



## HARTFORD AREA SAS® USERS GROUP

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The HASUG Flash is available for reading on the World Wide Web at  
<http://www.hasug.org>

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## **Chairman's Notes** **(Robert Krajcik , Bristol-Myers Squibb)**

It was good to see everyone at our May 2006 meeting at Bayer, Inc. in West Haven, CT. I would like to thank Paul Bailey, Rob Musterer and the good folks at Bayer for hosting the event.

The next meeting will take place in August. The last several years our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter meeting was hosted by Yale University in New Haven. We are breaking with tradition this year. We are heading a bit north to New Britain and having the meeting at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain. You will need to pre-register for the meeting.

Dwight Fowler from the SAS office in Glastonbury will be speaking on SAS 9.1 stored processes and I will be talking about using newer ODS tag sets in SAS 9.1 to build custom Excel spreadsheets while scheduling the tasks from a SAS 8.2 Unix server. It is sure to be an interesting meeting. There will be refreshments served before the meeting.

Please take note of our website: <http://www.hasug.org>. It is filled with all kinds of information: our meeting announcements, The HASUG Flash, our steering committee members, suggestions for future meetings. We are always glad to take comments or suggestions. We are always looking for ideas and new people to speak at our meetings. I look forward to seeing you all on August 10<sup>th</sup> at Central Connecticut State University!

## **May Meeting Highlights**

**By Gerald Zuckier**

The second quarter meeting of HASUG was held Thursday May 18th, at Bayer, Inc. in West Haven, CT. The two speakers serendipitously both gave the audience a wider view of their topic than the SAS-centric usually do.

The first speaker was Robert Krajcik of Bristol-Myers Squibb. Rob spoke about calendars and calendar dates. He made what might have been a dry presentation on the fine points of the latest functions for calendar dates and date arithmetic in SAS into an entertaining and informative talk by including some details of the history of the calendar and various calendars used by different cultures.

The second speaker was Arun Sanjeev of Deloitte Consulting, speaking about how knowledge discovery in screening data expedites drug discovery. The first step in drug discovery for a pharmaceutical company is screening compounds. He stated that with current technology that exists, 100,000 compounds can be screened per day. While older manual methods of analyzing this information are no longer adequate, once this data is entered into a database, automated statistical knowledge discovery methods may be applied to identify the few compounds, which are promising for further investigation. Once again, the wider background made the presentation enjoyable and informative.

## **NEXT HASUG MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

Our next meeting is **Thursday Aug 10th, 2006** at **Central Connecticut State University** from **9:00 am to noon**

Our Topics and Speakers are:

### **SAS 9 Topics, Part 1: The Stored Process by Dwight Fowler, SAS Institute**

In this first segment, the SAS 9 concept of the Stored Process is the focus. The truth is that in SAS 9, sas code continues to be the heart and soul of our software. Stored Processes are the newest advances in making your SAS code more reusable, and more strategically available to a larger audience, than ever before. Dwight hopes to help everyone to understand how important the development of this capability to all SAS programmers. What does this mean to a SAS programmer? How to build simple and complex stored processes?. How do they work? How does the SAS 9 architecture center on the power of the SAS language, and the Stored Process? What is the minimal configuration of SAS that would enable me to use this capability? How does the BI interfaces in SAS 9 leverage the power of the stored process? These questions and more will be addressed through slides and live software presentations.

Dwight Fowler manages the national technical pre-sales team for the Health & Life Sciences industry group at SAS. He has been in a technical role at SAS for 11 years. His specialty is strategic architecture planning and SAS 9 architecture. For HASUG, Dwight's stated goal is to try to help today's SAS

users understand how, and if, the new releases of SAS can be of benefit. A SAS programmer, Dwight worked in Information Systems at Aetna, OTIS Elevator, and Hartford Area consulting firms for 14 years as programmer, DBA, systems analyst and SAS rep before moving to SAS as an employee in 1995. He works out of the Glastonbury office of SAS.

### **Advances in Building Custom Excel Spreadsheets by Rob Krajcik, Bristol-Myers Squibb**

Your data lives on a server (typically Unix or z/OS). But your clients only use Excel™ and other Microsoft Office™ applications. And they need you to generate some reports. Yesterday. And they want to have the Excel workbooks emailed to them and/or posted on a company intranet website every other Thursday. And if it's not too much trouble, they would like to have multiple sheets per workbook, in landscape mode, Scaled to 75% of page size and zigzag across when printing, with proper headers and footers, including a "page x of y" on the bottom right-hand corner. They also need 10-pt bold proportional font for the headings, an 8-pt fixed font for the cells, leading zeroes for numeric values, dates properly formatted, column widths that fit the data in the column, auto-filtering on, frozen row and column headers, and color-highlighting of rows that weren't there in the previous report. And schedule it to run on your server (which for now only runs SAS 8.2) so it will run unattended. But you know you will need to use ODS 9.1 tag sets to accomplish this, and maybe issue some DDE commands to Excel as well.

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Using publicly accessible SAS<sup>®</sup> data, Rob will walk you through the process using some new ODS 9.1 tag sets. With the help of other NESUG presenters and SAS-L contributors, Rob show you how he managed to overcome all of the technical difficulties in getting such a process to run reliably week after week.

Rob Krajcik has been working with SAS software since 1981 and has an extensive background in Information Technology.

His interests include: Macro functions, SQL, ODS tag sets, eNDAs and eCTDs, CDISC topics, client-server applications, MS office applications using SAS, statistical graphics, web design and the SAS Enhanced Editor. He became a SAS Certified Base Programmer in May 2004 while at SUGI in Montreal. When not involved with work or HASUG, Rob enjoys hiking, long-distance bike riding, downhill skiing, roller-blading, and horseback riding.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Future Meetings and Conferences:**

August 10, 2006      CCSU, New Britain, CT  
Sept 17-20, 2006    NESUG, Philadelphia, PA  
November 9, 2006    Cigna, Bloomfield, CT

### **HASUG Steering Committee**

#### **Meetings:**

August 10, 2006      after HASUG meeting  
September 14, 2006 conference call, 11:30-12:30  
November 9, 2006    after HASUG meeting  
December 7, 2006    conference call, 11:30-12:30

### **Continuing With Education...**

**Peter Prause, The Hartford**

**The SAS Institute Regional Training Center** in Glastonbury, CT is offering the courses listed below. Course

information for these courses and many other non-local courses is available on the Internet at the SAS web site: [support.sas.com](http://support.sas.com). To register for a course or to get more information, phone SAS Institute at 1-800-333-7660.

SAS Programming I: Essentials

Jul 26 – 28

Creating, Distributing, and Using SAS Stored Processes

Aug 10 – 11

SAS Programming II: Manipulating Data with the DATA Step

Aug 28 – 30

SAS Programming I: Essentials

Sep 27 – 29

Creating Detail and Summary Reports

Oct 4 – 6

SAS Programming III: Advanced Techniques

Oct 18 – 20

SAS Macro Language

Nov 1 – 2

SAS Macro Programming: Advanced Topics

Nov 3

SAS Programming I: Essentials

Nov 15 - 17

SAS Programming II: Manipulating Data with the DATA Step

Nov 29 – Dec 1

When time and distance are an issue for you, SAS Institute offers Live Web classes and self-paced e-learning to help you get the training you need while accommodating your busy schedule. Call for more details.

**Destiny Corporation** is offering the following public courses at their training facility located at 2075 Silas Deane Highway, Rocky Hill, CT.

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You can phone Destiny at 1-800-787-2464 or 860-721-1684, or send email to [info@destinycorp.com](mailto:info@destinycorp.com). You can visit their web site at [www.destinycorp.com](http://www.destinycorp.com).

Macros in SAS Software

Jul 5 – 7

Enterprise Guide: Querying & Reporting

Jul 13 - 14

Programming I: SAS Essentials

Jul 24 – 26

Programming III: Advanced Techniques

Aug 3 – 4

Introduction to Programming Using SAS Software

Aug 3 – 4

Programming II: Data Manipulation

Using the Data Step

Aug 14 – 16

Programming I: SAS Essentials

Sep 6 - 8

Macros in SAS Software

Sep 25 - 27

Report Writing: A Programming Approach in SAS Software

Oct 16 – 18

Output Delivery System (ODS) Basics

Oct 19 – 20

Optimization Tips and Techniques

Oct 23 – 24

In addition to Destiny's public course offerings, many of Destiny's courses are offered in a Virtual Learning Environment. Experience the quality and benefits of "Instructor Led" training from the comfort of your own pc. These courses cover the same basic content as traditional classroom training with the benefit of yearlong access and instructor support. Call or visit [www.vdestiny.com](http://www.vdestiny.com) for more details.

## Tips and Techniques

### By Charles Partridge, Full Capture Solutions

The following tips and techniques can be viewed on [www.sconsig.com](http://www.sconsig.com) website under Tips and Techniques.

#### How to Set a User or System Environment Variable Outside Command Context Created Within Windows

Environment variables created by a set command within a Command or CMD session are not available as user or system- level environment variables outside the scope of the session in which they are created.

Read More at:

["http://support.sas.com/techsup/unotes/SN/017/017298.html?ETS=4751&PID=44951"](http://support.sas.com/techsup/unotes/SN/017/017298.html?ETS=4751&PID=44951)

#### Using Perl Regular Expressions

Regular expressions, or regexp, are used to search text. Regexp may seem foreign if you have not used them before.

But, you may have encountered them without realizing it. Think about how you might list items in a directory. Often the "?" and "\*" characters are used to match one character or zero or more characters. Read More at:

[http://support.sas.com/rnd/base/topics/datastep/perl\\_regexp/regexp.motivation.html?ETS=4751&PID=44951](http://support.sas.com/rnd/base/topics/datastep/perl_regexp/regexp.motivation.html?ETS=4751&PID=44951)

#### Read zipped files into a SAS® data set

Use the Winzip Command Line Support Add-on and a FILENAME statement to read zipped files into a SAS data set.

Read More at:

<http://support.sas.com/ctx/samples/index.jsp?sid=1584&ETS=4745&PID=44951>

## **HASUG2-L DISTRIBUTION LIST**

This service is provided free of charge to all who wish to subscribe to the email notification process. In order to sign up for this service, you need only point your browser to the HASUG web site, <http://www.hasug.org>, and click the hyperlink, Or go directly to <http://listserv.pace.edu/archives/hasug2-1.html> then click on Join or leave the list (or change settings).

Your name and email address are not displayed nor given out to any party, including members of the HASUG steering committee. Only the list administrators have access to subscription information. If you should change your email address under which you subscribed, you will need to unsubscribe with your old email address, and then re-subscribe using your new email address.

Typically, a notice is sent approximately 3 weeks before meetings, as well as a couple of days beforehand to remind people of the date, time, location and topics to be presented. Only List administrators will be able to send out email messages to the HASUG2-L members. After entering your name and e-mail address, there are a number of options available under "Subscription Type". If you know and understand the various options, feel free to alter them as desired. However, HASUG suggests you leave them "as is".

## **THE HASUG RECRUITING POLICY**

HASUG's primary mission is to provide a forum for SAS professionals to meet and share experiences. HASUG also

recognizes that searching for new employment opportunities is a normal activity when professionals meet. Since we depend on our respective employers to support HASUG by providing time for members to attend, prepare presentations, and provide meeting facilities, we do not wish to jeopardize those relationships we have all nurtured.

Therefore, when attending any of our quarterly meetings, we request that all parties engaged in recruiting activities be "professional and discreet", and suggest that such activities be carried outside and after our meetings. Those seeking or offering positions may display materials at a location designated by HASUG at each quarterly meeting. The materials may include resumes, job openings, contract opportunities, business cards, etc. None of the materials may include salary information. All such materials left after the meeting will be discarded. Violators of this policy may be asked to leave the meeting.

## **THE HASUG SPONSORSHIP POLICY**

All parties are encouraged and welcome to attend our quarterly HASUG meetings scheduled during the months of February, May, August, and November of each year. Usually these meetings are scheduled the 3rd Thursday from 9:00 am to noon at various locations throughout Connecticut. Past locations have included Hartford, Meriden, Middletown, Norwalk, Glastonbury, Stamford and New Haven. We are always looking for new hosts within the state of Connecticut. If you feel your organization can host a meeting of up to 70 or so people, please contact one of the Steering committee members.

### HASUG Steering Committee.

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