

'Twas the Night Before SUGI

The Life and Times of a SAS® Programmer

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(with apologies to Major Henry Livingston Jr. and Clement Clarke Moore)

'Twas the night before SUGI , and all through the hotel
Not a program was running, not even Excel®;
The papers were hung on the poster boards with care,
In hopes that SAS® users soon would be there;

The attendees were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of BOFs danced in their heads;
And having viewed next day's schedule, PC in my lap,
I'd just started thinking of taking a nap.

When on my PC there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from my chair to see what was the matter.
Opening Windows®, I proceeded to type in slash slash,
Pulled up the Internet, to view the HASUG Flash.

The luminescent screen emanated a glow
Gave the lustre of mid-day to the article below,
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
A new version of SAS® soon would be here.

With a little foreknowledge, knowing what was in line,
I knew in a moment it must be Version 9.
More rapid than eagles new functionality came,
And I knew very soon, I'd know it by name;

"Now, DOCUMENT! Now TEMPLATE! now, ETL Studio!
On, XML! on 64-BIT! on NLS and THREADED I/O!
To Scalability! Interoperability! Management Console!
Now Manageability! Usability! And BI for all!"

Came opening ceremonies, with plenty of cheer,
The CEO typed, new solutions appeared.
A tap of his keyboard, and whoosh! multi-threading,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to be dreading;

He sprang from his podium, gave the reins to his team,
And stood there like Santa, like from some long lost dream.
But I heard him exclaim, ere he stepped out of sight,

"HAPPY SUGI TO ALL FROM DR. GOODNIGHT!"