

Paper 140-26

WAP-Enabling SAS® Applications*S. David Riba, JADE Tech, Inc., Clearwater, FL***ABSTRACT**

WAP, Wireless Application Protocol, is an exciting new technology which has significant capabilities to extend SAS® applications across thin client interfaces to portable devices. With WAP technology, SAS applications can now be totally portable, available to end users via cell phones or PDAs. This presentation will explore WAP and discuss the requirements necessary to make SAS applications easily accessible to WAP-enabled devices. It is an introductory paper intend for intermediate to advanced SAS programmers.

INTRODUCTION

As the state of technology has evolved, demands on information have increased dramatically. It is no longer acceptable to wait weeks, days, or even hours for a report. Our organizations demand instant access to information. We have moved from the mainframe, to the desktop, to the laptop. We carry our offices with us when we travel. Now, even that is not good enough. We want instant access to our dafa 24 hours a day, whether we are in our offices, in our homes, or on the road.

Over the past few years, cellular phones and Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) have changed the world dramatically. We can now be in communication with the outside world at all hours of the day or night, even when we are on vacation. The world wide web has made access to information a global phenomenon. However, until recently cell phones and PDAs were unable to communicate with the world of information accessible over the web.

This has all changed with the advent of WAP. Wireless Application Protocol was designed to allow any WAP enabled device, primarily cell phones and PDAs, to communicate with the world wide web and access information across the web. This information could be a web page, a web search, a database query on your office computer, or even the ability to run a SAS application remotely.

Using WAP, it is now possible to enter or retrieve information from your data warehouse or other SAS application using nothing more than a cell phone or a PDA. Since cell phones provide a very limited

“window” and can only display small amounts of information at one time, WAP has only had limited success in cell phone implementations. However, with a larger “window” of information, PDAs such as the PalmPilot or Handspring Visor are much more suitable for WAP implementations.

This presentation will concentrate on PDAs as a data entry / retrieval device. It will use the Palm Vlix for demonstration purposes. However, the techniques are valid for any WAP-enabled device. This paper will provide an introduction to WAP, discuss some of the key areas needed to work with WAP, and demonstrate how WAP can be used with SAS software.

FINAL PAPER AVAILABILITY

Because the information in this paper addresses some topics still under development at SAS, most notably AppDev Studio Release 2.0, the final paper was not available by the deadline necessary for publication of the SUGI Proceedings. AppDev Studio Release 2.0 contains several enhancements that will facilitate development of WAP enabled SAS applications. Once the paper has been completed, it will be available for download from the author's website.

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[HTTP://WWW.JADETEK.COM/PUBS.HTM](http://WWW.JADETEK.COM/PUBS.HTM)



AUTHOR BIO

S. David Riba is CEO of JADE Tech, Inc., a SAS Quality Partner who specializes entirely in applications development, consulting and training in the SAS System. Dave has presented papers and assisted in various capacities at SUGI, SESUG, NESUG, MWSUG, SCSUG, WUSS, and PharmaSUG.

Dave is an unrepentent SAS bigot. His major areas of interest are efficient programming techniques and applications development using the SAS System. His SAS software product specialties are SAS/AF and FRAME technology, SAS/EIS, SAS/IntrNet, AppDev Studio, and CFO/Vision. Dave is a SAS Certified Professional.

Dave is the founder and President of the Florida Gulf Coast SAS Users Group. He chartered and served as Co-Chair of the first SouthEast SAS Users Group conference, SESUG '93, and serves as President of the Executive Council of the SouthEast SAS Users Group. He also serves on the Executive Council of CONSUG, the Consultant's SAS Users Group. His first SUGI was in 1983, and he has been actively involved in both SUGI and the Regional SAS User Group community since then.

Dave is currently the Co-Chair of SSU 2001, the combined SouthEast and SouthCentral SAS Users Group conference to be held in New Orleans in August, 2001.