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Introduction

DAT-MAIL Prep is a new user interface that is based on the proven Window Book, Inc. Mail.dat Manager server technology. Where the Server-Side Pre-Processor is faceless and runs behind a scheduler system for automation purposes, DAT-MAIL Prep is designed to be used at a desktop by the end user. DAT-MAIL Prep provides facilities for Viewing, Validating, Converting, Splitting and Merging Mail.dat files – ultra fast.

Installation

DAT-MAIL Prep utilizes the latest Microsoft .NET technologies such as WPF (Windows Presentation Foundation) and MS SQL Server Express 2008 R2. Because of these requirements, installation may take a bit longer to perform than other Window Book, Inc. products.

IMPORTANT: Window Book, Inc. provides x86 and x64 installer versions for DAT-MAIL Prep. Please make sure you select the appropriate installer for your computer.

The installer must be run with full rights to the machine. This means for instance, if your computer is running Windows 7, you must right click on the installer icon and chose "Run As Administrator" to launch the installer. The initial installer window will appear as follows (Figure 1):

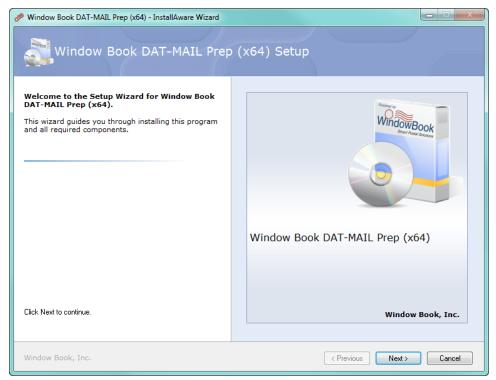


Figure 1

Pressing the Next button, you must then accept the license terms to continue, as seen below (Figure 2):

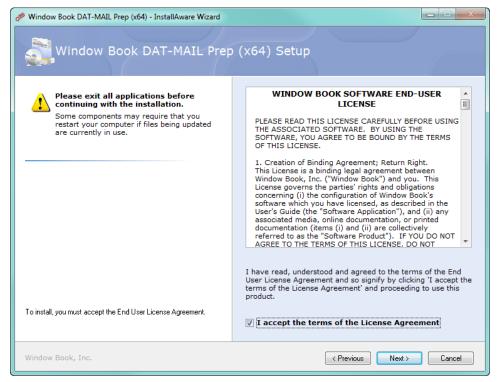


Figure 2

Pressing the Next button will take you to the first decision point, selecting how to use MS SQL with DAT-MAIL Prep, as seen below (Figure 3):

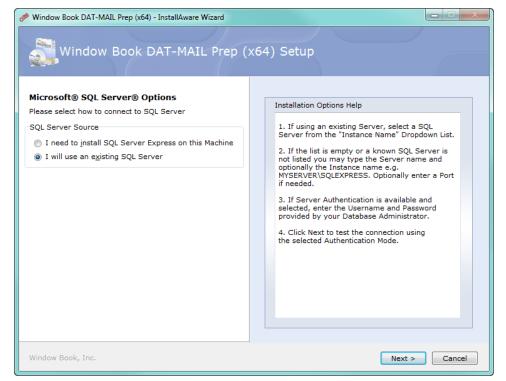


Figure 3

In many organizations, normal network users cannot attach to a corporate MS SQL server instance; therefore Window Book, Inc. provides the necessary installer process to install a Client-Side version of MS SQL known as MS SQL Express 2008 R2. In most cases, this is the decision you should make. If this option is selected, once installed, you will be taken to the next window; the location where DAT-MAIL Prep should be installed (Figure 4):

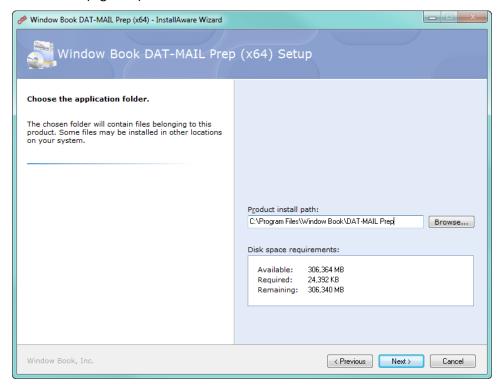


Figure 4

It is highly recommended that you accept the defaults and press the Next button.

After pressing the Next button, you will be asked for the name of the Start menu group. It is recommended that you accept the default, as seen below (Figure 5):

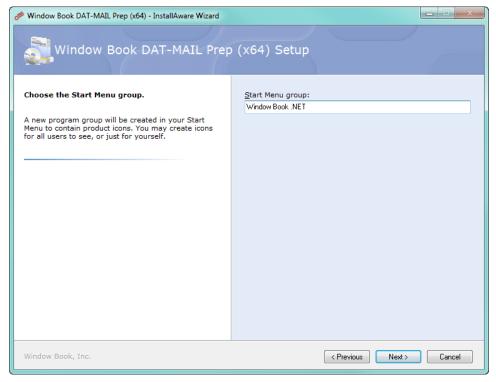


Figure 5

Finally, you are prepared to install DAT-MAIL Prep. Press the Next button to start the installation process (Figure 6):

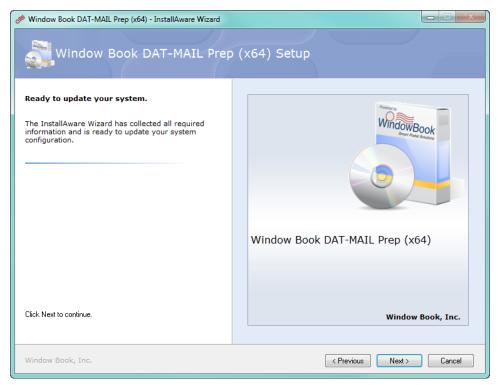


Figure 6

When installation has completed, you are presented with the option to run DAT-MAIL Prep immediately upon exiting the installer, as seen below (Figure 7):

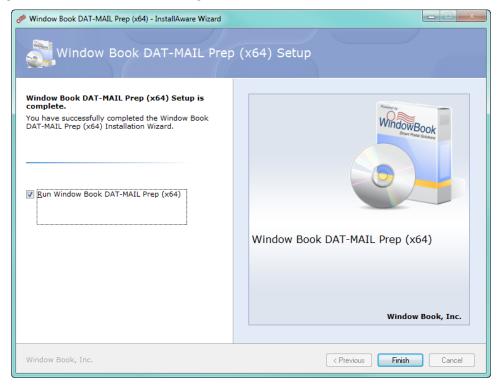


Figure 7

Registration

After successfully installing DAT-MAIL Prep, you must register the product before continuing. As with all Window Book, Inc. products, this product requires a Registration Key. Window Book, Inc. uses a subscription based model for licensing our software. You will see the following view when starting DAT-MAIL Prep for the first time (Figure 8):

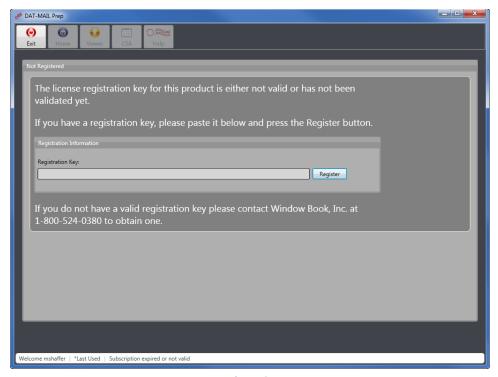


Figure 8

Assuming you have already received a Registration Key by e-mail, you can copy (CTRL-C) the Registration Key from the e-mail and paste it (CTRL-V) into the *Registration Key* text field. Pressing the Register button will attempt to validate the key. If an error occurs, you are prompted with further error information and steps to proceed. If the key validates successfully, you are shown the *Customer Information* window (Figure 9).



Figure 9

Enter your contact information then press the *Done* button when finished. After you have entered your contact information, you will be taken to the main "splash" view (Figure 10).

<u>IMPORTANT:</u> DAT-MAIL Prep is licensed as a single-user application. If another user attempts to run it on the same machine, a Registration Key must be obtained for that additional user.

General Usage

You control program navigation from the main "splash" view (Figure 10). There are different splash windows, depending on the registration level that you purchased. At the top of the view are a series of buttons that correspond to the available functions. At the bottom left corner appears the name of the user that is currently logged into the machine.

The *Viewer* splash view (Figure 10) contains toolbar buttons for viewing CSA files and viewing Mail.dat files.

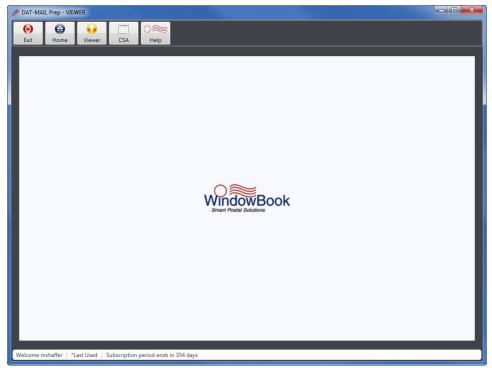


Figure 10

The *Editor* splash view (Figure 11) contains toolbar buttons for viewing CSA files, and viewing, updating, editing, validating and converting Mail.dat files.

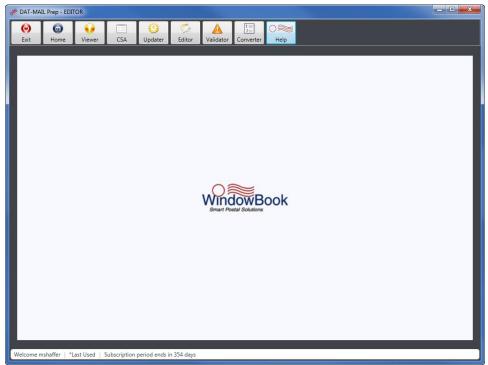


Figure 11

The *Ultra* splash view (Figure 12) contains toolbar buttons for viewing CSA files, and viewing, updating, editing, validating, converting, splitting and merging Mail.dat files. We will refer to the Ultra registration level in the remainder of this user guide.

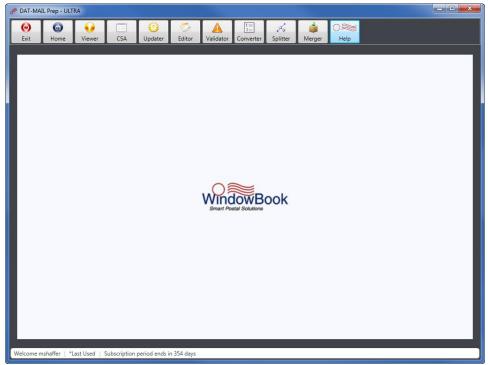


Figure 12

Pre-Processing Setup

On the *Home* view (Figure 13), there are a series of folder values automatically created by the application when it first starts up. It is recommended that the user do not change these setting unless he/she has good reason to do so and understands that incorrect settings may cause the application to not function as expected (e.g. a file set is created in an unexpected folder location).

Pressing the Home button from any other view will bring you back to this view.

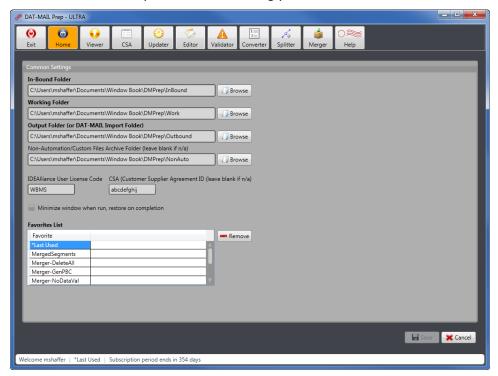


Figure 13

The basic concept of the folder values are as follows:

*In-Bound Folder:*_The In-Bound folder is the location where Mail.dat source files will be found by default. *Working Folder:*_The Work folder is the location where DAT-MAIL Prep will create temporary working files, etc.

Output Folder (or DAT-MAIL Import Folder): The Output folder is the location where the resulting split, merged or converted Mail.dat files will reside.

Non-Auto/Custom Folder: (optional) The Non-Auto/Custom Folder is a special folder used for specific types of splitting functionality. Provide a folder path only if you want the non-automation files for the auto/non-auto split type or the custom "other" files for the custom tray level split type, to be placed into a folder that is different than the In-Bound folder.

IDEAlliance User License Code: Your User License Code (ULC) as assigned by IDEAlliance. The ULC is used to pre-populate the *Merge File Name* on the *Merger* view.

CSA ID: (optional) Your Customer/Supplier Agreement (CSA) ID. The ID you enter here will be put into the merged or split Mail.dat output files. Leave this blank to retain the CSA ID that is currently in the Mail.dat files.

Minimize window when run, restore on completion: Check this box to have the program automatically minimize itself to the Task Bar while the worker processing is running. The program's main window and status window will re-show automatically at the end of the worker processing.

As seen above (Figure 13), there is a list box called the *Favorites List*. This list box always contains the *Last Used item and potentially many more items, added by you as named favorites. The *Last Used item remembers the last settings used; we call this feature sticky settings. Near the bottom left of the window, the selected favorite from the *Favorites List* is displayed.

Mail.dat Viewer

The Mail.dat Viewer view (Figure 14) allows the user to view the contents of a selected Mail.dat file set.

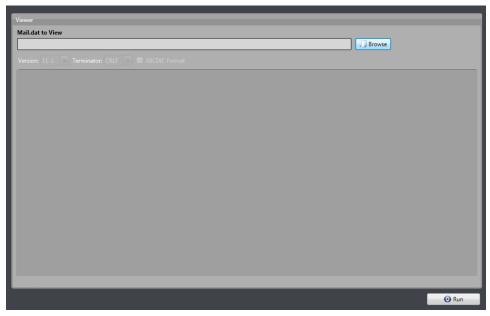


Figure 14

Processing Steps:

- 1) Press the *Browse* button to select the Mail.dat set to view. The file set's data will be loaded after you select the file set.
- 2) Press the *Run* button to reload the file set's data, if desired.

After the file set's data is loaded, you will see the following view (Figure 15):

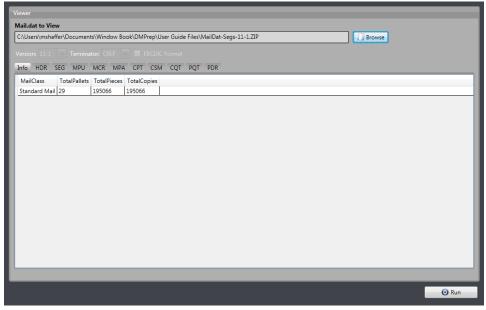


Figure 15

Select the tab for the particular file's data you want to view. The HDR tab is shown below (Figure 16). You can resize the Viewer window to show more columns in the data grid.

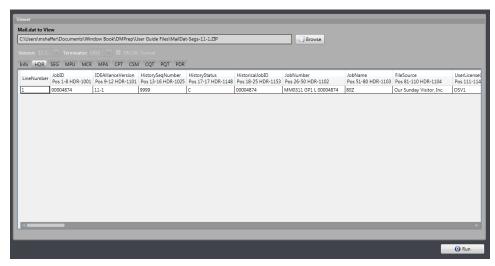


Figure 16

For large files, such as the PDR, blue "VCR" buttons will appear (Figure 17). These buttons allow you to scroll through the data in batches of 10,000 records.

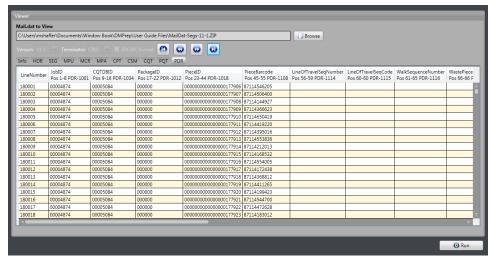


Figure 17

If you previously had the Splitter or Merger update the redirected postal facilities in the CSM file for this file set, the Reader will include an additional tab in the data grid entitled "CSM Changes" (Figure 18).

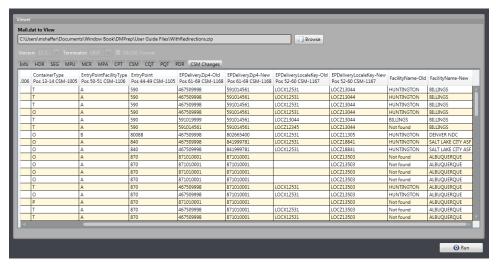


Figure 18

The *CSM Changes* tab details the CSM records whose entry postal facility information was updated by the program. The original and new facility name, ZIP+4 and locale key are shown on this tab, so you can review which containers and handling units are being rerouted to different postal facilities.

CSA Viewer

The CSA (Customer/Supplier Agreement) Viewer (Figure 19) allows you to view the contents of a CSA file.



Figure 19

Processing Steps:

1) Press the *Browse* button to select the CSA file to view. The file's data will be loaded after you select the file.

After the file's data is loaded, you will see the following view (Figure 20). You can resize the *CSA Viewer* window to show more columns in the data grid.

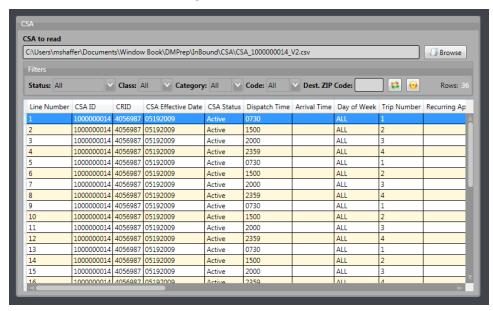


Figure 20

Use the various filter drop-down boxes to constrain the data shown in the grid to the desired sub-set of CSA records. To filter by destination ZIP code, enter the ZIP code into the *Dest. ZIP Code* box, then press

the *Refresh* button to update the data shown in the grid (Figure 21). Press the *Reset Filters* button to clear all the filters and again show the entire data set in the grid.

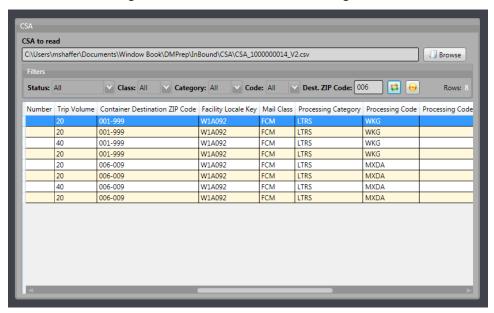


Figure 21

Mail.dat Updater

The Mail.dat Updater (Figure 22) allows you to update miscellaneous data in one or more Mail.dat file sets.

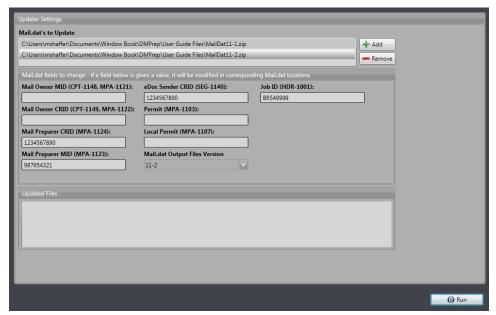


Figure 22

Processing Steps:

- 1) Press the Add button to select the Mail.dat sets to update.
- 2) Press the *Remove* button to delete unwanted Mail.dat sets from your selections.
- 3) Specify the data that you want to change in the selected Mail.dat sets. Leave blank any data fields you do not want to change.
- 4) If up-versioning or down-versioning is desired, select the applicable *Mail.dat Output Files Version*.
- 5) Press the Run button.

As the processing runs, you will see the following view (Figure 23):

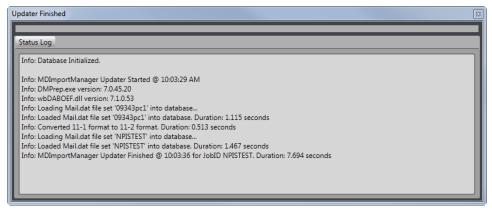


Figure 23

After processing has finished, close the Status window. You will now see a list of the changed files, and their locations on disk, in the *Updated Files* list box (Figure 24).

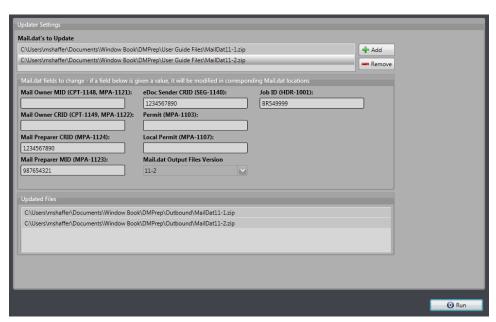


Figure 24

Mail.dat Validator

The Mail.dat Validator (Figure 25) allows you to validate a Mail.dat set in a variety of ways.

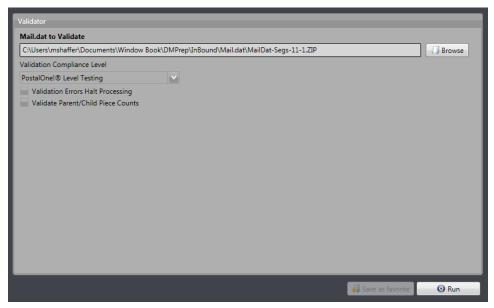


Figure 25

Processing Steps:

- 1) Press the Browse button to select the Mail.dat set to validate
- 2) Select the *Validation Compliance Level* (Referential Integrity Only, Field Level Validation, IDEAlliance Conformance Testing or PostalOne!® Level Testing)
- 3) If Validation Errors Halt Processing is checked, errors will cause the validation process to halt early
- 4) If *Validate Parent/Child Piece Counts* (i.e. CSM/CQT) is checked, this condition is used in the validation process
- 5) Press the Run button

As the processing runs, you will see the following view (Figure 26):

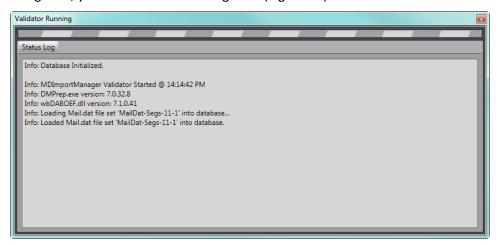


Figure 26

This view is reporting the processing in real-time as it occurs. Once finished, you may view the Validation logs by clicking on the *Validation Logs* tab, as seen below (Figure 27):

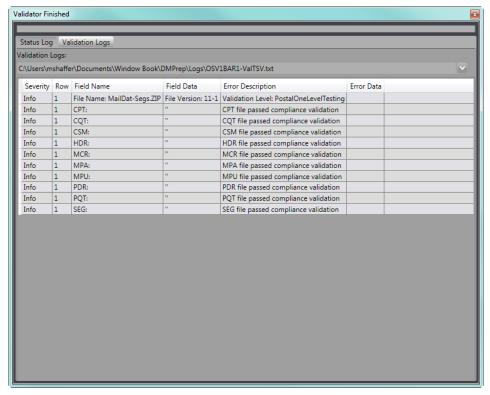


Figure 27

To save the current processing as a favorite, press the *Save as favorite* button, type in the desired name, press the Tab key, then press the *Save* button, as seen below (Figure 28):

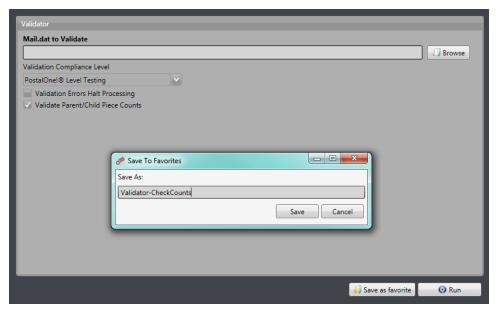


Figure 28

Once saved, the new favorite will appear on the *Home* view in the *Favorites List*.

Mail.dat Converter

The Mail.dat Converter (Figure 29) allows you to up-convert or down-convert one or more Mail.dat file sets.

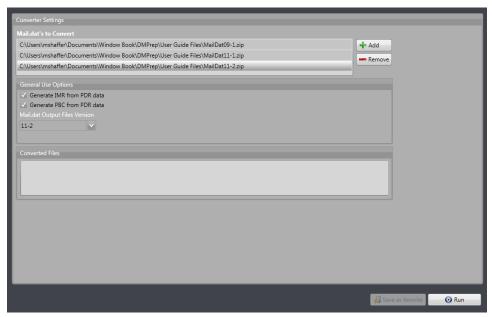


Figure 29

Processing Steps:

- 1) Press the Add button to select one or more Mail.dat sets to convert.
- 2) Press the Remove button to delete unwanted Mail.dat sets from your selections.
- 3) Generate IMR from PDR Data: Select to have the converter generate an IMR file using PDR and other data.
- 4) Generate PBC from PDR Data: Select to have the converter generate a PBC file using PDR data (Mail.dat version 11-2 and higher).
- 5) Select the desired Mail.dat Output Files Version.
- 6) Press the Run button.

As the processing runs, you will see the following view (Figure 30):

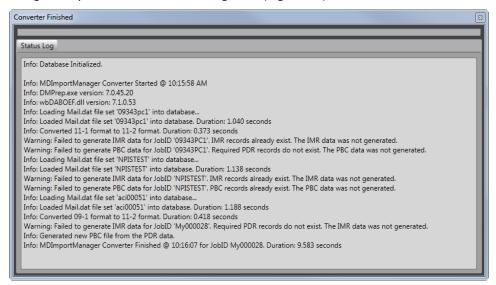


Figure 30

After closing the status window, you will see the output file(s) listed under the *Converted Files* list box (Figure 31).

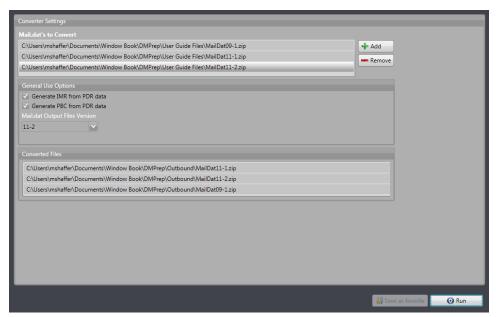


Figure 31

Saving as favorite can be done the same as was done in the Validator (see Mail.dat Validator section).

Mail.dat Splitter

The Mail.dat Splitter (Figure 32) is a powerful splitting tool. Splitting options include by Segment, Container Group, MPU, Entry Point and Facility Zip, Physical Zip and Facility Type, Auto/Non-Auto, Auto/Non-Auto/Exception List, Custom Tray Level and Pallet. While being split, the Mail.dat set can be up/down versioned and validated.

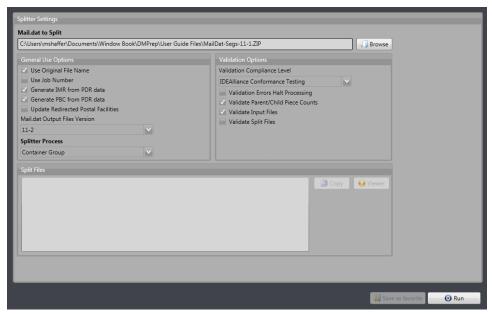


Figure 32

General Use Options:

Use Original File Name: Select to prefix the split Mail.dat file names with the name of the source Mail.dat zip file.

Use Job Number: Select to prefix the split Mail.dat file names with the job number from the Mail.dat Header (.HDR) file.

Generate IMR from PDR Data: Select to have the splitter generate an IMR file using PDR and other data.

Generate PBC from PDR Data: Select to have the splitter generate a PBC file using PDR data (Mail.dat version 11-2 and higher).

Update Redirected Postal Facilities: Select to have the merger update the CSM entry facility locale key and ZIP+4 for postal facilities that have redirections in effect at the present time. Note that this feature requires that the Postal Data Updater plug-in be installed and configured within the Scheduler to download the postal data.

Mail.dat Output Files Version: Select the appropriate Mail.dat version for the split files, if upversioning or down-versioning is desired; otherwise select "Same as source".

Splitter Process:

Segment: Splits source files by Segment ID. Split file name is Segment ID.

Container Group: Splits source files by Container Group ID. Split file name is Container Group ID.

MPU: Splits source files by Mailpiece Unit ID. Split file name is Mailpiece Unit ID.

Entry Point and Facility Type: Splits source files by Entry Point and Facility Type. Split file name is Entry Point ZIP + Facility Type code.

Physical ZIP and Facility Type: Splits source files by Physical ZIP and Facility Type. Split file name is Physical Plant ZIP + Facility Type code.

Auto/Non-Auto: Splits source files into automation trays and non-automation trays. Split file name is "Auto" for files containing automation trays and "NonAuto" for files containing non-automation trays.

Auto/Non-Auto w/Exception List: Similar to auto/non-auto split, except uses a user-supplied job number to determine whether or not the split should occur. The job number is supplied in a file called "wbMDAutomation.xml". If the supplied job number is found in the source Mail.dat's Header (.HDR) file, the source Mail.dat file set is moved directly to the Output folder, as-is. Split file names are same as Auto/Non-Auto.

Custom Tray Level: Split source files into automation trays at a particular presort level, and other automation and non-automation trays using a user-supplied tray level code. The tray level code is supplied in the source Mail.dat's Header (.HDR) file, at the beginning of the User Option field. Supported split codes are "5-DIGIT", "3-DIGIT", "AADC" and "MAAD". Any other text at the beginning of the User Option field results in the source Mail.dat file set being moved directly to the Output folder, as-is. Split file name is "CustomAuto" for files containing specified automation tray level(s) and "CustomOther" for files containing remaining automation and non-automation tray levels.

Pallet: Split source files by pallet container. Split name is Container ID for output file sets that contain a pallet; split name is "StandAlone" for the output file set whose handling units are not owned by a pallet.

Validation Options:

Most validation options are similar to the options on the Validator view.

Splitter-specific validation options are:

Validate Input Files: Select to validate the input Mail.dat file set.

Validate Split Files: Select to validate each split output Mail.dat file set.

Processing Steps:

- 1) Press the Browse button to select a Mail.dat set to split
- 2) Select the desired *General Use Options*
- 3) Select the desired Mail.dat Output Files Version
- 4) Select the Splitter Process to run
- 5) Select the desired *Validation Options*
- 6) Press the Run button

As the processing runs, you will see the following view (Figure 33):

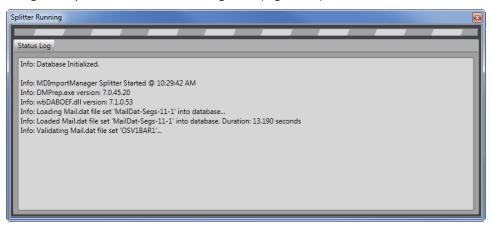


Figure 33

After closing the status window, you will see the split output files listed under the *Split Files* list box (Figure 34).

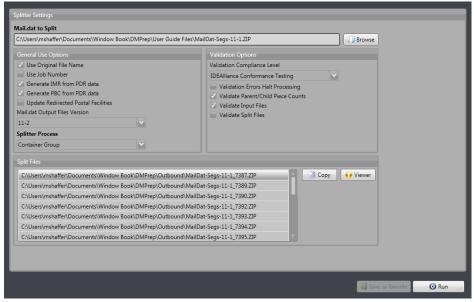


Figure 34

In the *Split Files* group, you can press the *Copy* button to copy the currently selected split output file full name to the Windows Clipboard. You can press the *Viewer* button to load the currently selected file in the *Viewer* page.

Saving as favorite can be done the same as was done in the Validator (see Mail.dat Validator section).

Mail.dat Merger

The Mail.dat Merger (Figure 35) allows the user to merge multiple Mail.dat sets into a combined Mail.dat set. Options include: Up/Down versioning, Generating IMR, Renumbering PDR pieces ID's and Validation options.

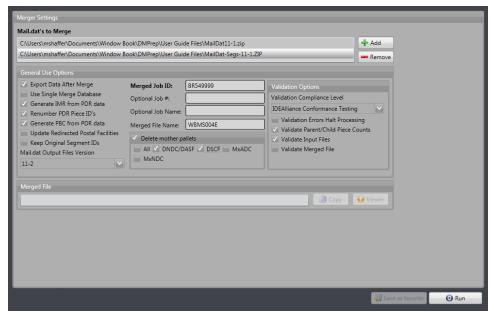


Figure 35

General Use Options:

Export Data After Merge: Select to create the Mail.dat files from the merged data. Default is to create the Mail.dat file from the data stored within the SQL Server database.

Use Single Merge Database: Select to use just one SQL Server database for the merge process. Default is to use one database for the input file sets' data and a different database for the merged data. When the check box is not marked, the program imports the data sets into an Import SQL database, and merges the data into a separate Merge database. When the check box is marked, the program imports the data into an Import database and also puts the merged records into the Import database. The Import database will get doubly large in size, but there is only one database instead of 2.

Generate IMR from PDR Data: Select to have the merger generate an IMR file using PDR and other data.

Generate PBC from PDR Data: Select to have the merger generate a PBC file using PDR data (Mail.dat version 11-2 and higher).

Update Redirected Postal Facilities: Select to have the merger update the CSM entry facility locale key and ZIP+4 for postal facilities that have redirections in effect at the present time. Note that this feature requires that the Postal Data Updater plug-in must be installed and configured within the Scheduler to download the postal data.

Keep Original Segment IDs: Select to have the merger attempt to retain the segment IDs in the source data files. If the source segment IDs are all unique across all source file sets, the IDs will be passed through to the merged data set intact. If the source segment IDs are not unique across all source file sets, segment IDs will be auto-generated as usual, starting at '0001'.

Mail.dat Output Files Version: Select the appropriate Mail.dat version for the merged files, if upversioning or down-versioning is desired; otherwise select "Same as source".

Merged Job ID: Specify a Job ID (8 characters) to identify the merged Mail.dat file set.

Optional Job Number & Optional Job Name: Specify a job number and/or job name to be included in the merged HDR file, if desired. Leave these blank to use the job number and job name from the first HDR file in the input file sets.

Merged File Name: Specify a name (1 - 64 characters) to use as the base name of the Mail.dat flat files and zip file. A default 8 character base file name is generated automatically, using your 4 character User License Code and a 4 character sequence number. You can overtype the autogenerated file name as you wish.

Delete Mother Pallets group: Mark the "Delete Mother Pallets" check box to get access to the rest of the check boxes.

All: Select to have the merger delete all mother pallets from the merged CSM file.

DNDC/DASF: Select to have the merger delete Destination Entry NDC/ASF mother pallets from the merged CSM file.

DSCF: Select to have the merger delete Destination Entry SCF mother pallets from the merged CSM file.

MxADC: Select to have the merger delete mixed ADC mother pallets from the merged CSM file.

MxNDC: Select to have the merger delete mixed NDC mother pallets from the merged CSM file.

Validation Options:

Most validation options are similar to the options on the Validator view.

Merger-specific validation options are:

Validate Input Files: Select to validate the input Mail.dat file sets.

Validate Merged Files: Select to validate the merged output Mail.dat file set.

Processing Steps:

- 1) Press the *Add* button to select the Mail.dat sets to merge
- 2) Press the Remove button to delete unwanted Mail.dat sets from your selections
- 3) Select the desired *General Use Options*
- 4) Select the desired Mail.dat Output Files Version
- 5) Select the desired Validation Options
- 6) Specify the Job ID for the merged Mail.dat set
- 7) Specify the base file name for the merged Mail.dat set
- 8) Press the Run button

As the processing runs, you will see the following view (Figure 36):

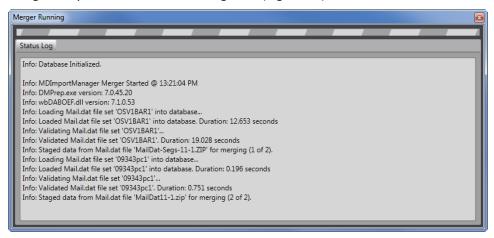


Figure 36

After closing the status window, you will see the merged output file listed under the *Merged File* list box (Figure 37).

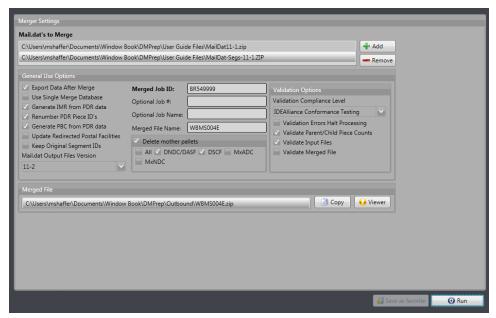


Figure 37

In the *Merged File* group, you can press the *Copy* button to copy the currently selected merged output file full name to the Windows Clipboard. You can press *Viewer* to load the currently selected file in the *Viewer* page.

Saving as favorite can be done the same as was done in the Validator (see Mail.dat Validator section).