



SAS® ACCELERATED COMPUTATION ENGINE

A faster way to monitor, manage and plan financial activities

What is it?

SAS Accelerated Computation Engine calculates information on demand by applying advanced analytics to the latest data and reporting structures. This improves decision making by taking into consideration the impact of accounting policy and group structure changes, exchange rate fluctuations and other economic factors. These are instantly captured and reflected in financial and managerial reports that can be viewed dynamically in Microsoft Excel.

Who is it intended for?

SAS Accelerated Computation Engine is intended for finance and line-of-business managers who are involved in the recording, monitoring and management of financial activities.

Introduction

By law, every business goes through the often daunting process of financial consolidation and reporting. And even with today's governance and regulatory requirements, intense competition and a lack of resources, these financial reports must be consistent and accurate. Despite the presence of mandated guidelines, enterprise reporting systems and homogenous competitive marketplaces, these reports can still vary widely from one business to the next.

For finance executives, stakeholder trust and personal reputation are built largely upon the accuracy and consistency of these reports. Furthermore, if the reports produced are inaccurate, outdated or late, finance managers are unable to meet reporting deadlines, effectively reduce costs or support planning. In this high-risk environment, finance needs dependable data fast – being caught off guard is not acceptable.

The SAS® Accelerated Computation Engine

SAS Financial Management software was developed to help companies meet the challenges of financial reporting and planning in today's highly complex and competitive business environment. The SAS solution includes a new patented software algorithm or architecture – referred to as the accelerated computation engine (ACE) – that is designed to help streamline the consolidation process.

Here's how it works:

- ACE uses a patented algorithm to intelligently build and update reports, allowing for deep integration between the constituent parts of the reporting process. This cohesion ensures data quality and standardization of reporting practices.
- All calculations are made on demand using the latest data, accounting rules and planning assumptions. The net result is a collaborative environment that accelerates the financial closing process and allows timely access to financial reports and plans.

What are the benefits of ACE in improving the consolidation process?

ACE technology, and the way it processes data, is fundamentally different from that found in traditional financial consolidation software. The results of applying ACE to the financial reporting process are unprecedented speed and improved accuracy of those reports.

Fast

By eliminating many of the steps used in traditional financial reporting software, ACE increases the speed of the overall process. This allows users to get consensus estimates from across the organization and quickly consolidate them into its financial infrastructure. This translates into faster information back to the user, since ACE performs calculations on demand. Multidimensional cubes contain the results of all calculations performed when data or consolidation rules change. Another time saver is that ACE eliminates the need to build and store these cubes.



**THE
POWER
TO KNOW®**

Self-Sufficient

The combination of advanced technology, increased speed and built-in automated processes means that ACE not only saves time, but also eliminates much of the need for technical and analytical support. To further enhance usability for the average user, dynamic reports can be viewed immediately in Microsoft Excel.

Accurate, Real - Time Information

With ACE there is no need for nightly batch processing to upload current data – reports refresh automatically as budget and planning inputs go through the approval process so everyone sees consistent, current and accurate real-time information. Budget variances surface quickly on a dashboard so you can see when actual and expected performance begins to diverge. This allows you to predict and react faster and make more informed decisions.

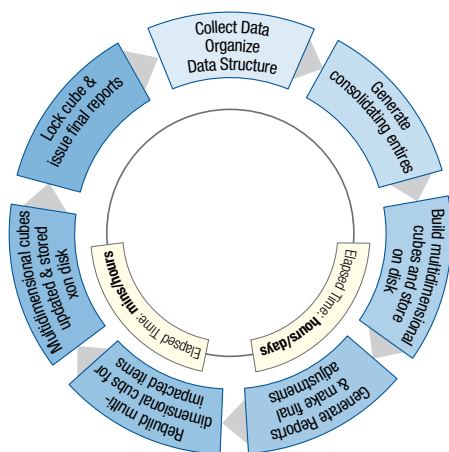
SAS® Financial Management Software

The Accelerated Computation Engine is a key technology within the SAS Financial Management solution. SAS Financial Management contains modules for consolidation and reporting as well as budgeting and planning. The SAS solution improves the accuracy, relevance and timeliness of financial plans, budgets and reports while promoting the alignment and execution of strategy. This solution uses the integrity, analytic power and scalability of the SAS Intelligence Platform to facilitate flexible, strategic financial and operational planning within a collaborative environment – across the entire enterprise. Using SAS Financial Management, organizations can more effectively analyze and manage the true drivers of shareholder value in relation to strategy in real time.

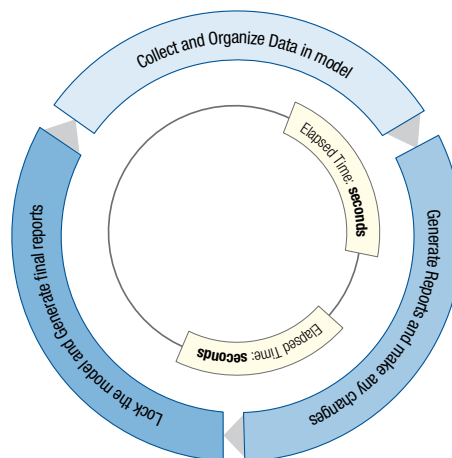
About SAS

SAS is the leader in business intelligence and analytical software and services. Customers at 43,000 sites use SAS software to improve performance through insight from data, resulting in faster, more accurate business decisions; more profitable relationships with customers and suppliers; compliance with governmental regulations; research breakthroughs; and better products and processes. Only SAS offers leading data integration, storage, analytics and business intelligence applications within a comprehensive enterprise intelligence platform. Since 1976, SAS has been giving customers around the world THE POWER TO KNOW®.

Consolidation Process Before Using ACE



Consolidation Process After Using ACE



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