

A Beginner's Guide to Incorporating SAS® Output in Microsoft® Office Applications

Does this scenario sound familiar to you?

You're running SAS on a platform other than Windows, such as UNIX, and are generating output. You wish you could get that output from SAS into Microsoft Word and Excel — and do it as painlessly as possible. Ideally, you want to be able to work with any level of SAS and not have to use any other special SAS products. You also want to preserve the "look-and-feel" of your SAS output AND preserve the integrity of the data. But you're sure that it can't be done, at least not painlessly.

Vince DelGobbo, Systems Developer for SAS, has come up with an effective way to incorporate SAS output in Microsoft Word and Excel documents. At SUGI 28, DelGobbo presented [A Beginner's Guide to Incorporating SAS Output in Microsoft Office Applications \(.pdf\)](#). This paper, written for beginner and intermediate SAS users, presents basic and advanced topics for incorporating SAS output in Word and Excel **from any platform that has SAS Release 8.2 or later licensed**. For example, readers are shown how to incorporate SAS output into new Word and Excel documents by generating HTML using the Output Delivery System (ODS). Formatting issues that might result from this process are easily corrected by using ODS and Cascading Style Sheet style attributes. For intermediate SAS users, DelGobbo explains how to include dynamically generated output into Excel and Word using SAS server technology (SAS/IntrNet and SAS Stored Process Server).

For the more technically-savvy SAS user, DelGobbo has written a companion paper, [Techniques for SAS Enabling Microsoft Office in a Cross-Platform Environment \(.pdf\)](#). This paper focuses on how to generate other types of output (such as Comma Separated Value File, Symbolic Link Format, Rich Text Format) and how to include those types of output in Excel and Word. It also contains examples of how to automate the entire process using SAS server technology and Visual Basic® for Applications macros.

Since SUGI 28, DelGobbo has been asked to present *A Beginner's Guide* at a large number of local and regional users groups meetings. In fact, this paper has drawn some of the largest audiences at the 2003 Southeast and South Central SAS Users Group Conferences. *A Beginner's Guide* has been extremely well-received because it addresses a common problem for SAS users. SAS users have told DelGobbo that

- they have always had this problem and never knew that they could do this.
- this paper is clear and easy to understand.
- they can read the paper and successfully use the techniques immediately.
- they didn't realize that they could drive SAS/IntrNet applications from inside Microsoft Excel and Word.

If your in-house or local SAS users group would like to request this presentation at your annual SAS presentation during an upcoming meeting, please submit an online [User Group Request Form](#) at least eight weeks in advance.

As an extension to this topic and a response to user feedback, SAS is currently working on other methods for importing SAS output into Excel workbooks and Word documents. One such method involves using Base SAS® 9 and ODS to export SAS data and analytic results to separate worksheets in an Excel workbook. Another is the ability to import multi-sheet Excel workbooks into separate SAS tables. Both methods are

Read Vince's SUGI papers

- ▶ [Moving Data and Analytical Results between SAS and Microsoft Office \(.pdf\)](#)
- ▶ [From SAS to Excel via XML \(.pdf\)](#)
- ▶ [A Beginner's Guide to Incorporating SAS Output in Microsoft Office Applications \(.pdf\)](#)
- ▶ [Techniques for SAS Enabling Microsoft Office in a Cross-Platform Environment \(.pdf\)](#)

discussed in [New Techniques for Transferring Data and Results between SAS and Excel](#).

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