration process. The name of the Report Template will be displayed under the Local File system in the repository panel to indicate that the migration is completed.

Note

This form of migration is file-by-file. See Batch Mode Template Migration below for an automated solution.

DataSource Migration Steps

1. Start Elixir Report Designer version 5 (or later). Click on the Toolbar icon at the top of the repository panel to create a new Local File system for report template.
2. Right-click at the Local File system that you have created. On selecting the Import . . . , the "Import Wizard" will appear as shown in Figure 8.1, "Import Wizard". Enter the name of the datasource file (.sav) in the text box. Alternatively, you can click on the . . . button to launch the File Chooser dialog to select the datasource file that you wish to import.

3. Click on the Finish button to complete the migration process. The names of the datasource will be displayed under the Local File system in the repository panel to indicate that the migration is completed.

Note

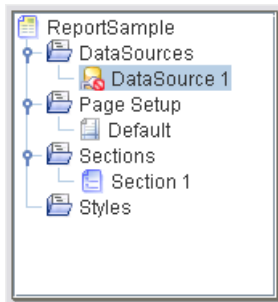
From version 5, each data source will be saved as separate .ds files in the chosen location instead of the single combined .sav file in version 4.

Adding a DataSource

After you have successfully migrated the templates and datasource, you will have to add the new data source to the new report template in order to render the report.

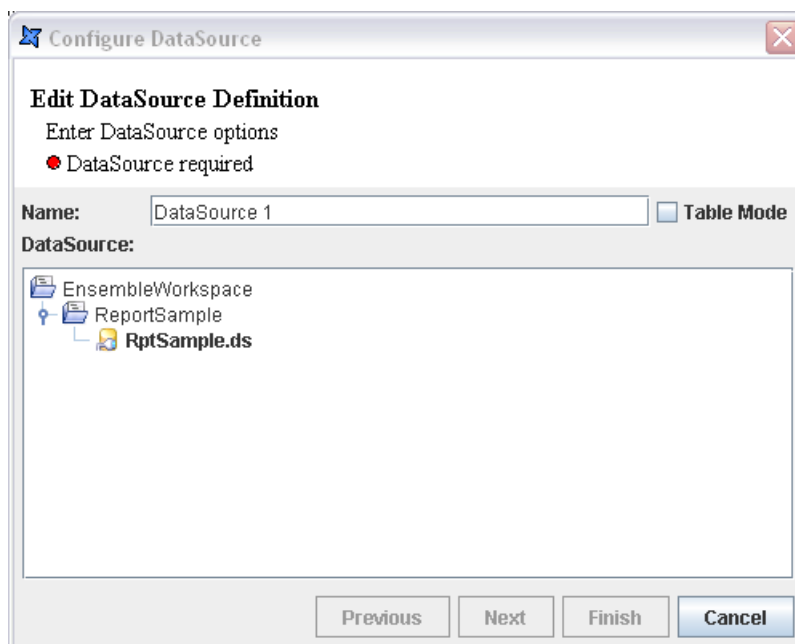
1. Double-click on the .rml file to launch the report template in the workspace.
2. Under the Report tab, you will see a list of elements belonging to the current report template. An example is shown in Figure 8.2, “Report Elements”.

Figure 8.2. Report Elements



Right-click on the DataSource 1 node under the DataSources subtree and select Edit DataSource . . . A Wizard will appear as shown in Figure 8.2, “Report Elements”.

Figure 8.3. Configure DataSource Wizard



3. In the "Configure DataSource Wizard", click on the appropriate .ds filename to select the datasource which you wish to use and click the Finish button to complete the process.

Batch Mode Template Migration

The Elixir Repertoire bin directory contains a migrate batch file and shell script that illustrate how to invoke the migrator module without choosing each template file explicitly using the GUI. You should always make a backup of your ER4 templates before attempting migration.

The main class launched for migration is:

```
com.elixirtech.report2.migration.ModelMigrator
```

and all the jars listed in the scripts must be on the classpath to use it. If you run the migrator with no parameters you get a help message as follows:

```
C:\ElixirRepertoire\bin> migrate
Usage: ModelMigrator [-r] file...
More than one filename can be specified, if a directory name
is used all .template files within it will be processed. By
using the -r option, directories will be processed recursively
```

So to convert all templates within a folder, just use

```
migrate C:\ER4\Samples
```

and all template files in that directory will be converted into the new RML format. The new files will be placed in the same directory, but with .rml extensions. To convert templates from multiple directories, use

```
migrate -r C:\ER4\Samples
```

and all templates in Samples and all sub directories will be converted. In all cases, the original templates will not be modified, however any existing rml files that have the same name as a migrated template will be overwritten without warning.

Note

The migrator used here in batch mode is identical to the one invoked from the GUI, therefore the same limitations on migration apply and some templates may still require manual adjustments.

Changes and Improvements in Version 5

There are many advances in features and functionality in version 5 and later. Please review the entire manual for details. This section focuses on areas of the rendering process that changed between version 4 and 5.

- There has been a change in the extension used for report templates and datasources to highlight the internal formats have been completely updated. Both file types still hold XML, but the new structure allows more features to be supported while reducing the file size. In version 4, a report template was saved with the .template extension, whereas in version 5 the extension is .rml (Report Markup Language). In version 4 the datasources were grouped together in a single .sav file, whereas from version 5 each datasource is stored as a separate .ds file in the repository. This makes for much faster loading and simplified deployment.
- In version 4, the rendering sequence was:

```
Report Header
----Page Header
-----Section Header
-----Details
-----Section Footer
----Report Footer
Page Footer
```

From version 5, there can be multiple sections in a report, and each section has the following render sequence:

```
Page Header
----Section Header
-----Group Header
-----Details
-----Group Footer
----Section Footer
Page Footer
```

As you can see, this is a more symmetrical arrangement. To avoid confusion, because version 5 onwards supports multiple Sections, the version 4 Section Headers are now called Group Headers, and Section Header/Footer refer to the header and footer of each entire report section. (If there is only a single section in the report, then these are effectively report header and report footer respectively.)

- From Elixir Report version 5 onwards, we have consolidated the scripting language for our products to be JavaScript which more convenient for non-programmers. The scheme functions provided in version 4 will be obsoleted in this version. Many scheme functions will be automatically converted into JavaScript during the migration, however in a few cases, especially with data caches, there is no corresponding API in version 5. This is because from version 5 Elixir tools are based on a true multi-threaded system, and the version 4 API made a number of assumptions that are not sustainable in a multi-threaded environment.

Data Sources

- XML DataSource: Elixir Report version 5 supports the XML2 datasource using XPath to query the XML document, locate and retrieve data.
- Enterprise Java Bean (EJB) Datasource: The EJB datasource is available through the Object Datasource from version 5.
- CrossTab Datasource: From Elixir Report version 5.0, the Crosstab features are available through the Composite DataSource.

Report Elements

Below is the list of report elements that will not be migrated automatically. Manual creation of the report element is required:

- Barcode Component
- SVG Component

- **Boxed-In-Text Component:** This report element is replaced by the Data Grid component from version 5.
- **HTML Component & Rich Text Format (RTF) Component:** These report elements are supported through Callback component from version 5.
- **Multi-Row Data Cache Viewer Component:** This report element is replaced by the Data Grid component from version 5.
- **Table Cache View Component:** This report element is replaced by the Table component from version 5.

Special Parameters

Special parameters that were understood by the Elixir Report 4 engine are often handled differently in Elixir Report 5. This means that parameters like "elixir.report.ds.parameter.keyset" will be migrated to ER5 parameters, but the engine will no longer utilise them. Such special parameters are no longer required in version 5 - all features can be set through the tool user interface, so there is no need to remember these long parameter names.

Render Formats

- XHTML Files rendered with Elixir Report 3.x method will be obsoleted from version 5.
- Java Graphics Format (JGF) export format is replaced by Glint vector graphics format which is more precise and compact as well as supporting additional features.

Runtime API

Elixir Report version 5 defines a new Runtime and Server API. Customers or developers migrating to version 5 or later will have to reengineer applications to work with the APIs. Runtime API Documentation is provided in the directory `runtime/api`.

Summary

Elixir Repertoire offers a wide array of functionalities for maximum business impact, while leveraging Java Standard & Enterprise Edition for cross-platform compatibility. Satisfied customers worldwide rely on Elixir Repertoire to improve operations efficiency as well as increase corporate profitability.

For additional information, please contact the Elixir at sales@elixirtech.com.

About Elixir Technology Pte Ltd

Elixir Technology provides a Unified Business Intelligence Platform for end-to-end information life cycle coverage from Extraction-Transformation-Loading (ETL), Data Aggregation, Cube, Reporting, Dashboard and Activation. Our flagship product, Elixir Report, has garnered over 600 customers across 50 countries in various verticals such as government, financial services, telecommunications, healthcare, retail, and technology. Going beyond enterprise reporting needs, our Integrated Business Intelligence Suite, Elixir Repertoire, is designed to further empower our customers toward becoming intelligent enterprises, where critical information is readily available to drive decisions and actions. Elixir Technology is headquartered in Singapore, with an R&D arm in UK. Through a network of partners, Elixir's products are represented in many parts of the world across major continents including Asia, America, and Europe. For more information, please visit www.elixirtech.com.



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