

A Roadmap to SAS® Documentation
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ABSTRACT

Having trouble finding information on how to use SAS software? Here's a roadmap. Whether it's SAS release documentation, Books by Users books, or SAS Certification, the Publications Division provides essential information to all users of SAS software documentation in the format of your choice. Learn how to easily find the location of the documentation, the kinds of documentation available for each release, what's free for each release, and what's new. Learn about what's available on the Web and where it's located. Find out about exciting new topics and directions for the Books by Users program. This fast-paced and informative session will benefit both new and experienced SAS users.

INTRODUCTION

As SAS has expanded its software offerings to address user and enterprise needs, SAS documentation has had to keep pace. No matter how the software is delivered, a Help system accompanies it. Whatever version of SAS you are using, whether you are using a SAS product or a solution, a Java application, or a Web application, you can access Help. Other documentation may also accompany your software, including a tutorial, a getting started guide, a user guide, a reference guide, or an administrator's guide.

Much documentation is available on the Web to all SAS users from the support.sas.com Web site. Some documentation is available to you only if you buy the product or solution. You need easy access to the available documentation, and this roadmap shows you how to gain this access. Whether you are a new or experienced user, this roadmap helps you find the documentation you need in order to use your specific product or solution.

Through Books by Users Press (BBU), you have access to additional information about SAS from a user's perspective. More than 100 titles are available to you through BBU. BBU titles are available from SAS Publishing and your local bookstore.

This roadmap does not focus on e-Learning or SAS education courses, which are also an integral part of helping you to understand SAS software. For information on e-Learning, see <http://support.sas.com/selfpaced/>.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this paper, we are using the following definitions:

MVA SAS

SAS Multi-Vendor Architecture: a SAS software core technology that enables solutions to operate seamlessly across an organization's current and future infrastructure. (Think SAS System.)

Publications Division

the division at SAS responsible for developing software help and documentation and the help delivery systems that display the documentation. The Publications Division includes SAS Publishing.

SAS documentation

the information that is shipped with the software or provided on the Web.

SAS Help and Documentation

the Help system that is delivered with SAS®9 software.

SAS OnlineDoc

a collection of books both on CD and on the Web that enables you to view the contents of MVA SAS documentation without having SAS running. SAS OnlineDoc has excellent search and index capabilities and a comprehensive Table of Contents.

SAS Publishing

the book publishing arm of SAS Institute, which encompasses making software documentation available, Books by Users Press, the *Learning Edition*, Self-Paced e-Learning, and documentation for the SAS Certified Professional Program.

SAS solution

SAS software that addresses a focused business challenge.

SAS®9

an umbrella term that encompasses all SAS 9 releases, such as SAS 9.0, SAS 9.1, and eventually SAS 9.2.

WHAT'S NEW IN SAS 9.1 DOCUMENTATION

SAS puts much more information at your fingertips for SAS 9.1 documentation than for any previous release. Here are the new features:

- PDF downloads of SAS documentation are now free on the support.sas.com Web site! You can still order books from the Publications Catalog at listed prices.
- Documentation accessible from the SAS Help and Documentation menu in SAS software is more robust. You can access pertinent user guides, reference documentation, and other relevant documentation.
- Improved Help for SAS on z/OS is now available. Support for "Remote Help" for z/OS in SAS 9.1 enables you to access the same robust documentation available in SAS OnlineDoc, plus Help topics specific to z/OS, by invoking Help from your emulated SAS session and viewing it in Internet Explorer on your Microsoft Windows desktop.
- An updated interface and documentation delivery system, SAS OnlineDoc for the Web, has similar features as previous releases, but is made for enterprise, Web-based deployment and can be custom installed.
- More documentation is now available on the support.sas.com Web site or shipped with software such as Java applications.
- Updates to documentation between releases are now available on the Web for some SAS software.
- The Books by Users Press has expanded its offerings and has a number of new titles available.
- *SAS Certification Prep Guide: Base Programming* is now available to prepare you for the Certified Base Programmer Exam.
- Although not discussed in this paper, a number of online courses are now available at the SAS e-Learning site: <http://support.sas.com/selfpaced/>.

ROADMAP

Here are several tables that will help guide you to the location of the SAS documentation for SAS 9.1. Table 1 identifies what's free and what's not. Table 2 identifies the many types of SAS 9.1 documentation. Table 3 shows what documentation is available for each major SAS software release since Version 8.

Table 1: What's Free and What's Not

	FREE TO SAS USERS			FEE-BASED DISTRIBUTION	
	HTML	WEB PDF	PDF/HARD COPY	HTML	PDF/HARD COPY
Administration Doc	X	X			X
Books by Users Press Doc					X
e-Learning				X	X
Install Doc		X	X		
Preliminary Doc	X	X	X		
SAS Help and Documentation	X				
SAS OnlineDoc	X			X	X
Tutorials	X				
Updates to Doc	X	X			
User's Guides	X	X			X
What's New	X	X			X

Table 2: SAS Publications Division Documentation Deliverables (Part 1 of 2)

Delivery Medium	Type	Example or Description	Formats	
			HTML	PDF
Remote Help	<i>SAS Help and Documentation</i>	OS/390 or z/OS users only.	X	
CD – MVA SAS	<i>SAS Help and Documentation</i>	Most of <i>SAS OnlineDoc 9</i> (HTMLHelp) plus Window Help and other related information.		

Table 2: SAS Publications Division Documentation Deliverables (Part 2 of 2)

Delivery Medium	Type	Example or Description	Formats	
			HTML	PDF
	Integrated Product Help	Product Help can include context-sensitive Help or JavaHelp.	X	
CD	Software	SAS Universal ODBC Driver and SAS OnlineTutor, among others.	X	
	Software + doc	A product or software CD to which documentation has been added. Examples: SAS/IntrNet and SAS Integration Technologies software. Note: The doc in this case is not integrated with the software.	X	X
	Stand-alone	A documentation-only CD that can be viewed without SAS software. Examples: <i>SAS OnlineDoc 9</i> (HTMLHelp and PDF), Doc for <i>SAS Campaign Management 7.2, V6</i> doc released on CD, or the annual license version of <i>SAS OnlineTutor</i> .	X	X
	Integrated Product Help	Product Help can include context-sensitive Help or JavaHelp. Example: Campaign Management Help.	X	X
Hard copy	Books	Books by Users books are all available in hard copy format. All product documentation that is available for free in PDF format from the Web is also available for purchase as a hard copy book.		X
Web	Public URL	Information that is distributed on support.sas.com. Examples: PDF and HTML docs can be found in the Products & Solutions Documentation area from the Documentation page, links to online tutorials from within SAS Help and Documentation, and <i>SAS OnlineDoc</i> , and online training.	X	X
	Free download	HTML or PDF that is distributed from the support.sas.com Demos and Downloads site.	X	X
	Web-download software	Example: the SAS Universal ODBC Driver.	X	
	Fee-based access	Examples: Libraries, Courses, or Lessons in the SAS Self-Paced e-Learning catalog; <i>SAS OnlineTutor</i> , and other e-Learning products.	X	

Table 3: Documentation Available for SAS Software Releases

Deliverable	8	8.1	8.2	9	9.1	9.1.2
Help for SAS products (includes SAS Help and Documentation)	X	X	X	X	X	X
SAS OnlineDoc	X			X	X	X
User Guide (if not on SAS OnlineDoc)	X			X	X	(only if new content)
Reference (if not on SAS OnlineDoc)	X			X	X	
Administrator Guide	X			X	X	(only if new content)
Install Document	X	X	X	X	X	X
BBU Book	X	X	X	X	X	
Certification Guide*	X	X	X	X	X	X

*Good for all releases.

Refer to these tables as you read about SAS documentation and its availability in SAS releases.

SAS HELP AND DOCUMENTATION AND SAS ONLINEDOC

SAS HELP AND DOCUMENTATION

SAS@9

In SAS@9, the Help system was revamped to include much of the user and reference information already available in SAS OnlineDoc. SAS System Help was given a new name, SAS Help and Documentation, to reflect the fact that in addition to context-sensitive window Help and other Help, the information in related books is also now easily available to you when you bring up the Help for MVA SAS software products. The Base SAS Help, for example, was greatly improved by making available the contents of Base SAS books, including the *SAS Procedures Guide*, *SAS Language Reference: Concepts*, *SAS Language Reference: Dictionary*, the *National Language Support (NLS): User's Guide*, and so on. Thus, you can get to full information for every SAS procedure that's in the *SAS Procedures Guide* directly from the Help system in SAS@9. For OS/390 and z/OS users, this search capability became available with remote help in SAS 9.1.

The integrated help system enables you to

- search all MVA SAS Help documentation for software products that you have installed
- search each individual Help document for your SAS software product
- view the Table of Contents for all documents you have installed
- view the index for any or all of the these documents (except on Windows where you get the index for all documents)
- find a language element in SAS quickly using the Syntax Index
- find many more examples than were in the Help system previously. Use the search facility to locate examples. (In addition, you can access the SAS Sample Library by selecting **Sample SAS Programs** from **Learning to Use SAS** in the Contents section of the Documentation Navigation window.)
- continue to find Help at the command prompt or in the command window. Type "help XXX", where XXX is the language element for which you are seeking help.
- find help for SAS language elements in the Enhanced Editor. Put your cursor on a procedure name, for example, in the Enhanced Editor and press F1, and help for that procedure appears.

Figure 1 is a typical help page in Microsoft HTMLHelp for SAS 9.1 on the Windows platform, and Figures 2 and 3 are the same content on the UNIX, OpenVMS, and OS/390 or z/OS platforms.

Figure 1: SAS 9.1 Help and Documentation in HTMLHelp for Windows

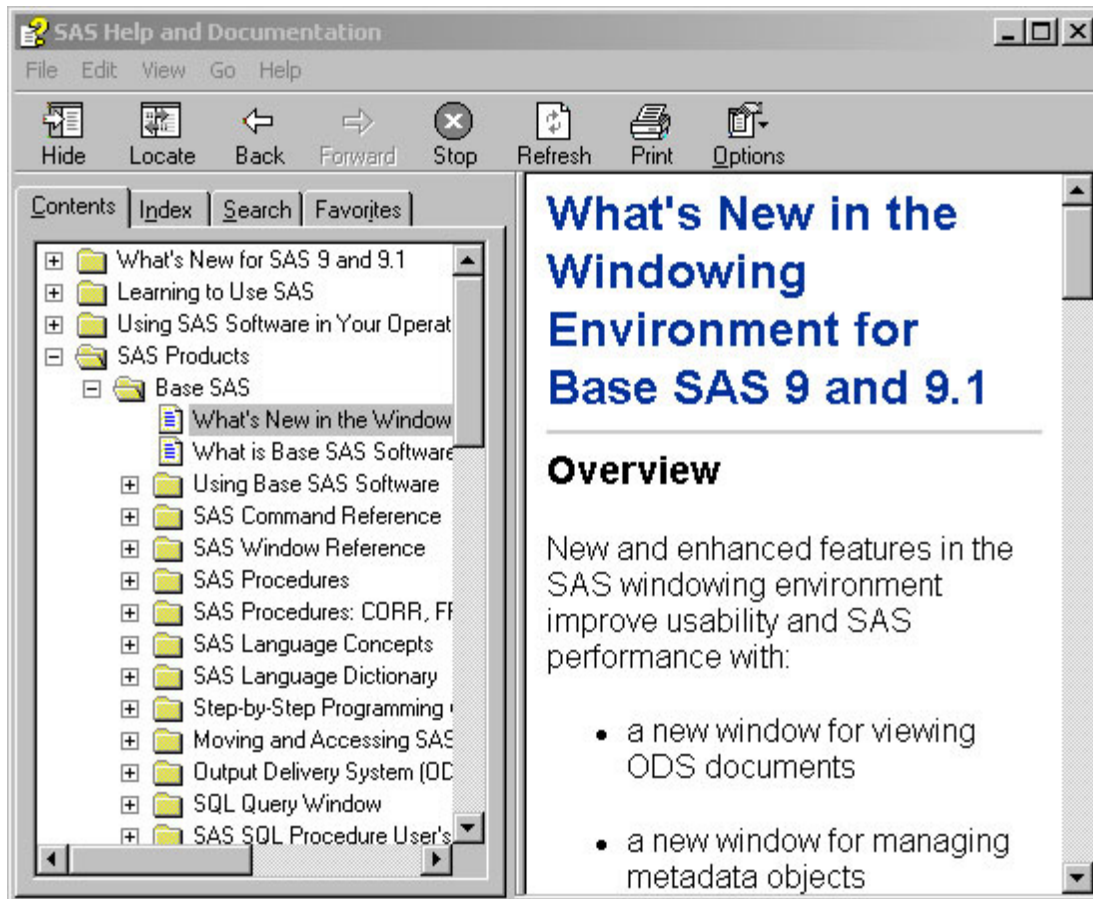


Figure 2: SAS 9.1 Help and Documentation on the UNIX, OpenVMS, and z/OS Platforms: Document Navigation Window

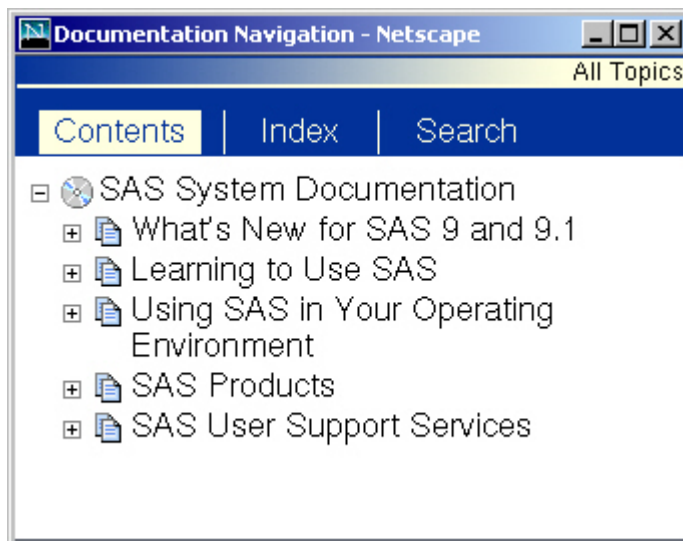
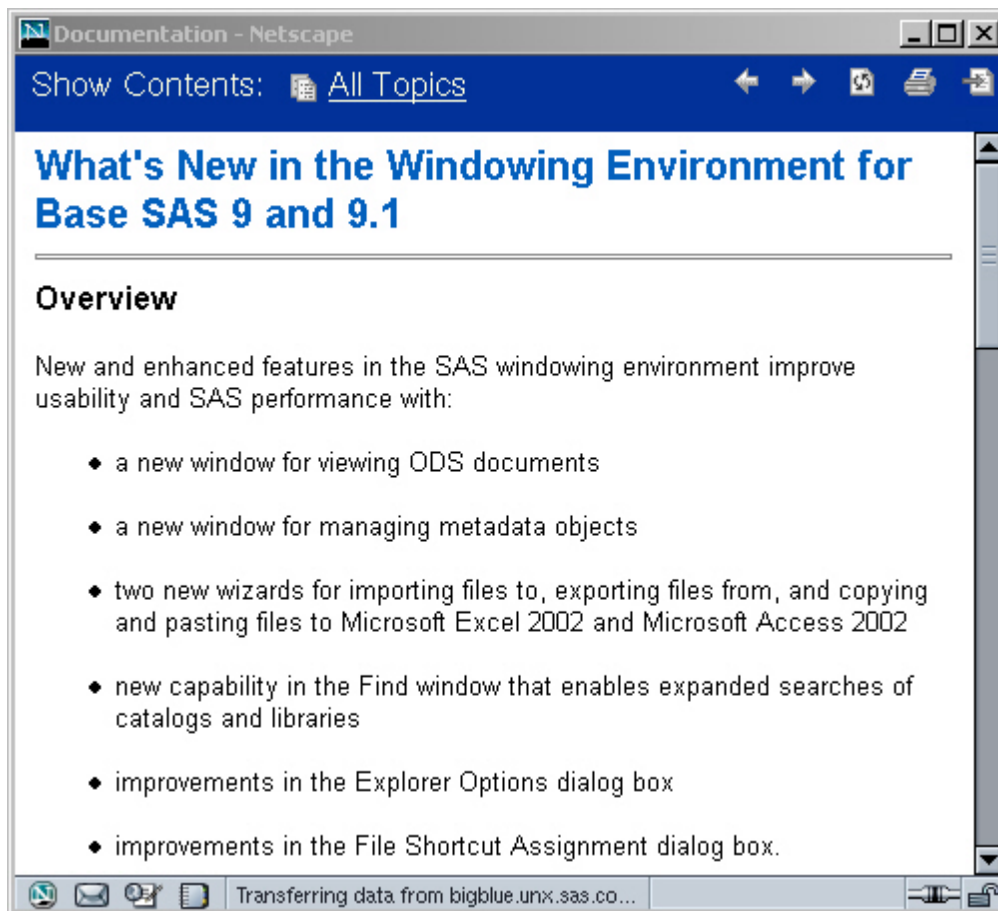


Figure 3: SAS 9.1 Help and Documentation on the UNIX, OpenVMS, and z/OS Platforms: Documentation Window



History and Evolution

In releases previous to SAS®9, the Help was identified as SAS System Help. That Help was updated for each version and release. Beginning in Version 7, SAS switched to an HTML and CHM delivery of help, except for OS/390 Help, which was delivered in a special viewer for the mainframes. This mainframe viewer, however, lacked the full functionality of the browser-based viewers, and it was replaced in SAS 9.1 by a remote browser, which looks similar to Help for the UNIX and OpenVMS platforms. In Version 8 of SAS, SAS discontinued Help for the OS/2 and CMS platforms. Releases 8.1 and 8.2 of the Help contain updates that are not reflected in SAS OnlineDoc 8. These updates have been included in the SAS®9 documentation. The versions and releases of SAS 7 and 8 used HTML Help for the Windows platform. On other platforms, the Help delivery system used a Java applet in the left frame for the navigation features (TOC, index, and search facility), with the content appearing in the right frame.

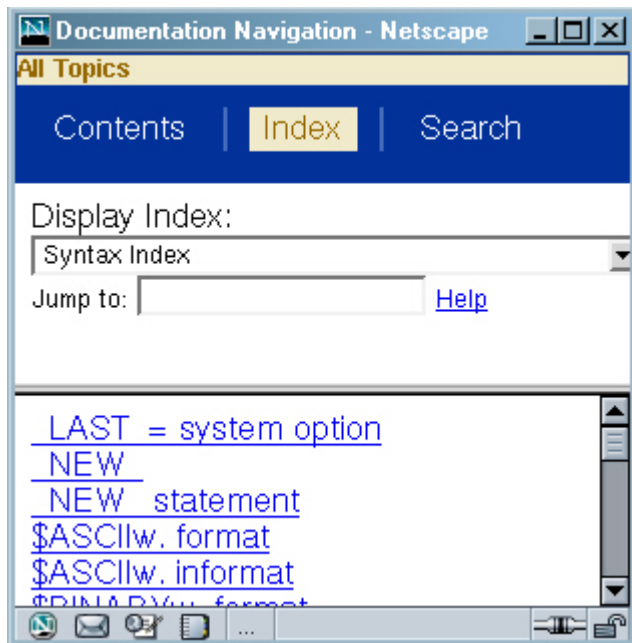
Changes to the Help Delivery System for SAS 9.1: Introducing the Webdoc Application

On the Windows platform, the Help delivery system, HTMLHelp, has remained the same from Version 8 SAS to SAS 9.1. (See Figure 1.) This Help is distinguished by its left pane for the navigation features (TOC, index, and search facility) and by its single index for all entries. In HTMLHelp, it is impossible to isolate the index entries for one SAS product. Index entries for all documentation products are integrated and listed alphabetically. But as mentioned previously, Help for the Enhanced Editor has made this Help quite useful for users who code in SAS.

In SAS 9.1, Help is displayed on the UNIX and OpenVMS platforms and for Web applications such as the SAS Information Delivery Portal and SAS Web Report Studio through a new Webdoc Help delivery system. Webdoc has a number of distinguishing features. The navigation window is separate from the content window. (See Figures 2 and 3.) If you select **Using This Window** from the Help menu at any window in the application where the Help is available, the content window appears with the appropriate content. To get to the full set of navigation features for SAS Help and Documentation, select **All Topics**. This takes you to the Document Navigation window, where you can select the topic of your choice from the TOC or search for it in the index or through the search facility. You can go directly to the Document Navigation window by selecting **Help** for your SAS application or **SAS Help and Documentation** from the Help menu. You can use the index for a specific SAS document or for the entire set that you have installed. The search is a full-text search and is helpful for finding information within a SAS

product or across SAS products or solutions that are combined in the same Webdoc application. Figure 4 shows the Index tab in SAS Help and Documentation with the Syntax Index displayed.

Figure 4: Index Tab in SAS Help and Documentation



SAS ONLINEDOC

SAS@9

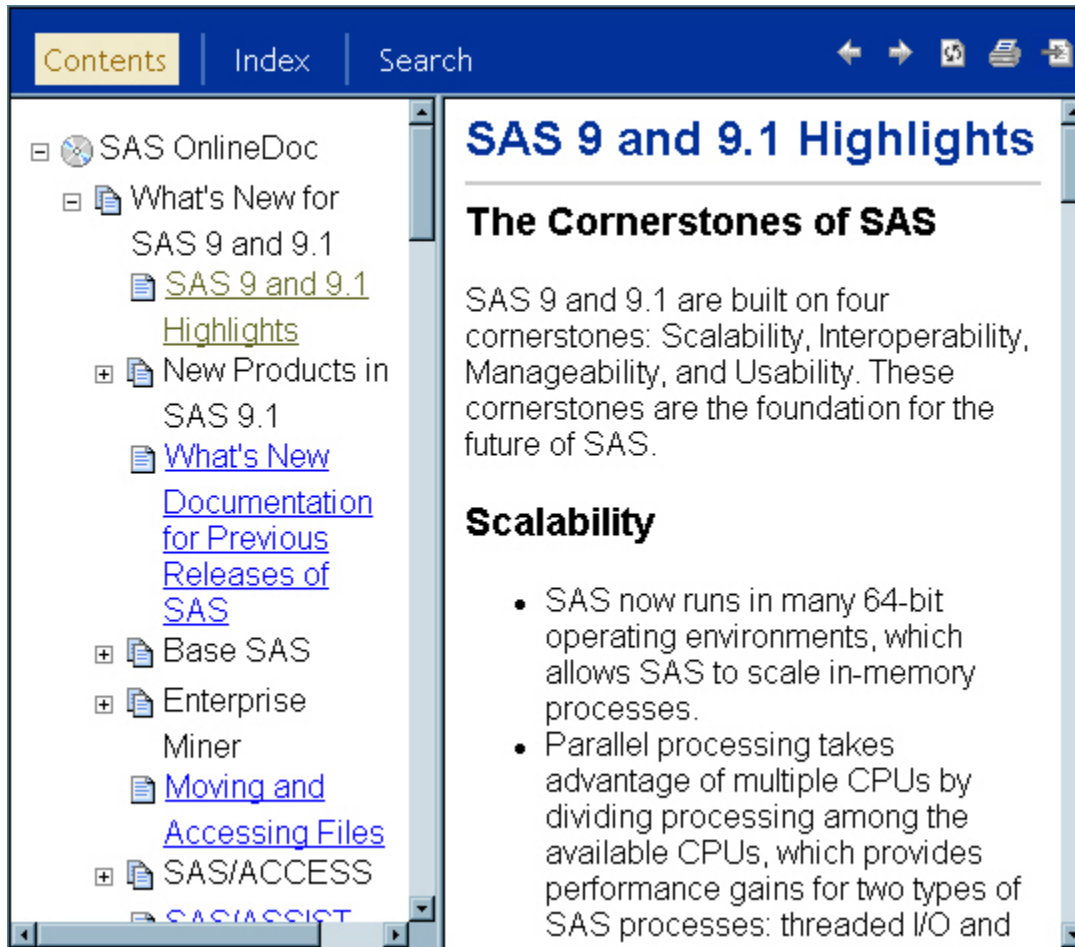
SAS OnlineDoc is a collection of books that for the most part support MVA SAS. Some other documents in the collection, such as the *SAS Management Console User's Guide*, are there to make them more widely available to users. The documents in SAS OnlineDoc that do not support the MVA system or that belong to Java based software products are usually not included in SAS Help and Documentation. Many users prefer SAS OnlineDoc because it does not require having SAS up and running and because of its excellent search and index capabilities across a large number of documents. SAS OnlineDoc also has the advantage that it contains information about many SAS products whether you have installed them or not. SAS Help and Documentation (the Help system), by contrast, contains information only for the SAS software products you have installed.

History and Evolution

SAS OnlineDoc was first released with Version 7 of the SAS System. It is also available in Release 7.1, Version 8, SAS 9.0, and SAS 9.1. SAS OnlineDoc was not updated for SAS releases 8.1 and 8.2 although the Help system was. Because of the popularity of SAS OnlineDoc, SAS is now committed to providing SAS OnlineDoc with every major SAS software release.

Versions 7 through 9 of SAS OnlineDoc are probably very familiar to you. They used a navigation system in the left pane and the content in the right pane. The current SAS OnlineDoc 9.1 is available in a Web version and in an HTMLHelp stand-alone version. Both offer a navigation system in the left pane and the content in the right pane. Figure 5 shows a typical page for SAS OnlineDoc 9.1 on the Web.

Figure 5: Web Version of SAS OnlineDoc 9.1



Thus, whether you prefer to read your SAS documentation as books, as online Help, as a searchable set of HTML pages in SAS OnlineDoc, or as a PDF on the Web, you can now search for information and view SAS documentation in the format of your choice.

WHAT'S NEW

If a SAS software product is brand new (that is, never released before), its Help will describe its features, but it will not have a What's New section. For any software that has had a previous release, however, the Help will describe What's New. For MVA SAS, this What's New section is available in a number of forms. It is available with the documentation for each SAS product. What's New Help for individual products links directly to the documentation it describes. Thus, for SAS Help and Documentation and for SAS OnlineDoc, the quickest way to get to a full discussion of each new feature is to open the TOC for the document, select What's New, and select the link to the topic of your choice. For MVA SAS, the What's New sections are also combined into a What's New for the release, which is available near the beginning of SAS Help and Documentation and SAS OnlineDoc and is also available on the Web. This What's New does not contain links because it contains all products (including Java applications) that are part of MVA SAS. If there were links, a number of them would be broken if you did not have the documentation or a product installed. This non-linking What's New is designed to give you a broad overview of what's available in a release. Documentation for What's New for each release is also available at the following support.sas.com Web page: <http://support.sas.com/documentation/onlinedoc/>.

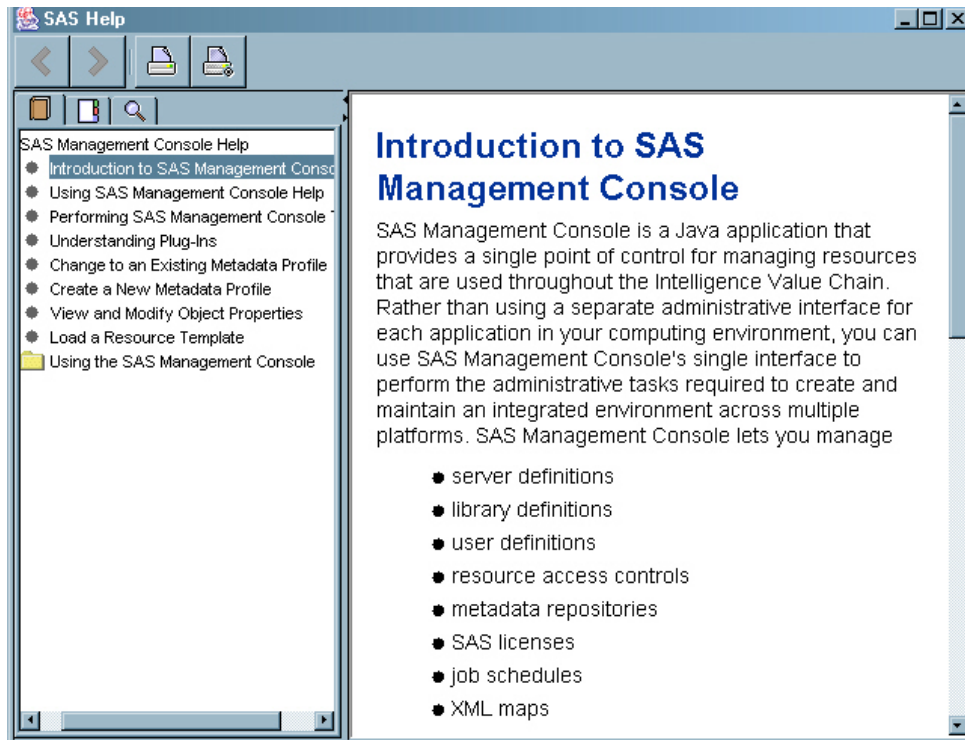
OTHER DOCUMENTATION

JAVA HELP

JavaHelp is available for all SAS Java applications. Some examples of SAS Java applications are SAS 9.1 Management Console, plug-ins from various SAS applications to SAS Management Console, and SAS Enterprise Miner 5.1, among others.

Here is an example of a JavaHelp page from the SAS Management Console help.

Figure 6: JavaHelp Page



SAS SOLUTIONS HELP

The Help that accompanies each SAS solution is available with the software for whatever platforms the solution ships on. The type of Help varies with the solution and with the products that comprise that solution. Future releases of SAS will provide Help through a Web portal for a number of SAS solutions so that you can easily access Help and perform tasks for whichever SAS solutions you have installed.

BOOKS AND PDFS FOR NON-MVA SAS SOFTWARE PRODUCTS AND SOLUTIONS

User guides and administrator guides for Java applications, SAS solutions, Web applications, and other non-MVA software can ship directly with the software, be available on SAS OnlineDoc, be available on the Web, or be available in hard copy. Currently, the method of distribution varies with the SAS software product, but we are working to have a more predictable release pattern and to have as many documents as possible available for you to view on the Web.

SAS DOCUMENTATION ON THE WEB

INTRODUCTION

The Documentation page on support.sas.com, <http://support.sas.com/documentation/>, is a good place to go on the Web to find SAS documentation. Available from this page are Products & Solutions Documentation, the Install Center for installation instructions, Operating Environment News and Notes, and FAQ documentation from Technical Support. You can also find out about SAS books at the SAS Publishing Book Store: <http://www.sas.com/apps/pubscat/welcome.jsp>.

DOCUMENTATION FOR SAS PRODUCTS & SOLUTIONS

From the Documentation for SAS Products & Solutions page, <http://support.sas.com/documentation/onlinedoc/>, you have easy access to SAS OnlineDoc, to documentation for versions and releases of SAS from Version 8 on, to What's New for several versions and releases of SAS beginning with Version 7, and to a drop-down list of other SAS books that are available on the Web. From this site, you also have access to White Papers, SUGI Papers, Magazines and Newsletters, Technical Support Information, FAQs, and the SAS Publishing Book Store. This site will be improved as often as possible to help make it easier for you to find any SAS documentation that is available to you anywhere on the support.sas.com Web site.

OTHER PAGES

SAS documentation is also available from the SAS Communities pages, <http://support.sas.com/rnd/intro.html>. One of the most popular documentation sites, for example, is the Base Communities Page, <http://support.sas.com/rnd/base/>. On a Communities page, users can find much information, some of it user-contributed, on a product or solution that is of interest to them. Some SAS products also have their own Web presence. Among these are SAS IntrNet: <http://support.sas.com/rnd/web/intrnet/>, SAS Integration Technologies: <http://support.sas.com/rnd/web/inttech.html>.

and the SAS 9.1 Intelligence Architecture: Planning and Administration page:

<http://support.sas.com/documentation/configuration/91admin.html>. We are working to make it easier to locate this documentation by linking to these pages from the Documentation for SAS Products and Solutions pages. It's important to be able to locate these documents no matter where they live on the Web.

UPDATES ON THE WEB

Documentation on the Communities pages and on the individual pages off the Documentation for Products and Solutions page can contain updates to SAS documentation. Prior to SAS Version 7, we offered SAS Technical Reports, or changes and enhancements documentation. Now, if documentation is updated between releases, it is made available on the Web until the information can be folded into the documentation for the next release. An example is the ODS information that is available from ODS on the Base Communities page. That information will be incorporated into the *SAS 9.2 Output Delivery System User's Guide*.

CAN'T FIND WHAT YOU WANT ON THE WEB?

After your search, you may not be able to find any user documentation for your SAS product on the Web. In some cases, the reason is that the documentation ships only with the software. If this is true for your product, check the SAS Publications Catalog to find documentation for your product, or check the Help system for your software product, which should point you to documents that accompany your software. For security and other reasons, not all SAS documentation will be available from the Web. This is sometimes true for SAS solutions also.

BOOKS BY USERS PRESS

INTRODUCTION

Now in its 12th year of operation, Books by Users Press (BBU) supports the use of SAS software by developing books that are written by SAS users for SAS users. Books by Users Press works with the best and brightest from the SAS user community to bring their experience and insight to every book published. As a publisher, Books by Users Press has built a relationship with resellers, wholesalers and other publishers with the goal of bringing SAS titles to a wider audience. In 2003, more than 80,000 BBU books were sold worldwide. This section explores the BBU library, highlights some of the newest titles, and previews some of the exciting new directions for the BBU program.

BOOKS BY USERS PRESS LIBRARY

With a mission to bring new ideas and real-world experience to each title, BBU has built an impressive library of titles written by world-class authors. More than 100 titles are sold through the BBU program. At Books by Users Press, book proposals are received throughout the year and are evaluated on the merits of the subject, whether it fills a gap in current offerings, and the size of the market. In addition to reviewing proposals, Books by Users Press pursues projects that have been identified as important to the direction of SAS. In response to customer demand, Books by Users Press is actively exploring the development of industry-specific titles. These books will address specific business issues for each industry and provide SAS solutions customized to that industry. In the coming year, titles in the Retail, Pharmaceutical and Financial Services areas are being explored.

In 2003, Books by Users Press published 14 new titles. Books published in 2003 included a new edition of the best seller, *The Little SAS Book: A Primer*. The third edition of this title brings the information in the book current to SAS®9. Written for the beginner, *The Little SAS Book: A Primer* takes you through the basics of SAS programming.

A new book in the popular Carpenter Series was also published in 2003. *Quick Results with the Output Delivery System* explains the basic concepts and features of the Output Delivery System (ODS). You will learn how to define and select your output destinations as well as how to customize output. The step-by-step examples will provide you with immediate results in realizing the benefits of ODS.

Books by Users Press is very excited to introduce a first time author, Bernadette Johnson. Bernadette's title, *Instant ODS: Style Templates for the SAS Output Delivery System*, was published in 2003. This title is a suite of 50 ready-to-run ODS style templates that provide you with instant access to a library of business-ready style templates for stylizing HTML, PDF, and RTF output.

Finally, 2003 saw an expansion in the number of titles being made available as PDF downloads. The best-selling *Categorical Data Analysis Using the SAS System, Second Edition* is now available for purchase on the Web. Books by Users Press is committed to providing you with the information you need in the format of your choice. Expanding the way BBU Press delivers titles is just one way to keep that commitment. For details on all current BBU titles available as PDF downloads, please visit <http://support.sas.com>.

Not all titles available through the BBU program are published by SAS, however. In addition to publishing titles, Books by Users Press brings you quality books about SAS that are published by other companies. Titles from other publishers are available to you through two programs, Editors Choice and Distributed Titles.

EDITOR'S CHOICE

This program came into existence in 1997 when Books by Users Press picked up the John Wiley & Sons title, *Essential Client/Server Survival Guide*, by Orfali, Harker and Edwards. Today, you will find 18 Editor's Choice titles listed in the SAS Publishing Catalog. These titles are distinguished by their subject matter. Titles in the Editor's Choice series do not necessarily contain SAS examples. In some cases, they may not even mention SAS. They are important titles, however, because they explain a concept or business principle that is important to you as a SAS user (examples: *CRM at the Speed of Light*, *The E-Aligned Enterprise: How to Map and Measure Your Company's Course in the New Economy*, *The ROI of Human Capital: Measuring the Economic Value of Employee Performance*, *Good to Great*, etc.). Through the Editor's Choice series, you get quick, convenient access to the latest thought-leadership titles.

DISTRIBUTED TITLES

SAS's growth, in terms of size and awareness, has not gone unnoticed. Today, many of the world's leading publishers are coming out with their own books about SAS. This is a win for the SAS user community. Books by Users Press is proud to offer you access to those titles that complement books from Books by Users Press. Thirteen different books by some of the world's largest publishers are available through the SAS Publishing Catalog. These distributed titles all pertain directly to SAS. These books contain SAS examples and highlight the use of SAS in a variety of industries. Through the Distributed Titles program, Books by Users Press brings you *The Cartoon Guide to Statistics*, *Applied Statistics and the SAS Programming Language, Fourth Edition*, *Professional SAS Programmers Pocket Reference, Second Edition*, among others.

LOOKING AHEAD – PARTNERSHIP WITH JOHN WILEY & SONS

2004 promises to be another exciting year for Books by Users Press. You can expect more of the same high quality books from BBU Press along with an exciting business partnership with John Wiley & Sons. In 2004 Books by Users Press will publish titles in these areas:

- Analytics – including SAS and JMP titles
- Programming – with a number of titles planned to highlight the Enterprise Guide interface
- Industry-specific titles – particularly in the areas of Financial Management, Retail, and Pharmaceuticals
- Learning Edition – look for titles that expand the use of SAS Learning Edition

To complement the practical, how-to guides that you have come to rely on from BBU, Books by Users Press saw an opportunity to partner with John Wiley & Sons to create a series of business books that focus on many of the business issues that you face as SAS users. The result is a series of business titles that demonstrate the concepts and principles of how SAS can be deployed to help senior-level managers with their critical management decisions.

In August 2003, SAS Publishing partnered with John Wiley & Sons to bring you a new series of business books that focus on business solutions. John Wiley & Sons is one of the largest publishers in the US market. Wiley has been in business since 1848 and is a leader in publishing world class business titles. Wiley's partnership with SAS Publishing will create a new series of business books that explains the concepts behind the solutions that drive companies today. Issues like Customer Relationship Management, IT Management, Human Capital Management, Value Chain management, and Supplier Relationship management will all be explored. The first book in the series is *Performance Management: Finding the Missing Pieces to Close the Intelligence Gap*, by Gary Cokins. This title is available now.

How will you benefit from the relationship between SAS Publishing and Wiley? You will now have access to business titles that focus on the issues, solutions and concepts that you face on a daily basis. Wiley's treatment of these titles will serve to provide you with a critical view of the issues facing business people today. In addition, Wiley's distribution channels will make these books readily available at your local bookstore.

Key to keeping the BBU library fresh and vibrant is having a vision for the program and a plan for achieving that vision. BBU intends to help you make the most of your investment in SAS by constantly bringing you new programs, new books, and new ways of learning.

BBU strives to bring you the best: the best authors, the best titles, the best partnerships and the best value for your money. BBU press provides you with the tools you need to achieve the most value from your investment with SAS. Want to write for us? Have a book idea? Need a book? Please call or write Julie Platt at Julie.Platt@sas.com, or visit us online at <http://support.sas.com/bbu>.

SAS CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

The SAS Certified Professional Program was created to recognize SAS software users who can demonstrate an in-depth understanding of SAS software. All of the SAS certification exams are developed according to defined international standards and are based on survey results and on feedback from our users. SAS offers five globally recognized certifications. Designed in tracks, each certification requires the successful completion of one or more exams to earn a credential.

- SAS Certified Base Programmer

- SAS Certified Advanced Programmer
- SAS Certified webAF Developer: Server-side
- SAS Certified Warehouse Development Specialist
- SAS Certified Warehouse Architect

In order to assist you in preparing for an exam, SAS offers self-paced e-Learning courses and a Certification Prep Guide.

In August 2003, SAS Publishing launched a global e-Learning site (support.sas.com/selfpaced). You can access self-paced training at the lesson, course, or library level. One of the most popular courses is the SAS Certification: Base Programming course. When you register for this online course, you have access to the training for 6 months. In addition, you have the benefit of a practice test and interactive exercises. A course geared for the advanced programmer will be available in 3rd quarter 2004.

If you prefer to study with your own hard copy book, you will be pleased to learn of SAS's first title geared specifically to help you prepare for the exam. The *SAS Certification Prep Guide: Base Programming* book will be available in summer 2004. This book will be sold through bookstores and through the SAS Publishing web site. The book will feature a practice exam and a CD of exercises.

The purpose of the *SAS Certification Prep Guide: Base Programming* book is to prepare you to take the SAS Base Programming Exam. The book is for experienced SAS programmers who want to prepare for SAS Base Programming Certification. It covers all the objectives tested on the exam, including basic concepts, producing reports, creating and modifying SAS data sets, and reading raw data. The book includes quizzes in each chapter that test your understanding of the material. In addition, the companion CD-ROM contains sample data and programs that enable you to practice your new skills in the SAS environment.

For more information about the SAS Certified Professional Program, visit our Web site at <http://support.sas.com/certify/>.

CONCLUSION

Throughout this paper we have touched on ways the SAS Publications Division brings you information about SAS. Whether it's through e-Learning, buying a book, looking up a procedure, viewing the contents of a title, or downloading a book, you can get the information you need when you need it.

Our business model has evolved over the years. It wasn't so long ago when it took a semi to deliver your SAS documentation! Today, you get a CD! In addition, you get free access to all SAS documentation on the Web, free access to the documentation in PDF format, and access to hard copy books for those interested in the paper documentation.

This roadmap to SAS documentation is only a snapshot. A year from now, like for any atlas, you will find things have changed. New possibilities will be explored, and new delivery mechanisms and new business models will be created. It's your input and feedback that we rely upon to bring you the most effective information on using SAS. Please let us know what you'd like to see next. Let us know the areas of the documentation set that need construction today or need clarity.

Our vision is to have a central location on the Web for you to go to find where all the SAS documentation you need resides. Our goal is to continue to make information easy for you to find. We will continue to give you choices. You should be able to find the information you need, when you need it, and in the format you want it. That's why we've made the PDFs free from our Web site. You now have free access to this information to make the most of your investment with SAS. As always, if you have comments, questions or suggestions, we want to hear from you!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Your comments and questions are valued and encouraged. Contact the authors at:

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