



# FinIt Solutions: Smart Merge Overview

The Smart Merge Solution is a Hyperion FDM solution that addresses Data Protection when loading data through Hyperion FDM. This document details an overview of the solution, the issues it addresses and an example of how the solution works.

## Overview

The Smart Merge solution was developed to address two common and painful issues that organizations face when loading data into a Hyperion system (Enterprise, HFM, Essbase, etc.). These issues are:

1. **The need to protect previously loaded data in a Hyperion system when additional data needs to be loaded.** Data protection is generally needed when organizations wish to load data as 'Replace'. The standard 'Replace' load functionality deletes all data for an entity before loading the new file, and thus, previously loaded data is completely wiped out. Data protection may be needed under the following circumstances:
  - a. When supplemental data is loaded to the same entity(s) through HFM Web-Forms, Hyperion Enterprise schedules or Hyperion Smartview / Retrieve, a subsequent trial balance data load through Hyperion FDM as 'Replace' will delete this data.
  - b. Multiple submissions occur such as loading P&L and Balance Sheet data at different times to the same entity(s). Loading as Replace will overwrite this previously loaded data.
2. **The need to have the 'Merge' load option pick up re-classifications that occur between loads.** The standard 'Merge' load option does a selective replace. This means that it will replace only the items that exist in the 2<sup>nd</sup> file that is being loaded. Thus, if a re-classification occurs, that data does not get picked up when the 2<sup>nd</sup> file is loaded.

The Smart Merge solution involves looking to the previously loaded data file through Hyperion FDM. Hyperion FDM stores the previously loaded file. As a result, we can create a combined load file that will be able to load as "Merge" that will include the previously loaded data as well so that it will be wiped out. All previously loaded data is added to the new load file with a designation of 'NO DATA' (HFM) or 0 (Hyperion Enterprise). This designation removes the value that existed previously. So, in total, the solution loads both the new data values and the previously loaded values which are zeroed out.

## Example

Using 3 submissions, Smart Merge will work as follows (shown as integrating with HFM and using NO DATA. Hyperion Enterprise will replace NO DATA with a 0):



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### *Submission #1*

Entity	Account	Value
FinIt Solutions	CASH	100
FinIt Solutions	AR	200

In this first submission, the data is loaded as normal Merge. Since it is the first submission and it is loaded as Merge, it will protect any web-form / schedules / Smartview / Retrieve data entered and no reclassifications have occurred yet.

### *Submission #2*

Entity	Account	Value
FinIt Solutions	AR	300 (from new data file)
FinIt Solutions	CASH	NO DATA (derived result)
FinIt Solutions	AR	NO DATA (derived result)

In the second submission, Cash is completely reclassified to AR. The new load file will pull the values loaded previously and load as NO DATA. With the “Accumulate in File” option inside HFM, any intersection that matched up with the previous file, as AR is above, will add the values together. NO DATA is treated as a zero and thus, for AR, \$300 + NO DATA will equal \$300. The Cash value inside the HFM database though will be removed and changed from \$100 to NO DATA. Since we are loading as Merge, our web-form data is still protected.

### *Submission #3*

Entity	Account	Value
FinIt Solutions	CASH	100 (from new data file)
FinIt Solutions	AR	200 (from new data file)
FinIt Solutions	AR	NO DATA (derived result)

In the third submission, Cash comes back. We do not continue to exponentially add the files together. We pull just the true value items from the previously loaded data. As a result, our third file will load just like the second submission, and will now re-populate CASH with the correct value. AR will be reset as well. Again, since we are loading as Merge, our web-form data is protected.

This solution has been used in Production by companies of all sizes, including Fortune 100 to middle market organizations, as the issue is universal and typically the number 1 painpoint that existing FDM clients wrestle with.