



**Customer:** EPIC Pharmacies, Inc.

**Website:** www.epicrx.com

**Country or Region:** United States

**Industry:** Healthcare

**Partner:** CozyRoc

#### Customer Profile

Formed in 1982 and headquartered in Maryland, EPIC Pharmacies, Inc. is a for-profit buying cooperative of independently owned pharmacies. EPIC, along with its affiliate companies services nearly two thousand independent community pharmacies across the country

#### Software and Services

- Microsoft Server Products
  - Windows Server 2008
  - SQL Server 2005
  - SQL Server 2008
- Technologies
  - Microsoft .NET Framework
  - SQL Server Integration Services (SSIS)

## Pharmacy services company saves hundreds of hours of development tedium with CozyRoc EDI Source component

*"The CozyRoc EDI Source component was an ideal solution for EPIC for numerous reasons, primarily associated with its great flexibility."*

*Bryan Douglas, Database Administrator, EPIC Pharmacy Network, Inc.*

The EDI data presented a unique challenge for EPIC. The requirements included the ability to handle multiple EDI standards (810, 832, 835, 852, etc) and also multiple formatting differences within each standard. EDI, by its own design, allows a fair amount of "wobble room" for how the EDI meta-data is defined. SSIS is the weapon of choice for many DBAs and ETL developers who want to process large amounts of data on SQL Server 2005 and 2008. Unfortunately SSIS does not come packaged with any components for dealing with EDI data. This is where the CozyRoc EDI Source component came to EPIC's rescue.

### Business Needs

EPIC and its affiliates handle hundreds of thousands of drug purchasing and insurance claim records every day. A constant stream of input data from myriad sources has to be processed in various formats (XML, CSV, EDI, etc). The data has to be imported, normalized, and processed quickly. In the past, these EDI files were processed with custom in-house programs. While it is not particularly challenging for a developer to write a single import

program for a single permutation of the EDI standard, the job quickly becomes tedious and complex when handling multiple standards and formatting combinations. EPIC also had a staffing need to assign ETL tasks to the DBA/ETL developer and free up the .NET developers for web and Windows coding tasks. The DBA/ETL developer did not have the skills to write custom programs for every permutation of the EDI source files.

## Solution

EPIC chose EDI Source component from Microsoft Partner CozyRoc. The solution is part of the extensive SSIS+ library of components that support SQL Server 2005, 2008 and 2008R2.

The CozyRoc EDI Source component is a data flow source component, which reads the hierarchical EDI data and flattens and transforms it into tabular representation ready for use by other transformations in the data flow.

EPIC chose to purchase SSIS+ Ultimate Subscription package, which includes premium support. EPIC has been very pleased with both the EDI Source component and CozyRoc support, especially the quick response to support questions and the receptiveness to implementing new features and making improvements to the product line.

Since deploying its new EDI solution, EPIC has saved hundreds of hours of development tedium. It has been running smoothly in production for several months.

EPIC has a major rewrite project in the works for some mission critical applications. They are very confident and comfortable with the CozyRoc EDI Source Component being at the heart of

the file import side of the architecture in this new project, once again.

## Benefits

The component can read any EDI standard (even non-standard) file using an XML template which the user can create and maintain. The template creation is an iterative process that doesn't require programming skills. CozyRoc provides a sample template and input file for demonstration purposes.

The component can handle dynamic delimiter assignments. The field, component, and sub-component delimiters can be read from the input file and then passed to the component dynamically, saving programming effort and potential bugs when new unexpected delimiters arrive.

Each repeating EDI segment is directed by the component to a different data flow output path. The user can easily route the ones he needs and ignore the ones he doesn't. The output includes the repeating segment data and also the segment's parent data. This contextual information is important for creating proper database representation.

Each logical record can be optionally assigned an integer value similar to a row number or

identity value. This makes normalization of complex, dynamic EDI hierarchical relationships very simple and straightforward without having to do expensive key lookups on the normalized database.

The component is very fast. A 116MB file in 835 EDI format was transformed into more than 1 million rows of tabular data in less than 4 minutes. The component has low-memory consumption and can potentially read unlimited amounts of data, because the data is streamed.

The solution is cost-effective because the developers are not required to purchase a license. A license key is required only for physical machines where a package has to be executed under SQL Job Agent.

## For More Information

For more information about CozyRoc products and services, call the CozyRoc Sales Department at (919) 249-7421, email [sales@CozyRoc.com](mailto:sales@CozyRoc.com), or visit [www.cozyroc.com](http://www.cozyroc.com)

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