Do you ever wonder why or when you use the Explode after you did and where did they came from????

Here is what you can do the follow step by step:

1. Bring your data to ArcMap.
2. Before you use the Explode, Check how many records it has. Write it down the number. That would be called "Pre". For example : the Original data
3. To use Explode, need to start with Editor.
4. Right click on the data, select "Selection" then hit select all.
5. It will bring you up "This table (potentially) contains a large number of records and the Select All operation could take a long period of time. Do you want to continue?   Say Yes
6. To use Explode, you need the Advanced Editing toolbar

7. Click on it and wait for it to complete exploded.
8. Go back to # 4 above again.
9. Wait for the results at the bottom left side that says Number of features selected: XXXXX. Write it down.
10. Do not save the data, so when you exit Editor. Press No. It will return to the original and check to ensure the records are the same as number # 2.
11. Export the original data to shapefile or Geodatabase. This will be the post data
12. Go back to the Editor again and then hit the Explode with the export/post data.
13. Wait for the exploded to be complete.
14. Review the table and write it down numbers of records it has.
15. Save the Post data.

How do you compare between the two with the Pre and Post Explode data to find the ones that Post exploded more features from the Pre ones? Here is how to do it.
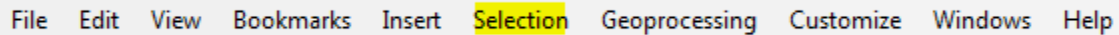
1. Use the "Feature to Point". Do that for the original/Pre and exported/Post polygons.
2. You can label the Pre as the original data
3. You can label the Post as the New or exported data.
4. You will need to change the Symbology for both. Make sure you use the same size, but in a different color. I'd use Circle 2 as the one example. One light green and the second for red.
5. Now you can go back and compare them to find the between the pre and post.
6. You can use it with against the polygons and compare with the points.

You could do the same thing but to do this use the Select by Location under the Selection Menu

1. You can use the Pre and Post data above.
2. If you want to label each feature, for example, Pre as Original with number of selection:
3. Original – 8840

New Data – 9140

4. Write it down the total number of records for both data, for example: 17,980, this is to give you an idea how many total it has records.
5. You will need to select all for both Pre and Post data.
6. Then go to Selection Menu :

File   Edit   View   Bookmarks   Insert   Selection   Geoprocessing   Customize   Windows   Help

7. Then scroll down to : Select by Location:
8. In the Select by Location menu:
   a. Select features from : New data
   b. Source layer : Original data
   c. For the Spatial selection method for target layer features:
      i. "Have their centroid in the source layer feature"
   d. Hit Ok
9. There should be a results showing you : Number of features selected: 17680
10. Subtract the total records from 17,980 to 17680 and the difference is 300.
11. The Problem is that you can't export the selected features to a new one from each data, right?
12. There is a better way to do this way than this select by Location.

<p style="text-align:center; color:red;">Use the Symmetrical Difference toolbar to do this way. Way easier!</p>

1. Go back to ArcMap.
2. Use the one you have the Pre and Post data Points.
3. Open up the Symmetrical Difference toolbar
4. For the Input Features - choose the original data (Pre)
5. For the Update Features - choose the New Data (Post)
6. For the Output Feature Class: whatever you like to name it.
7. For the JoinAttributes (optional): I would leave it as ALL.
8. Review the output feature data. The Results is 300!
9. You can turn it on the Pre, Post and the Output features data to review it to find where the Explode came from.
10. . You can compare by select one of the layer to turn it on and off.