

May Tang Con't

From a personal note: May has been performing on stage as a first soprano soloist since the age of four. As a 15 year old soloist, she won her category in a Hong Kong music competition--involving a live performance on TV! Nowadays, May's primary audience is her family and friends at church.

From a management note: Investing in SAS may seem a significant cost initially, but there is then the benefit of total self-sufficiency regarding renewal, maintenance, technical and support services, and upgrading. SAS meets standards internationally, including the highest of pharmaceutical industrial standards.

In the last two years, regulatory initiatives and technology changes have had an impact on the pharmaceutical industry. For example, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Guidance for Industry and Electronic Submissions has established new standards and conventions to which SAS users must adhere. The FDA has clearly stated the specific requirements for validation, configuration management, change control and security. Some programming organizations have addressed these issues. Many others have a long way to go before reaching compliance. This greatly increases the demands made on statistical analysts using SAS. Moreover, the FDA's new electronic submission standards and its corresponding data standards have brought about significant changes in programming operations. There are new deliverables and deliverable media for SAS users.

Together with the SAS developers, managers have already taken steps to embrace the above challenges. I see SAS supporting us well into the future and SAS software continuing to meet cost, regulatory, validation and compliance issues. As a united group, we can continue to make this happen.