# Article 9195: How to Remove Extra Blank Lines from Plain Templates?

By: Joan Kolarik

As you can see below, there is no single cause. Each section has its own issues and fixes need to be made in both the letter xsl file and multiple plain-funcs files.

[1] plain-funcs.xsl

BEFORE

<xsl:template name="header-gen">

 <xsl:param name="title"/>

 <xsl:param name="sub-title"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//form-date"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//form-name"/>-<xsl:value-of select="//form-format"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="$title"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="$sub-title"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

</xsl:template>

AFTER With Lines Commented Out

<xsl:template name="header-gen">

 <xsl:param name="title"/>

 <xsl:param name="sub-title"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//form-date"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//form-name"/>-<xsl:value-of select="//form-format"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="$title"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="$sub-title"/>

<!-- <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/> -->

<!-- <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/> -->

</xsl:template>

[2] plain-funcs-address.xsl

BEFORE

<xsl:template name="patron-address">

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-address-0"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-address-1"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-address-2"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-address-3"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-address-4"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-zip"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-email-address"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="display-gen">

 <xsl:with-param name="label" select="'Patron ID'"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="value" select="//z302-id"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 <xsl:call-template name="display-gen">

 <xsl:with-param name="label" select="'Patron Barcode'"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="value" select="//z308-key-data"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

</xsl:template>

AFTER With Lines Commented Out

(obviously, if the additional address lines are needed, then they can’t be commented out, but would have to be given conditions saying, don’t print if this has content; on the other hand, since since this is the plain format to be sent via email, perhaps these lines are really superfluous here)

<xsl:template name="patron-address">

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-address-0"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

<!--

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-address-1"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-address-2"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-address-3"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-address-4"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-zip"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

-->

 <xsl:value-of select="//z302-email-address"/><xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="display-gen">

 <xsl:with-param name="label" select="'Patron ID'"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="value" select="//z302-id"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 <xsl:call-template name="display-gen">

 <xsl:with-param name="label" select="'Patron Barcode'"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="value" select="//z308-key-data"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

</xsl:template>

[3] plain-lost-material-summary-02.xsl

BEFORE

<!--SECTION-01 (FREE)-->

<xsl:template name="section-01">

 <xsl:call-template name="sublib-address"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="patron-address"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:with-param name="line" select="'salutation\_string'"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 <xsl:call-template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:with-param name="line" select="'The following is a list of items we already have asked you to return several times. These items are now identified as lost in the Library catalog. If you can return these items now, please do so. If you have a continuing need for these items or believe them to be truly lost, please contact Diane Norton. Thank you. ## ## '"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

</xsl:template>

AFTER (removed 2 line feeds at end of note)

<!--SECTION-01 (FREE)-->

<xsl:template name="section-01">

 <xsl:call-template name="sublib-address"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="patron-address"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:with-param name="line" select="'salutation\_string'"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 <xsl:call-template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:with-param name="line" select="'The following is a list of items we already have asked you to return several times. These items are now identified as lost in the Library catalog. If you can return these items now, please do so. If you have a continuing need for these items or believe them to be truly lost, please contact Diane Norton. Thank you. '"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

</xsl:template>

[4] plain-funcs-misc.xsl

BEFORE

<xsl:template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:param name="line"/>

 <xsl:param name="style"/>

 <xsl:param name="no-first-time"/>

 <xsl:param name="grid"/>

 <xsl:param name="width"/>

 <xsl:param name="salutation"/>

 <xsl:variable name="first" select="substring-before($line,'##')"/>

 <xsl:variable name="rest" select="substring-after($line,'##')"/>

 <xsl:if test="$no-first-time='' and $grid='' ">

 <xsl:call-template name="table-close"/>

 <xsl:if test="$width=''">

 <xsl:call-template name="table-open-full"/>

 </xsl:if>

 <xsl:if test="$width!=''">

 <xsl:call-template name="table-open">

 <xsl:with-param name="width" select="$width"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="align" select="'left'"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 </xsl:if>

 </xsl:if>

 <xsl:if test="$grid='' ">

 <xsl:call-template name="open-row"/>

 </xsl:if>

 <xsl:call-template name="build-style-start">

 <xsl:with-param name="style" select="$style"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 <xsl:choose>

 <xsl:when test="$grid='' and $line='salutation\_string' or $first='salutation\_string'">

 <xsl:call-template name="choose-salutation-title"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="close-row"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:with-param name="line" select="$rest"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="style" select="$style"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="grid" select="$grid"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="no-first-time" select="'y'"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 </xsl:when>

 <xsl:when test="$grid='' and contains($line,'salutation\_string')">

 <xsl:call-template name="choose-salutation-title"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="close-row"/>

 <xsl:variable name="rest\_salut" select="substring-after($line,'salutation\_string')"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:with-param name="line" select="$rest\_salut"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="style" select="$style"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="grid" select="$grid"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="no-first-time" select="'y'"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 </xsl:when>

 <xsl:when test="not(contains($line, '##'))">

 <xsl:value-of select="$line"/>

 </xsl:when>

 <xsl:when test="$first='' and $rest!=''">

 <xsl:if test="$grid='' ">

 <xsl:call-template name="close-row"/>

 </xsl:if>

 <xsl:call-template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:with-param name="line" select="$rest"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="style" select="$style"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="grid" select="$grid"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="no-first-time" select="'y'"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 </xsl:when>

 <xsl:when test="$first!='' and $rest=''">

 <xsl:value-of select="$first"/>

 <xsl:if test="$grid='' ">

 </xsl:if>

 </xsl:when>

 <xsl:when test="$first!='' and $rest!=''">

 <xsl:value-of select="$first"/>

 <xsl:if test="$grid='' ">

 <xsl:call-template name="close-row"/>

 </xsl:if>

 <xsl:call-template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:with-param name="line" select="$rest"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="style" select="$style"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="grid" select="$grid"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="no-first-time" select="'y'"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 </xsl:when>

 </xsl:choose>

 <xsl:call-template name="build-style-end">

 <xsl:with-param name="style" select="$style"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 <xsl:if test="$grid='' ">

 <xsl:call-template name="open-row"/>

 </xsl:if>

</xsl:template>

AFTER With Lines Commented Out + Commentary

<xsl:template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:param name="line"/>

 <xsl:param name="style"/>

 <xsl:param name="no-first-time"/>

 <xsl:param name="grid"/>

 <xsl:param name="width"/>

 <xsl:param name="salutation"/>

<!-- Read "select" variable from calling proc. If contains line feed (##), stop there -->

<!-- first = The following is a list of items we already have asked you to return several times. These items are now identified as lost in the Library catalog. If you can return these items now, please do so. If you have a continuing need for these items or believe them to be truly lost, please contact Diane Norton. Thank you. -->

 <xsl:variable name="first" select="substring-before($line,'##')"/>

<!-- Read remaining "select" variable from calling proc, after line feed. Stop at line feed -->

<!-- rest = "" -->

 <xsl:variable name="rest" select="substring-after($line,'##')"/>

<!-- Evaluates to TRUE, no-first-time is empty, grid is empty -->

 <xsl:if test="$no-first-time='' and $grid='' ">

 <xsl:call-template name="table-close"/>

 <!-- width is empty, so this is used, not the next if -->

 <xsl:if test="$width=''">

 <xsl:call-template name="table-open-full"/>

 </xsl:if>

 <xsl:if test="$width!=''">

 <xsl:call-template name="table-open">

 <xsl:with-param name="width" select="$width"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="align" select="'left'"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 </xsl:if>

 </xsl:if>

<!-- need 1 new row -->

 <xsl:if test="$grid='' ">

 <xsl:call-template name="open-row"/>

 </xsl:if>

<!-- not relevant -->

 <xsl:call-template name="build-style-start">

 <xsl:with-param name="style" select="$style"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 <xsl:choose>

<!-- For salutations -->

 <xsl:when test="$grid='' and $line='salutation\_string' or $first='salutation\_string'">

 <xsl:call-template name="choose-salutation-title"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="close-row"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:with-param name="line" select="$rest"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="style" select="$style"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="grid" select="$grid"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="no-first-time" select="'y'"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 </xsl:when>

<!-- also salutations -->

 <xsl:when test="$grid='' and contains($line,'salutation\_string')">

 <xsl:call-template name="choose-salutation-title"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="close-row"/>

 <xsl:variable name="rest\_salut" select="substring-after($line,'salutation\_string')"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:with-param name="line" select="$rest\_salut"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="style" select="$style"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="grid" select="$grid"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="no-first-time" select="'y'"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 </xsl:when>

<!-- Print Line (without new line markers) -->

 <xsl:when test="not(contains($line, '##'))">

 <xsl:value-of select="$line"/>

 </xsl:when>

<!-- first = our line; rest = empty, evaluates to FALSE -->

 <xsl:when test="$first='' and $rest!=''">

 <xsl:if test="$grid='' ">

 <xsl:call-template name="close-row"/>

 </xsl:if>

 <xsl:call-template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:with-param name="line" select="$rest"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="style" select="$style"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="grid" select="$grid"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="no-first-time" select="'y'"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 </xsl:when>

<!-- first = our line; rest = empty, evaluates to TRUE -->

<!-- DOES NOTHING -->

 <xsl:when test="$first!='' and $rest=''">

 <xsl:value-of select="$first"/>

 </xsl:when>

<!-- first = our line; rest = empty, evaluates to FALSE -->

 <xsl:when test="$first!='' and $rest!=''">

 <xsl:value-of select="$first"/>

 <xsl:if test="$grid='' ">

 <xsl:call-template name="close-row"/>

 </xsl:if>

 <xsl:call-template name="generic-line">

 <xsl:with-param name="line" select="$rest"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="style" select="$style"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="grid" select="$grid"/>

 <xsl:with-param name="no-first-time" select="'y'"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

 </xsl:when>

 </xsl:choose>

<!-- style is empty -->

 <xsl:call-template name="build-style-end">

 <xsl:with-param name="style" select="$style"/>

 </xsl:call-template>

<!-- grid is empty, evaluates to TRUE -->

<!-- PRETTY SURE THIS IS UNNECESSARY! -->

<!-- There is already an open-row above and grids don't grid in plain -->

<!--

 <xsl:if test="$grid='' ">

 <xsl:call-template name="open-row"/>

 </xsl:if>

-->

</xsl:template>

The version that I was working from had an extra horizontal line before the citation. It comes from here:

[5] plain-funcs-grid.xsl

BEFORE

<xsl:template name="grid-title">

 <xsl:param name="grid-title"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="$grid-title"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="horizontal-line"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

</xsl:template>

AFTER With Lines Commented Out

<xsl:template name="grid-title">

 <xsl:param name="grid-title"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

 <xsl:value-of select="$grid-title"/>

<!--

 <xsl:call-template name="horizontal-line"/>

 <xsl:call-template name="new-line"/>

-->

</xsl:template>

THE RESULT

07/02/2012

lost-material-summary-02

Faculty Summary Bill for Lost Material

Medicine University Libraries

613 Central Library Blvd.

Chicago, IL 60614

john.doe@exlibrisgroup.com

Tel# 773.404.5527

John Doe

john.doe@mycollege.edu

Patron ID: John Doe

Dear Mrs.,

The following is a list of items we already have asked you to return several times. These items are now identified as lost in the Library catalog. If you can return these items now, please do so. If you have a continuing need for these items or believe them to be truly lost, please contact Diane Norton. Thank you.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Pos.: 1

Item Barcode: 86575-10

Bib Info: Yana B : Checking maximum renewal period..[000086575]

Loan Date: 11/09/2011

Due Date: 28/09/2011

Collection:

Call No:

Lost material - Replacement: 120.00

Lost material - Handling: 30.00

------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Total: 150.00

Sincerely,

Circulation Department