Session #11260 (E-Poster)

Partial Promotion of SAS® Content
Tips and Tricks for Business Users

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About the presenter

Andrew is a SAS consultant with more than 15 years’ experience, based in Melbourne, Australia. His more recent roles have included SAS Platform Administrator, SAS Migration Lead, and SAS Solutions Designer for several of Australia’s national banks, insurers & telcos.

Andrew also continues to deliver training courses on behalf of SAS, primarily Platform Administration, Mid-Tier Administration and Visual Analytics Administration.

Andrew is a committee member & regular presenter of the SAS Melbourne User Group (SMUG), and the SAS Australia & New Zealand Online Community (SANZOC) within the communities.sas.com site.

He is also a moderator of the SAS Professionals Forum and sasCommunity LinkedIn groups.

This is Andrew’s fourth consecutive year as a SAS Global Forum presenter.
Challenge: Balancing trad’l SDLC & business needs

Traditional SDLC
- All change takes place on Dev environment
- Changes are validated on Test environment
- Content is “consumed” on Prod environment

Potential issues
- Non-production data often not “rich” enough
- Release cycles & promotion timeframes are often too slow to meet business needs.

More common today
- Technology changes take place on Non-Prod environment and are promoted to Production as “Operational” components, as per traditional SDLC processes
- Business activities take place on Production platform in a “Discovery” or “Sandpit” workspace.
- Steps must be taken to ensure Business processes cannot impact Operational processes.

Question
- How can the Business “self-manage” its processes within a single environment?
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Without defined business processes, a single all-purpose Business Workspace risks quickly becoming unmanageable.
Good news!

The tools used by Platform Administrators to migrate/promote content *between environments*, can also by Business Users to migrate content *within a single environment*:

- Metadata content: Export/Import wizard
- Mid-tier content: DAVTree Utility
- SAS Enterprise Guide projects & code
  - Migration Wizard
  - Project Maintenance
  - Search Utility
Manage/migrate metadata

- Available in SAS Management Console, SAS Data Integration Studio & SAS OLAP Cube Studio.
- Export selected metadata content (e.g., a BusDev folder) to a SAS package.
- Reimport to an alternate metadata location (e.g., a BusOps folder), remapping as required.

Did you know?
A SAS package is actually a ZIP file containing XML files for each SAS metadata object. (Shhhh...)
Manage/migrate Mid-Tier content:

- A Java application to manage the WebDAV repository
- Copy, move content
- Import files
- Can also be used to lock & version content
Enterprise Guide Migration Wizard

- Allows bulk-change of many Enterprise Guide projects
  - Local and server-based searches
  - Useful for promotion to other environments
  - Also useful for bulk-reassigning of objects within an existing environment
    - Application Server Contexts (e.g., from BusDev to BusOps)
    - Libraries, etc

- Note: Does not update SAS code
  - These have to be managed within each Enterprise Guide project
SAS Enterprise Guide – Project Maintenance

- Useful for reassigning objects within a single project
  - Application Server Contexts (e.g., from BusDev to BusOps)
  - Libraries, etc

- Note: Does not update SAS code
  - These have to be managed within each Enterprise Guide project
SAS Enterprise Guide – Search functionality

- New to Enterprise Guide v7.1
- Relax!! Chris’ Search API’s are still available for earlier versions
- Useful for finding objects, specific code, etc.
- Note: Only searches within the current project
Important Tips

- Ensure segregation of functional workspaces (e.g., BusDev, BusOps)
  - File storage
  - External data sources (e.g., separate libraries schemas, etc)
  - Grid queues (if available)
- Get to know your SAS Administrators & Server Administrators
- Set up a Business Administrator, responsible for managing the Business Workspace in the Production Environment
  - Potentially multiple Business Administrators for numerous Business Units.
- **Backup everything before and after promotion, regardless of promotion method!**
Many thanks for your interest!

I welcome your feedback and any questions.

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