SAS New South Wales User Group

SNUG agenda

Thursday, 8th June 2006

PricewaterhouseCoopers Building
Level 10
201 Sussex Street
Sydney NSW 2001

5:15pm Registration

5:30pm MBF's Approach to Intelligent Business using Futrix

Michelle Homes, Business Development Manager
Futrix

Rob Ashmore, Senior Data Miner
Business and Clinical Analysis, MBF

Michelle Homes' Bio *– Michelle Homes worked for SAS Institute Australia during 1997-1999 as one of the first SAS "graduates". Since 1999 Michelle has developed her skills further as a SAS consultant and has worked for geospatial organisations in sales and technical marketing teams, with particular strengths in building relationships, communication and pre-sales activities including demonstrations and presentations. She is now working for Futrix as a business development manager.*

Rob Ashmore's Bio *– Rob has been a SAS programmer for 17 years in the UK and Australia both as a contractor and in permanent roles. His industry experience is varied: General Insurance, Marketing, IT, Public Sector Finance, Utilities, Health Insurance. Rob currently works in the Business and Clinical Analysis department for the Private Health Insurance (PHI) division within MBF as a SAS consultant and Futrix Administrator.*

Abstract *– Q: With over 1.5 million people covered by MBF Insurance (2nd largest Australian Health Insurer), making pay outs in excess of $1.7 billion in claims annually with over 500 employees in the Private Health Insurance (PHI) division across all states… How does MBF collate, manage, report and interrogate its data?*
A: By using SAS and Futrix software, business users now access an easy-to-use yet sophisticated reporting interface. Using a web browser, the Futrix interface allows them to make well-informed decisions through the interrogation of summarised high volume data sources across many diverse areas of the business. The out-of-the box delivery of Futrix has allowed MBF to streamline their general reporting output, freeing programming staff to do other priority tasks.
This presentation will discuss and demonstrate an approach taken enabling MBF to make intelligent business decisions using Futrix.

5:50pm Break

6:00pm Crime Situation in NSW: Analysis and Reporting with SAS BI Tools - Case Study

Joseph Minervini, Team Leader - Business Intelligence Solutions
SAS Australia & New Zealand

Abstract – *Joseph will present and demonstrate the features of the SAS® Business Intelligence Platform on the example of crime analysis scenario. Crime demonstration emphasises the strength of the SAS® BI Solutions for enterprise-wide application including problem analysis, reporting and communication on the department level.*
Integrated solution (includes Web Report Studio, OLAP Server, SAS Portals, Enterprise Miner and Enterprise Guide) with user friendly interface and configuration flexibility enables automatic reports generation as well as easy access to SAS analytics.

6:20pm Temporary Arrays

Steve Croft, Research Unit Team Leader
Roads & Traffic Authority NSW

Bio *– Steve Croft started in the Market Research industry in 1990 in a small research consultancy, moving to ACNielsen several years later where he ran the Statistics department for the TV Ratings panels for 4 years. In 1998, he moved to the Retail division to run the Homescan Consumer Panel's Statistics department and then become the Director of Measurement Science for the Retail Division. After 18 months as the Director of Panel Analytics, he left ACNielsen to join the RTA in 2005, where he currently leads the Research Unit within the Driver and Vehicle Strategy Branch. He has been a heavy user of SAS for about 12 years with extensive programming experience..*

Abstract *– A relatively undocumented feature within Base SAS, temporary arrays provide an alternative mechanism within the Data Step to achieve complex merges and lookups, as well as allowing multiple passes through the data within the one data step. This presentation describes the mechanisms of setting up temporary arrays within a data step and showcases a number of examples that can save enormous amounts of processing time, and efficiently achieve many-to-many merges in ways not generally used with programming in Base SAS. The advantages and disadvantages of this technique are presented, along with a number of helpful tips in using these arrays*

6:50pm Drinks and Lucky Door Prize

Please register your attendance for the SNUG meeting by emailing us at snug@oz.sas.com by

Wednesday 31st May 2006

Register online at www.sas.com/australia/usergroups/snug