

Metadata

Metadata includes the definition of the [database](#) and [database objects](#) such as [domains](#), [generators](#), [tables](#), [constraints](#), [indices](#), [views](#), [triggers](#), [stored procedures](#), [user-defined functions \(UDFs\)](#) and [blob filters](#). Metadata is stored in [system tables](#), which are themselves part of every Firebird/InterBase® database.

Metadata includes all those [SQL statements](#) necessary to recreate the database object. It comprises the following elements:

- [CREATE DATABASE](#) statement
- [CREATE DOMAIN](#) statements
- [CREATE TABLE](#) statements
- declarative [referential integrity](#) using the [ALTER TABLE](#) statement
- [CREATE GENERATOR](#) statements
- [CREATE VIEW](#) statements
- check constraints using [ALTER TABLE](#) statements
- [CREATE EXCEPTION](#) statements
- procedure definitions using [CREATE PROCEDURE](#) or [ALTER PROCEDURE](#)
- trigger definitions using [CREATE TRIGGER](#) statements
- granting of user authorizations for [tables](#), [views](#) and [stored procedures](#).

The screenshot shows a software window titled "Extract Metadata : Employee_2_1 (C:\FB3021\EMPLOYEE.FDB)". The "Output" tab is selected. The main area displays a log of the extraction process:

```
1 Starting Metadata Extract...
2
3 Extracting UDFs...
4
5 Extracting Domains...
6   ADDRESSLINE
7   BUDGET
8   COUNTRYNAME
9   CUSTNO
10  DEPTNO
11  EMPNO
12  FIRSTNAME
13  JOBCODE
14  JOBGRADE
15  LASTNAME
16  PHONENUMBER
17  PONUMBER
18  PRODTYPE
19  PROJNO
20  SALARY
21
22 Extracting Generators...
23   CUST_NO_GEN
24   EMP_NO_GEN
25   IBE$LOG_TABLES_GEN
26
27 Extracting Exceptions...
28   CUSTOMER_CHECK
29   CUSTOMER_ON_HOLD
```

Metadata for a table includes all domains and generators used by these tables plus the [CREATE TABLE](#) statement. It does not include any referential integrity definitions from this table to other tables or from other tables to this table.

Metadata for a view includes both the [CREATE VIEW](#) and [ALTER VIEW](#) statements.

The current metadata definitions can be viewed on the [DDL page](#) in the individual object editors.

Table : [CUSTOMER] : Employee_2_1 (localhost/3021:C:\FB3021\EMPLOYEE.FDB)

Table Constraints Indices Dependencies Triggers Data Master/Detail View Description DDL Grants Logging Comparison To-do

```
7 /*****
8 **** Tables ****
9 ****
10
11
12 CREATE GENERATOR CUST_NO_GEN;
13
14 CREATE TABLE CUSTOMER (
15     CUST_NO          CUSTNO NOT NULL /* CUSTNO = INTEGER CHECK (VALUE > 1000) */,
16     CUSTOMER         VARCHAR(25) NOT NULL,
17     CONTACT_FIRST   FIRSTNAME /* FIRSTNAME = VARCHAR(15) */,
18     CONTACT_LAST    LASTNAME /* LASTNAME = VARCHAR(20) */,
19     PHONE_NO         PHONENUMBER /* PHONENUMBER = VARCHAR(20) */,
20     ADDRESS_LINE1   ADDRESSLINE /* ADDRESSLINE = VARCHAR(30) */,
21     ADDRESS_LINE2   ADDRESSLINE /* ADDRESSLINE = VARCHAR(30) */,
22     CITY             VARCHAR(25),
23     STATE_PROVINCE  VARCHAR(15),
24     COUNTRY          COUNTRYNAME /* COUNTRYNAME = VARCHAR(15) */,
25     POSTAL_CODE      VARCHAR(12),
26     ON_HOLD          CHAR(1) DEFAULT NULL
27 );
```

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