



SAS® Intelligence Storage

Ensure optimal performance for business and analytic intelligence with open, flexible storage options

Does your IT organization struggle to balance efficient, reliable data collection and operational processing with the increasing information needs of business users across the enterprise?

Traditionally IT organizations have focused their data storage strategies on the timely and reliable collection of data and this has resulted in the widespread adoption of relational database management systems. But increasing demands for analytic and business intelligence applications are placing unprecedented strain on these systems, which were not designed to search large tables for small amounts of user-requested data. And they certainly were not designed to produce the summarized reports demanded by today's business users.

This increased demand from individual business units can create major resource bottlenecks for corporate data stores already stretched to the limit by transactional processing requests. And in fact, many IT staff hours are spent providing appropriate data subsets so that end user query and reporting does not adversely impact critical data systems.

As more and more business users seek their own answers and insights, the strain on traditional data storage systems becomes problematic for

everyone. Business users have difficulty getting the data they need in a timely manner, and IT organizations struggle with resource needs and security issues.

To deliver more accurate intelligence to decision makers, IT departments need an open, flexible platform with a variety of storage options that ensure optimal performance of business and analytic intelligence applications while keeping the cost of ownership and maintenance under control.

SAS Intelligence Storage delivers an open, flexible platform for business intelligence and analytic intelligence applications that makes optimal use of existing hardware technology, is easily integrated within existing ETL processes, and delivers a lower cost of ownership for your organization. It is the only storage platform that delivers a combination of storage options designed from the outset to support business and analytic intelligence applications.

Providing fast extraction, transformation and loading (ETL) times — regardless of the amount of data held within your organization, this open, flexible storage platform easily integrates with existing ETL processes and enables you to get maximum benefits from current technology investments.



SAS Intelligence Storage components

A relational storage option designed for intensive use by focused applications and analytics.

A suite of technologies that use open standards to enable interoperability between SAS and a wide range of third-party components.

A “reduced overhead” client-server database management system. The system provides secure, high-performance data storage for large, multi-user communities using multiple business intelligence and analytic intelligence applications.

A multithreaded, scalable and open multidimensional database that supports OLAP processing where application profiles require fast access to summarized information aggregated along relevant business aspects from large amounts of data.

A scalable, multithreaded, multi-I/O relational storage option for intensive use by focused applications.

SAS Intelligence Storage — flexible, scalable and reliable

SAS Intelligence Storage delivers scalable storage that easily grows with your organization. Unlike traditional “one size fits all” platforms offered by other vendors, SAS’ platform ensures that business and analytic intelligence can be obtained quickly by serving the data through a platform designed specifically for rapid retrieval and reporting.

SAS Intelligence Storage provides a comprehensive security infrastructure, seamless integration with the ETL process and support for industry standards — such as OLE DB for OLAP, MDX, ODBC, and JDBC — to ensure open data access from all client types across the enterprise.

Integrated storage architecture

SAS Intelligence Storage was designed from the outset to provide relational and OLAP storage options to suit all types of application profiles, from simple reporting and OLAP dissemination to advanced forecasting and data mining.

These storage options are provided transparently to applications via an integrated metadata framework that makes metadata available to all applications and third-party environments.

Reliable and fast extraction, transformation and loading

SAS can access any data format on virtually any platform in a consistent and reliable manner, and load the data to the most appropriate storage location within SAS Intelligence Storage.

While general purpose relational database management systems are designed for secure handling of concurrent updates, SAS Intelligence Storage is built for fast and reliable throughput of large amounts of data, removing much of the overhead found in traditional database systems, such as two-phase commits.

Speed up analytic and business intelligence applications

With SAS Intelligence Storage, different storage technologies are combined in a single integrated platform, without sacrificing the individual benefits of those technologies. This integrated platform delivers information to business intelligence and analytical applications using the storage technology best suited to each application:

- SAS data sets offer the high level of flexibility required for many data mining models.
- A reduced overhead database server provides fast access to small subsets of very large tables.
- OLAP data storage delivers fast access to summarized views of large data sets.

All of these technologies are seamlessly integrated through a common metadata layer to provide the best possible performance for analytic and business intelligence applications.

Effortless scalability as your organization grows

Based on SAS' threaded kernel architecture, the SAS Intelligence Storage platform scales up and out to meet your expanding business needs. As requests to your storage platform increase and the volume of stored information continues to grow, SAS scales up by spawning multiple threads that balance the workload across processors and storage devices within a single server.

SAS also scales out by pooling multiple servers and storage devices a single cluster, further distributing and balancing workloads across all available resources.

Lower cost of ownership

An integrated storage platform can significantly lower operational costs for an enterprise. Many aspects of SAS Intelligence Storage can be maintained easily from a single point of control, reducing the time and effort required for IT administration. The efficient use of hardware resources further reduces the total cost of ownership.

SAS Intelligence Storage was designed from the outset to provide relational and OLAP storage options to suit all types of applications — from simple reporting to advanced forecasting and data mining.

Regardless of the amount of data held within your organization, SAS Intelligence Storage provides fast extraction, transformation and loading times without sacrificing manageability and operational integrity. You get maximum flexibility and a reduced total cost of ownership.

About SAS

SAS is the market leader in providing a new generation of business intelligence software and services that create true enterprise intelligence. SAS solutions are used at more than 40,000 sites — including 90 percent of the Fortune 500 — to develop more profitable relationships with customers and suppliers; to enable better and more informed decisions; and to drive organizations forward.

SAS is the only vendor that completely integrates leading data warehousing, analytics and traditional BI applications to create intelligence from massive amounts of data. For more than 25 years, SAS has been giving customers around the world *The Power to Know*[®]. To learn more about how SAS can help IT reach its full potential, visit us at **www.sas.com**



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