

Altova MapForce Server

User and Reference Manual

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Chapter 1

Altova MapForce Server

1 Altova MapForce Server

Altova MapForce Server Development Edition supports all the processing features of the current version of the server-based Altova MapForce Server. The Development edition is available on **Windows systems only** and it is licensed with the valid license key of MapForce Enterprise or MapForce Professional installation.

MapForce Server Development Edition is sent a MapForce Server Execution (.mfex file) file via the command line. It processes this file to produce the output files of the MapForce mapping on which the .mfex file is based.

System requirements, installation and licensing

MapForce Server is supported on the following operating systems:

- Windows Server 2003, 2008 R2, or newer
- Windows XP with Service Pack 3, Windows 7, Windows 8, or newer

MapForce Server Development Edition is available for 32-bit Windows machines only. For details about installation and licensing, see the setup section.

Limitations

Note the following limitations:

- XML Signatures are not supported
- Global resources are not supported via the COM interface
- ODBC and ADO database connections are only supported on Windows systems.

1.1 About Development Edition

MapForce Server Development Edition has certain limitations compared to the server-based edition of MapForce Server. These limitations are as follows:

- Available as a 32-bit installer only
- Can only be run from the command line
- Only runs on Windows workstations; no other OS is supported
- Does not run on any Windows **server** platforms
- Only runs one instance of the binaries at any one time
- Does not connect to FlowForce to execute deployed mappings

1.1.1 Installation and Licensing

Installation

To install MapForce Server Development Edition, do the following:

Having downloaded the MapForce Server Development installer from the Altova download page:

1. Download MapForce Server Development Edition from the [Altova download](#) page.
2. Start the installation process by double clicking the installer file.
3. Follow the instructions of the installer wizard.
4. On completion, MapForce Server Development Edition will be installed in its own directory.

The executable is called `MapForceServerDev.exe`, and is located in the `bin` folder of the application folder.

MapForce Server Development Edition is a command-line binary which does not have a graphical user interface. MapForce Server Execution files (`.mfx` files) compiled from mappings designed in [Altova MapForce](#) can be directly executed via the command line of MapForce Server Development Edition.

Licensing

If you have previously bought an [Altova MapForce](#) edition, then you will be able to use that license for the corresponding MapForce Server Development Edition. There is no extra licensing requirement. MapForce Server Development Edition will automatically be assigned the license of your [Altova MapForce Enterprise/Professional Edition](#), and you can start using MapForce Server Development Edition directly.

Note: A MapForce Server Development Edition installation licensed with a MapForce Enterprise license will support MapForce Enterprise features, while one that is licensed with a MapForce Professional license will support only MapForce Professional features.

1.1.2 Usage

MapForce Server processes a MapForce Server Execution file (.mfx file) to generate the output file/s that were defined in the underlying MapForce design file.

A MapForce Server Execution File (.mfx file) can be generated in two ways:

- By using the `COMPILE` command of the [MapForce](#) command line. For details, see the [MapForce documentation](#).
- By using the [MapForce](#) menu command **File | Compile to MapForce Server Execution File**.

The .mfx file can then be executed with the [run](#) command of MapForce Server.

1.2 Command Line Usage

This section:

- [Default location of MapForce Server Development Edition executable](#)
- [Usage and list of valid CLI commands](#)

Default location of MapForce Server Development Edition executable

The default location of the MapForce Server Development Edition executable is:

```
<ProgramFilesFolder>\Altova\MapForceServerDevelopmentEdition2014
\bin\MapForceServerDev.exe
```

Usage and list of valid CLI commands

General command line syntax for MapForceServerDev is:

```
MapForceServerDev --h | --help | --version | <command> [options] [arguments]
```

where

--h --help	Displays the help text.
--version	Displays the version of MapForce Server Development Edition.

Valid CLI commands are listed below and are explained in the sub-sections of this section.

run	Executes a MapForce Server Execution file (.mfx)
help	Displays help for a specific command. For example: help run

1.2.1 run

This section:

- [Command syntax](#)
- [Command description](#)
- [Examples](#)
- [Command options](#)

Command syntax

```
MapForceServerDev run [options] MfxFile [> logfile.log]
```

Command description

The `run` command executes a MapForce Server Development Edition Execution file (`.mfx` file). It requires an input `.mfx` file (**MfxFile**) as its argument.

Examples

In [Altova MapForce](#), open a MapForce Design file (`.mfd` file), say, `ChainedPersonList.mfd`, from the MapForce Examples folder. Compile it to a MapForce Execution file (`.mfx` file) with the MapForce command **File | Compile to MapForce Server Execution File**. Say that the compiled file is saved to `C:\temp\ChainedPersonList.mfx`.

Now, in MapForce Server Development Edition, you can use the `run` command to execute `ChainedPersonList.mfx`:

```
MapForceServerDev run C:\temp\ChainedPersonList.mfx
```

The two output files of this MapForce Design file (`PersonList.xml` and `Contacts.xml`) are generated in the MapForce Examples folder.

To create a log file, use the redirect operator `>` at the end of the `run` command. So, for example:

```
MapForceServerDev run C:\temp\ChainedPersonList.mfx > Mylog.log
```

Command options

Options are listed in their short forms (in the first column) and long forms (second column), together with their descriptions (third column). On the command line, one or two dashes can be used for both short and long forms.

For information about global resources and input parameters, see the [Altova MapForce documentation](#).

	--catalog	Specifies the absolute path to a root catalog file that is not the installed root catalog file. The default value is the absolute path to the installed root catalog file. Form: --catalog=FILE
--gc	--globalresourceconfig	The name of the global resource configuration. Form: --gc=VALUE
--gr	--globalresourcefile	The path of the global resource definition file. Form: --gr=FILE.
--l	--lang	The language used for displaying messages. Form: --lang=VALUE (en,de,ja,es)
--p	--param	Assigns a value to a parameter defined in the mapping. Form: --param=ParamName:ParamValue. The --param switch must be used before each parameter. Use quotes if ParamName or ParamValue contains a space. For example: --p=company:"Nanonull Inc".

Note: On Windows systems: Avoid using the end backslash and closing quote on the command line \", for example, as in: "C:\My directory\". These two characters are interpreted by the command line parser as a literal double-quotation mark. Use the double backslash \\ if spaces occur in the command line and you need the quotes (for example: "C:\My Directory\\"). Alternatively, try to avoid using spaces and, therefore, quotes at all.

1.2.2 help

This section:

- [Command syntax](#)
- [Command description](#)
- [Examples](#)
- [The --help option](#)

Command syntax

```
MapForceServerDev help Command
```

Command description

The `help` command takes a single argument (*Command*): the name of the command for which help is required. It displays the correct syntax of the command and other information relevant to the correct execution of the command.

Examples

An example of the `help` command:

```
MapForceServerDev help run
```

The command above contains one argument: the command `run`, for which help is required. When the example command above is executed, information about the `run` command will be displayed in the terminal.

The --help option

Help information about a command is also available by using the `--help` option with the command for which help information is required. For example, using the `--help` option with the `run` command, as follows:

```
MapForceServerDev run --help
```

achieves the same result as does using the `help` command with an argument of `run`:

```
MapForceServerDev help run
```

In both cases, help information about the `run` command is displayed.

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