

Multi-Process Connect; What, When, Where, How, and Why

John E. Bentley, *First Union National Bank*

SAS/Connect Version 8 supports provides processing capability on symmetrical multiprocessor (SMP) systems. Multi-Process Connect (MP Connect) exploits multiple processors by using a process very similar to Version 6.12's RSUBMIT/ENDRSUBMIT approach to remote compute services except in this case each remote host is a processor on the SMP instead of a different computer. Although conceptually clear, certain questions remain. What are the system requirements for MP Connect? What is its impact on other users' SAS sessions? When should MP Connect be used and where is it not appropriate? How does the program need to be structured? Why go to all the trouble? This paper will start with a short review of SMP system architecture and SAS/Connect's remote compute services, but the focus is an explanation of what MP Connect is and when and how to use it. Program code examples illustrate important points. Users working with very large data sets on multi-processor UNIX systems will find the paper most immediately useful. Some familiarity with SAS/Connect and remote compute services will be helpful but is not necessary.

For fourteen years John has used SAS Software in the healthcare, insurance, and banking industries. He started his professional career as a data analyst and later managed a team of SAS programmer/analysts. John is currently with First Union National Bank managing the development of client-server applications to extract and report data from an Informix data warehouse and data mart. He has presented papers at a number of SAS User Conferences, was the Program Chair for this year's Data Mining SAS User Group Conference, and is the SAS Solutions Section Chair of this year's SESUG Conference.

Author Contact:

John E. Bentley
First Union National Bank
201 S. College Street, 5th floor
Mailcode NC-1025
Charlotte, NC 28288
704-383-2686
Email: John.Bentley2@FirstUnion.Com