



HARTFORD AREA SAS® USERS GROUP

Volume 19 Issue 3

Third Quarter, August 2007

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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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Chairperson's Notes

(Janet Stuelpner, Left Hand Computing Inc.)

As I take the reigns as chairperson, I would like to thank Rob Krajcik for his service to the Connecticut SAS community. Every two years HASUG looks to a new person to lead the group. I hope that I can provide the service HASUG members have come to enjoy.

During the month of June, I attended PharmaSUG where the hot topic was CDISC (Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium) data models. For those not in the pharmaceutical industry, the CDISC SDTM (Study Data Tabulation Model) is the methodology that is being used to submit data for new drug applications to the FDA for drug approval. The conference was held in Denver, Colorado and was well attended. There were several SAS Books By Users (BBU) authors at the conference and their sessions were very interesting. For our next meeting, we are lucky to have a SAS BBU author speak to us about PROC SQL and ODS. Kirk Lafler is a great speaker and a SAS super user. Please plan to attend his presentations as you will learn a great deal about these two topics.

Our next meeting is being hosted by Bristol-Myers Squibb in Wallingford. Typically, our meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month. This meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 15 instead to accommodate our speaker. Please make sure to register for the meeting at www.hasug.org so that we can adequately plan for all attendees. Follow the link to the next meeting to find directions.

As always, I am going to make a plea for participation. HASUG is run by a group of volunteers. Do you have a topic about which you would like to learn more? Would you like to try giving a presentation? We are always looking for new people with new ideas to help in the planning process and new people to share their ideas and experiences. We do not collect any dues and need to have companies sponsor our meetings. If you work for a company with a meeting space that can accommodate approximately 75 people, please let us know. We try to hold meetings in all quadrants of the state so that everyone can attend at least one meeting per year.

I look forward to working with the Steering Committee and you, the CT SAS community to bring more information, new techniques and more tricks to improving the way we code in SAS.

May Meeting Highlights

(Helen Wang, Ingenix)

Our first speaker was Don Henderson of Henderson Consulting Services. Don presented highlights from his SAS Press book, *Building Web Applications with SAS/IntrNet®*. Don gave an overview of how the Dispatcher works and some common application requirements. Continuing on, he dove into details of three sections of his book. About SAS Server Pages, there are various techniques to generate HTML. The Macros are executed to generate HTML text, but no SAS code is generated. Don demonstrated the best practice of setting up an environment using Request Init and Request Term. He pointed out that (... *Continues on page 3*)

(..Continued from page 2)

there are numerous techniques for handling on-demand long-running requests. The generate *Please Wait* message is very useful. More information about Don's book can be found at <http://www.hcsbi.com/IntrNetAppDev/>

Our second speaker was John Mathieu of The Hartford who spoke about, *How to Handle the Enormous Task of SAS Enterprise Business Intelligence Platform Implementation*. John gave a demo of how the Hartford's ERAP (Enterprise Research Analytics Platform) centralized all lines of business onto one platform with the latest SAS Intelligence Platform. He pointed out some common planning mistakes encountered during the installation, configuration and security phases. The Installation Phase is the essential and critical phase, which promotes the planning importance in implementing the Intelligence Platform. Their new platform runs on an HP half superdome with 69TB of raw storage with over 500 users now. John is still working on the growth of the platform and upgrades to the extensive SAS application suite.

NEXT HASUG MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Our next meeting is on

**Wednesday August 15, 2007 at:
Bristol-Myers Squibb
5 Research PKWY
Wallingford, CT 06492
from 9:00 am to noon**

Our Topics and Speakers are:

Kirk Paul Lafler, Software Intelligence Corporation

Undocumented and Hard-to-find PROC SQL Features

The SQL Procedure contains many powerful and elegant language features for SQL and SAS users. This presentation introduces SQL topics that will help users unlock many hidden features, options, and other hard-to-find gems found in the SQL universe. Topics include CASE logic; subsetting techniques; the COALESCE function; WHERE clause processing and indexes; dictionary tables; SQL-macro interface; experimental SQL statement options `_METHOD`, `_TREE`, and other useful options; and query performance issues.

Output Delivery System Tips and Techniques

Are you looking for ways to improve the way your SAS® output appears? Output Delivery System (ODS) can help turn tired-looking output into great looking information with a purpose. ODS introduces exciting new features for your output. Gone are the days when the only available formatting choice are boring output listings containing lifeless monospace fonts. Using built-in format engines, ODS provides SAS users with a powerhouse of new and exciting capabilities to produce "quality" and publishable output. This presentation will show users how to select just the output of interest using selection lists; how ODS is used to send selected output to open output destinations including RTF, MS Excel spreadsheets, PDF, (... Continues on page 4)

(..Continued from page 3)

HTML, SAS data sets, and XML;
combine or concatenate output results;
build static drill-down Web applications;
and construct simple thumbnail charts.

Kirk Paul Lafler is consultant and founder of Software Intelligence Corporation and has been programming in SAS since 1979. As a SAS Certified Professional and SAS Institute Alliance Member (1996 - 2002), Kirk provides IT consulting services and training to SAS users around the world. As the author of four books including PROC SQL: Beyond the Basics Using SAS (SAS Institute, 2004), Kirk has written more than two hundred peer-reviewed papers and articles that have appeared in professional journals and SAS User Group proceedings. He has also been an invited speaker at more than two hundred SAS International, regional, local, and special-interest user group conferences and meetings throughout North America. His popular SAS Tips column, "Kirk's Korner of Quick and Simple Tips", appears regularly in several SAS User Group newsletters and Web sites, and fun-filled SASword Puzzles is featured in SAScommunity.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Future General Meetings and Conferences:

Nov 11-14 NESUG
(NorthEast SAS Users Group)
Baltimore,MD

November 29, 2007 Pitney Bowes,
Stamford, CT

HASUG Steering Committee

Meetings:

August 15, 2007

Immediately after HASUG meeting

Sept 13, 2007

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

SAS Programming II: Manipulating
Data with the DATA Step Aug 27 – 29
Overview of SAS Business Intelligence
and Data Integration Applications

Sep 6 – 7

SAS Programming I: Essentials

Sep 26 – 28

Creating Detail and Summary Reports

Oct 2 - 4

SAS Programming III: Advanced

Techniques Oct 10 – 12

SAS Macro Language Oct 31 – Nov 1

SAS Macro Programming: Advanced

Topics Nov 2

SAS Programming I: Essentials

Nov 14 - 16

SAS Programming II: Manipulating

Data with the DATA Step Nov 28 - 30

Querying and Reporting Using SAS

Enterprise Guide Dec 6 - 7

SQL Processing with SAS Dec 13 – 14

When time and distance are an issue,
SAS Institute offers Live Web classes
(..Continues on page 5)

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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. You can reach Destiny at 1-800-787-2464 or at 860-721-1684, or send email to info@destinycorp.com. You can visit their web site at www.destinycorp.com.

SAS Version 9 Changes and Enhancements	Aug 9 – 10
Enterprise Guide: Querying and Reporting	Aug 23 – 24
Programming I: SAS Essentials	Sep 10 – 12
Programming II: Data Manipulation Using the Data Step	Sep 17 – 19
SAS Programming III: Advanced Techniques	Sep 26 – 27
Macros in SAS Software	Oct 10 – 12
Report Writing: A Programming Approach in SAS Software	Oct 24 – 26
Output Delivery System (ODS) Basics	Oct 29 – 30
SQL Processing in SAS Software	Nov 5 – 6
Introduction to Programming Using SAS Software	Nov 7 – 8
Programming I: SAS Essentials	Nov 14 – 16
Enterprise Guide: Querying and Reporting	Dec 3 – 4
Optimization Tips and Techniques	Dec 13 – 14

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 year long access and instructor support. Call or visit www.vdestiny.com for more details.

Software Intelligence Corporation is Offering two Half-day seminars in At the Courtyard Marriott in Wallingford on Tuesday August 14.

Proc SQL Programming 9:15 to 12:15
Building Reusable Macros 1:15 to 4:15

These courses which offer the most up to date training will be presented by **Kirk Lafler** our invited speaker for the August HASUG meeting. For further information see the detailed announcement on page 12.

Editorial and Production Staff

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Book Review

Karol Katz, Yale School of Medicine

Title: **Statistics Using SAS Enterprise Guide**
Author: **James B. Davis**
Publisher: **SAS Press**
ISBN: **978-1-59047-566-9**
Pages: **771**
Price: **\$ 99.95**

Statistics Using SAS Enterprise Guide offers multiple opportunities. It is most suitable for a beginner wishing to learn
(..Continues on page 6)

(..Continued from page 5)

both EG and statistics. Alternatively, for someone with a knowledge of EG or a knowledge of stats, it will offer a chance to become proficient in both.

Dedicated students in a classroom setting could learn EG and statistics simultaneously using this textbook. Though this is a challenge it can be achieved by downloading the sample files, reading each chapter in order, running each EG example on a computer and comparing the results to the text.

This book is also an excellent resource for someone familiar with developing EG projects who wishes to gain an understanding of basic statistics and apply them in EG. Each statistic is explained using mathematical notation and numerical examples. Detailed instructions to perform the test using EG follow the explanation.

This book is also for someone with knowledge of statistics, who wishes to learn to design EG projects for statistical analyses. The beginning chapters offer step-by-step examples showing methods to import, merge and subset data. Screen shots illustrate queries to create and modify variables. Once familiar with the EG interface, setting the Tasks Roles and statistics options for hypothesis testing will follow. Each statistics chapter concludes with an EG example.

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-l.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 (..Continues on page 7)

(..Continued from page 6)

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.

Tips and Techniques

(by Charles Patridge, Full Capture Solutions, Inc.)

Did you know that you can download quarterly updates of the ZIP code data set? These updates are available from SAS Maps Online. Now it's easier than ever to enhance your company's marketing strategy with up-to-date ZIP code data. Read More at:

<http://sems.sas.com/bess4/get?id=6603.1>

:-

22toh0w:e422w&RZNVY=puneyrf_f_c
ngevqtr@cebqvtl.arg&nccvq=8563

Beyond the Basics: Advanced PROC REPORT Tips and Tricks

This paper is a compilation of tips and tricks for producing PROC REPORT output. The three sections cover topics that can be used with listing output and with the Output Delivery System (ODS); can be used only with an ODS destination; and highlight new features and changes for PROC REPORT in SAS 9.2. Read More at:

<http://sems.sas.com/bess4/get?id=6604.1>

:-

22toh0w:e422w&RZNVY=puneyrf_f_c
ngevqtr@cebqvtl.arg&nccvq=8563

SAS® for Dummies

This introductory title in the fun and easy Dummies format will get you up and running using SAS®9, SAS' statistical and data analysis software. The book will introduce you to the commonly used features of the software, and then jump right into the practical aspects. Read More at:

<http://sems.sas.com/bess4/get?id=6607.1>

:-

22toh0w:e422w&RZNVY=puneyrf_f_c
ngevqtr@cebqvtl.arg&nccvq=8563

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(...Continued from page 7)

```
/** Macro to take a very long SAS Character ***/  
/** Variable, break it up so that it is more ***/  
/** readable when trying to read what is in ***/  
/** this Long Character Variable. ***/
```

```
DATA test1 ;  
  INFILE DATALINES TRUNCOVER ;  
  INPUT @1 topic $char200.  
         @1 id $char1. ;
```

```
datalines;
```

```
1 Obj. 7: Discuss the concepts fundamental to providing effective nutritional &  
preventive health education to the HIV infected client.  
2 8. "Primary Care Evaluation/Clinical Manifestations" Debbie Konkle-Parker PhD, FNP  
3 Obj. 8: Identify the critical points in performing a complete history & physical  
assessment of the HIV positive patient.  
4 9. "Common Opportunistic Infections/GI Manifestations" Jason Parham, MD  
5 Obj. 15: Describe the pulmonary manifestations of HIV including the impact of TB on  
the infected patient.  
6 11. "Oral Manifestations/Dental Evaluation/HIV Resourcing" Nicholas Mosca, DDS  
7 Obj. 10: Examine the role of the provider in completing a thorough HIV oral  
assessment.  
8 Obj. 4: Propose networking & resource options available in HIV Disease care  
throughout the state.
```

```
;;;  
run;
```

```
%let _delimiters_ = '',''; /** period, comma, or space used as natural breaks ***/
```

```
%macro wrap_text (stringtowrap=topic, wrappedtext=text, txt_length=75 );
```

```
/** stringtowrap is the original long character variable ***/  
/** wrappedtext is the new shorter character variable that will be easier to read ***/  
/** txt_length is the desired length of the wrappedtext you would like to see no longer  
than this ***/  
/** _delimiters_ is used to determine what delimiters to use to break up your very long  
character variable so that words are NOT cut into pieces but are cut at normal breaks such  
as commas, spaces, or periods ***/
```

```
org_string = &stringtowrap;  
drop org_string _ii_ _length_ ;  
  _top_;;  
  _length_ = length(trim(org_string));  
  if _length_ le &txt_length then do;  
    &wrappedtext = org_string;
```

(...Continues on page 9)

(..Continued from page 8)

```
output;
    goto _done_;
end;
if _length_ gt &txt_length then do;
    do _ii_ = -1 to -20 by -1;
        if substr(org_string,&txt_length + _ii_, 1) in (&_delimiters_) then do;
            &wrappedtext = substr(org_string,1, &txt_length + _ii_);
            org_string = substr(org_string,&txt_length + _ii_ +1);
            output;
            goto _top_;
        end;
    end;
end;
_done_;;
%mend wrap_text;

data test2;
set test1;
%wrap_text (stringtowrap=topic, wrappedtext=text, txt_length=75 );
run;

proc print data=test1; run;
proc print data=test2; run;

/*** end of tip ***/
```

HASUG Steering Committee

Janet Stuelpner (chairperson)	Left Hand Computing, Inc	(203) 966-7520	jstuelpner@usa.net
Cindy Johnson	Bristol-Myers Squibb	(203)-677-6547	Cynthia.johnson@bms.com
Robert Krajcik	Bristol-Myers Squibb	(203) 677-6125	robert_krajcik@yahoo.com
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Gerald Zuckier	Aetna	(860) 636-4053	GZuckier@alum.mit.edu

**Directions to:
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
5 Research Parkway
Wallingford, CT 06492**

Via Route 15 (Merritt / Wilbur Cross Parkways)

**Exit 66 in Wallingford
Left at light at end of ramp onto Rte. 5 South
Stay on Rte. 5 for approx. 1/2 mile
Left immediately past Shell station onto access road for Rte. 68
Left at light onto Rte. 68 East
Follow Rte. 68 past Courtyard Hotel (on left), past entrances to I-91
Left at 1st traffic light past I-91 (not incl. Entrance to I-91 North) onto Research Parkway
Bristol-Myers Squibb is the 1st building on the right**

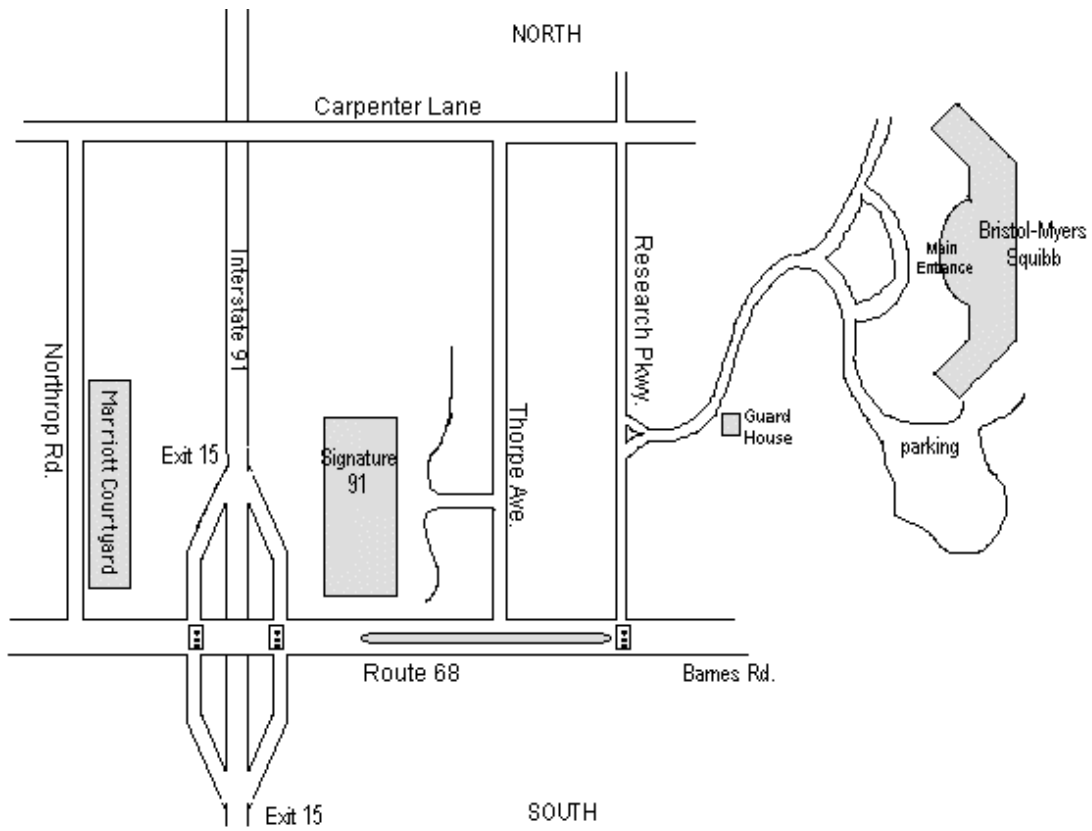
Via I-95 (New England Thruway) and New Haven Area

**I-95 North to Exit 48 (left exit) onto I-91 North
Stay on I-91 for about 15 miles to Exit 15 (Rte. 68)
Right off exit onto Rte. 68 (east toward Durham)
Left at 1st light onto Research Parkway
Bristol-Myers Squibb is the 1st building on the right**

Via I-91 (from Hartford)

**I-91 South to exit 15 (Rte. 68)
Left at light at end of ramp
Left at 1st traffic light past I-91 (not incl. Entrance to I-91 North) onto Research Parkway
Bristol-Myers Squibb is the 1st building on the right**

Map of BMS Complex



**Software Intelligence Corporation
Brings to the Wallingford, CT area
Two Courses on August 14th, 2007 ...**

PROC SQL Programming

Course Description

This course is designed to expand your knowledge of SQL by illustrating numerous code examples to improve your mastery of PROC SQL to help you tackle more complicated tasks. Attendees will learn how to build and use SQL views; construct and apply case expressions; implement table integrity constraints; create and use indexes; construct complex queries with join and set operators; build tools using DICTIONARY tables and macro language; explore powerful documented and hard-to-find SQL options; and conduct performance tuning to improve query processing.

Intended Audience: All SAS users

Prerequisites: Beginning SQL class or 6-months SQL experience

Length: 3 Hours (9:15 am – 12:15 pm)

Cost: \$ 200.00

Course Material: Kirk's PROC SQL book and Course Notes are provided

Location: Courtyard at 600 Northrop Road, Wallingford, CT

Building Reusable SAS® Macros

Course Description

The SAS® Macro Language is a powerful feature for extending the capabilities of the SAS System. This course presents a collection of techniques for constructing reusable and effective macros tools. Attendees learn how to build functional macros that process statements containing SAS code; interface the macro language with the DATA step and SQL procedure; and develop efficient and portable macro language code..

Intended Audience: All SAS users

Prerequisites: Beginning SQL class or 6-months SQL experience

Length: 3 Hours (1:15 pm – 4:15 pm)

Cost: \$ 200.00

Course Material: Course Notes are provided

Location: Courtyard at 600 Northrop Road, Wallingford, CT

Software Intelligence Corporation World Headquarters

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Instructor Bio

Kirk Paul Lafler has been programming in SAS since 1979 and is a consultant and founder of Software Intelligence Corporation. As a SAS Certified Professional, Kirk provides IT consulting services and training to SAS users around the world. As the author of four books including PROC SQL: Beyond the Basics Using SAS (SAS Press. 2004), Kirk has written more than two hundred peer-reviewed articles that have appeared in professional journals and SAS User Group proceedings, and has been an Invited speaker at more than two hundred International, regional and local SAS user group conferences and meetings.

Course Registration

If you're looking for the most up-to-date, latest breaking training, Software Intelligence Corporation courses prepare you for tomorrow, today. We invite you to attend these intensive 3-hour courses, and extend your knowledge in PROC SQL. Software Intelligence Corporation Courses bring users the latest features and cutting-edge advances and upgrades – information that will put you a step ahead of the competition. You will benefit from a combination of lecture and demonstrations.

To Register 1. Register one person per form. Make additional copies if necessary. 2. Please print or type information on form to process registration.

- 3. RSVP the names of each attendee by calling 619-277-7350 or send an email to KirkLafler@cs.com
- 4. Bring registration form along with payment of \$200 for each class attending in the form of a business check, cashier's check, or money order.
- 5. Make payment to:

Software Intelligence Corporation
P. O. Box 1390
Spring Valley, California 91979-1390

Attendee Information

PROC SQL Programming (9:15 – 12:15) Building Reusable SAS Macro Tools (1:15 – 4:15)

Dr. Mr. Ms. Ms.

Name _____

Organization _____

Department _____

Address #1 _____

Address #2 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

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