

Re: Import Errors

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.gettingstarted/2005-03/1320.html>

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Date: 03/22/05

Date: Tue, 22 Mar 2005 10:14:23 +0200

John,

Just guessing here, not having seen some example data, but I suspect the problem has to do with Access "guessing" a column's data type during an import, based on the first X number of rows (X is defined, I believe, in a registry key), so when it finds some data further down that don't match the guess, it errs. So, even if you have set up a column as text in your spreadsheet, if Access finds numbers in the first X rows it assumes it is a number column and starts importing it as such, so it errs when it comes accross the first row containing non-numeric characters in that column. Preceding all column entries with a "#" (or whichever non-numeric character, for that matter) simply forces Access to assume the column is text (this is what it finds in the first X rows), so it imports correctly.

So much for the explanation of what is (possibly) happening, but this doesn't solve your problem, does it? To that end, it would help a lot if you posted some sample data – a few rows that import correctly, and a few that err.

By the way, "altering a dog's dinner of a layout into 5 neat columns" suggests you might not be extraxting the report from SAP in the best possible way; if you want to discuss this (what report? how do you transfer it to Excel?) I would suggest you send me a private e-mail, since this falls outside the scope of the NG... extracting data from SAP contributes a good part of my paycheck, so I might be able to come up with something.

HTH,
Nikos

Johnb wrote:

- > *I am importing data from a SAP system into Excel XP and*
- > *then altering a dog's dinner of a layout into 5 neat*
- > *columns. I then import the columns into Access XP table.*
- > *I've automated it and it works fine apart the middle*
- > *column/field which report 11 conversion errors in 850*
- > *records when it arrives in Access. The data is correct*
- > *when it is imported to a table in Access. If I append*

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- > *say "#" to the first character position to this middle*
- > *field it imports without any errors at all. I've tried*
- > *using Trim and Copy-Paste Special and values but no*
- > *success. All cols are text data types.*
- >
- > *Any suggestions ??*
- >
- > *TIA johnb*
- >