



## **SAS® Financial Management**

*Develop more accurate plans and budgets by managing, analyzing and reporting on complex financial information in real time*





SAS® Financial Management helps you improve the accuracy, relevance and timeliness of financial plans, budgets and reports while promoting the alignment and execution of strategy.

More than ever before, companies are required to quickly deliver accurate and relevant financial reports and earnings forecasts to shareholders and analysts—and there is little room for error. While widespread economic recovery is in view, the memory of past accounting scandals still lingers, and the pinch of new regulatory pressures is only beginning to be felt around the world.

Because of these pressures to improve speed and accuracy under ever-changing business conditions, many finance executives worry that their current reporting and planning systems won't be able to deliver the necessary transparency or instill appropriate confidence in stakeholders.

Global organizations store financial data in disparate, geographically dispersed source systems, some using different accounting and reporting standards. This common situation

makes it difficult to organize data into a central repository and even more difficult to report and analyze comparative results across the enterprise. Moreover, the planning and budgeting process within many companies consumes an excessive amount of costly resources and often provides little value for management.

Today's finance executive is concerned about the various costs associated with ineffective and inefficient financial reporting and planning. Without a scalable, flexible and truly integrated financial reporting and planning solution, finance executives are more exposed to the costs associated with uncertainty, misalignment, inaccuracy, lost opportunities, and unfavorable public perception. Such costs can result in decreased share price or even regulatory fines and penalties.

## Plan, manage, analyze, report

SAS Financial Management improves the accuracy, relevance and timeliness of financial plans, budgets and reports while promoting the alignment and execution of strategy. SAS Financial Management 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 this powerful solution, organizations can more effectively analyze and manage the true drivers of shareholder value in real time and in relation to strategy.

SAS Financial Management includes two integrated functional components:

- **Planning**— allows finance executives and other key finance department personnel to embed advanced SAS analytics into budgets and plans for more accurate forecasting of future operating results. Operational departments

Accuracy

can also utilize such powerful planning analysis for the purpose of forecasting optimum results.

- **Financial reporting**—provides the unique capability to consolidate multidimensional information **on demand** while performing all financial calculations relevant to the financial reporting and planning processes, thereby enabling companies to close their books more rapidly.

#### **Create more frequent, accurate forecasts**

SAS Financial Management allows an organization to create plans and forecasts which can easily be updated in response to changing business and operational circumstances. Further, the solution fosters broader collaboration in the planning process and enables more efficient evaluation of multiple scenarios. As a result, forecasted earnings expectations can be released with greater confidence, and the continuous process of manag-

ing strategy execution is enabled and shared across the enterprise.

Using a Web portal and Microsoft Excel as its primary reporting interfaces, SAS Financial Management offers more efficient report distribution and budget deployment that can reach a large and diverse user community. Further, portal access to relevant financial and operational data can be personalized for each user or user group, and web-based workflow control facilitates effective management of budgeting and forecasting processes.

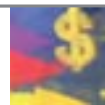
#### **Ensure financial transparency**

SAS Financial Management provides a transparent environment for managing financial and operational data in order to produce timely, accurate and relevant reports. This transparency is achieved by extending control of information horizontally across the enterprise and vertically between transaction-oriented systems and the higher-level financial management system.

Because SAS loads data into a common data repository, you can easily report on and compare consistent information. Transparency exists from the source data system to final, consolidated results published for management and shareholders. This transparency ensures that:

- Internal and external auditors have easy access to each component of reported financial information.
- Executives can have confidence in published financial results and the complete audit trails that support them. This will further promote internal and external trust in your reporting environment.
- The financial reporting process is automated, and the impact of changes can be analyzed immediately. As a result, information relevant to executive-level decision making can be provided in time to make a difference.

Transparency



## Comprehensive financial planning and reporting

### Publish reports more quickly

Because of the growing need to publish accurate reports more quickly, SAS Financial Management includes functionality designed to significantly reduce the time required to produce and publish financial reports:

- On-demand consolidation results.
- Currency conversion, inter-company eliminations, ownership adjustments, journal entry rules and allocations that are calculated simultaneously during on-demand consolidation.
- Automated subsidiary submissions.
- Data quality and validation procedures which incorporate financial accounting intelligence.
- Effortless creation and distribution of reports by leveraging dynamic Microsoft Excel integration and the Web-based SAS Information Delivery Portal.

### Planning

Including capabilities for rolling forecasts, driver-based top-down and bottom-up budgeting, and workflow control, SAS Financial Management facilitates budgeting and planning best practices. Microsoft Office integration provides the familiar interface and functionality of Microsoft Excel with the added benefit of a bidirectional, dynamic, secure link to the underlying database containing quantities of data much larger than Excel can handle on its own.

SAS Financial Management allows an organization to maintain extensive audit trails and version control. It also uses portal technology for report distribution, as well as workflow and performance monitoring.

### Financial reporting

SAS Financial Management provides the unique ability to consolidate multidimensional financial and non-financial information in real time while performing all financial calculations relevant to the consolidation process.

Given that multiple consolidation processes are typically required during a financial closing cycle, this on-demand consolidation can save tremendous amounts of time, helping companies meet reporting deadlines more easily and freeing executives and financial analysts to spend more time on strategic planning and analysis.

SAS Financial Management also provides:

- Reporting tools that facilitate the construction, formatting, publishing and delivery of legal and management reporting.
- Traditional OLAP reporting, cell data access reporting and read/write tables.

Planning



- Storage and distribution of static and dynamic reports.
- Rapid, easy, ad hoc analysis of financial data for decision support.

### **SAS® Financial Intelligence**

SAS Financial Management is one component of SAS Financial Intelligence, a vision for total financial performance management that includes solutions for financial management, activity-based management, dashboards and scorecarding, risk management, and advanced analytics such as optimization and forecasting. By combining the hindsight, insight and foresight provided by these powerful solutions, corporate finance

departments can build credibility and confidence within other areas of the company.

SAS Financial Management has been designed within a common solutions framework that will truly enable seamless integration and interoperability with the other components of SAS Financial Intelligence. This framework is built on the SAS®9 Intelligence Platform, an integrated, open and extensible platform that serves as the foundation for creating and delivering accurate, in-depth enterprise intelligence.

SAS®9 goes beyond other vendors' narrow definition of business intelligence to offer data management and predictive analytic capabilities that tell an organization not just where it has been, but where it should go next. It delivers the foresight and understanding that is required to outperform the pack.



Reporting



## ***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 96 of the top 100 of the 2003 Fortune Global 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 nearly three decades, SAS has been giving customers around the world **The Power to Know**®.*





World Headquarters  
and SAS Americas  
SAS Campus Drive  
Cary, NC 27513 USA  
Tel: (919) 677 8000  
Fax: (919) 677 4444  
U.S. & Canada sales:  
(800) 727 0025

SAS International  
PO Box 10 53 40  
Neuenheimer Landstr. 28-30  
D-69043 Heidelberg, Germany  
Tel: (49) 6221 4160  
Fax: (49) 6221 474850  
**[www.sas.com](http://www.sas.com)**