



Introduction to Change Data Capture

Starting with Progress® OpenEdge® 11.7, OpenEdge RDBMS provides the Change Data Capture feature or CDC. CDC identifies and captures data that has changed in tables of a source database, as a result of create, update, and delete (or CUD) operations.

This is useful to customers who need to export data to a data warehouse or business intelligence application.

Change data is maintained in CDC tables in the source database.

The data capture process is flexible and scalable, and does not require any changes to your application.

CDC tables can be indexed for quick retrieval. Captured data can be accessible to an OpenEdge ABL (Advanced Business Language) or SQL (Structured Query Language) application.

DBAs configure CDC policies to control how much change data from source tables is captured in CDC tables by setting CDC levels. Levels range from:

- Minimal, which simply indicates a change occurred, to
- Medium, which collects current values of CUD operations, to
- Maximum, which collects both previous and current values of CUD operations.

The amount of change data captured can vary from one table to another, depending on your business requirements.

CDC includes two metadata tables that are created in the source database when you enable CDC for the database.

These tables contain information about CDC policies for source tables and their associated fields.

CDC also includes data tables: a tracking table that maintains a record of all CDC activities and individual change tables.

If the CDC level is higher than minimal, a CDC change table is created in the source database when you define and activate a CDC policy for a source table.

To implement OpenEdge Change Data Capture, you need to:

- Allocate space for CDC data tables and indexes,
- Enable CDC for your database, and
- Create CDC policies.

In the next two videos in this series, you will see examples of how to create CDC policies.

To learn more about Change Data Capture, take the course, *Implementing Progress OpenEdge Change Data Capture*.