



SAS® Planning

On the Web, on the mark

Unity, consistency, efficiency

The ability to input, verify and approve new figures quickly and to integrate them to get an up-to-date planning picture is essential to reducing your planning cycle. Because SAS Planning is integrated with SAS Consolidation and Reporting, the underlying data being used to drive the planning module is consistent across the enterprise. You can pre-populate your budget with budget drivers and rules before you begin. Unlike using spreadsheets, you won't receive multiple generations returned which may have been corrupted or changed by various users.

SAS Planning makes budget administration simpler and faster by replacing the difficulties of locating and chasing outstanding budget submissions. By highlighting outstanding budgets, subsequent budget iterations and revisions are easier to manage, allowing the process to be completed more quickly. Improved functionality and the ability to input via the Web means you get more out of the solution.

Faster and easier to use via the Web

Because SAS Planning is Web-enabled, it is intuitive to use and easy to maintain. SAS Planning makes it simple to find and use data from years past to discover seasonal trends, ensuring that your planning accurately reflects your specific business situation. When supported with this kind of intelligence, managers can complete their budget requirements faster and with greater consistency. Web enablement adds more than just a technical

benefit. While its ease of administration means lower IT costs, the Web also means secure access to your information wherever it is needed. Your IT staff will appreciate the ease of maintenance that comes with the Web enablement, while business users will applaud the flexibility that allows them to complete their planning process securely, regardless of location.

Enterprisewide participation

Members of an organization perform better when they know what is expected of them and when they have the resources they need. The accuracy of business planning and budgeting is improved when line managers have the information necessary to take responsibility for running their respective business units.

Because your business environment is complex, your financial management solution must be able to accommodate its intricacies. With the multi-dimensional functionality available in SAS Planning, budget holders can analyze and complete budgets in a format that makes sense to them, while your finance staff can adjust the presentation of this data to fit their own requirements. Templates, online processes, budgeting control and participation are all facilitated by SAS Planning's tracking function.

A powerful solution that makes planning information readily available and provides follow-up reminders gives you the strategic advantage of having more time.



Time to focus on strategic issues

Due to the speed and power of SAS Planning, your finance department's time can be redirected from managing, consolidating and formatting data into completing more value-adding tasks. Your financial staff can then focus on analyzing the plans received, both on an individual and on a consolidated basis, making sure that they support the company's strategic objectives. Managers across the entire enterprise will be able to see how the budget is being spent, creating a "ripple effect" of increased efficiency and consistency throughout every level and every department in your organization. In addition, knowing how the present is unfolding gives you more control over planning the future with fewer risks.

Accessing data and converting it into intelligence helps you support different business areas. By being able to compare and analyze a budget from several perspectives, you can ensure

consistency in allocating resources that support the organization's overall objectives.

Into the future

A unique advantage of choosing SAS is that it does not limit your choices in the future, regardless of what those choices might be. Because SAS understands that the financial role is rarely confined to just consolidating and reporting, SAS offers a solution set that incorporates forecasting and performance management, making your financial management solution a more useful means for reaching the goal of profitability. SAS can help you build an intelligent enterprise in phases and at a pace that fits your organization's needs. After all, the bottom line is... the bottom line.

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 38,000 sites – including 98 of the top 100 businesses on the Fortune 500 – to develop more profitable relationships with customers and suppliers; to enable better, more accurate and 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*®. Visit us at www.sas.com.



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