



Business Analytics



SAS Environment Assessments

OVERVIEW

Are you getting the most value from your SAS investments? Are you using SAS to its fullest capabilities? Can you gain improvements in efficiencies and capabilities by upgrading to the newest version of SAS? How will an upgrade or an installation of a new SAS solution affect your current applications?

These are all valid and important questions to ask. COMSYS can help you answer these questions and more through our SAS Assessment services which can be customized to suit your company's particular needs.

- **SAS Business Intelligence Assessment**

This assessment leverages COMSYS' experience with the SAS 9 BI platform as well as other BI tools such as COGNOS and Business Objects. For this type of assessment, typical recommendations are geared towards security, performance, architecture, and best practices.

- **Business Process Automation Assessment**

This assessment focuses on evaluating whether there are efficiencies to be gained by automating manual processes. COMSYS can help you determine if it is appropriate and cost-effective to automate those processes. If there are efficiencies to be gained, we will develop a plan with you to accomplish this goal with the least amount of interruption to your business.

- **SAS 9 Readiness Assessment**

COMSYS will identify the benefits associated with successfully moving from a previous version of SAS to the current SAS 9 platform. If it is determined that your organization would benefit by upgrading to SAS 9, COMSYS can also help to identify a roadmap which will layout a successful migration path.

- **SAS Performance Assessment**

The SAS Performance Assessment is geared towards identifying opportunities within the current system for increasing efficiencies in the movement of data, reporting, and analytics for our clients.

We provide Assessment services to a wide variety of industries utilizing best practices and repeatable processes. By leveraging the vast body of knowledge COMSYS has acquired over the past 25 years, we have been able to assist our clients with determining the best methods for increasing the return on investment from their SAS investment dollars.

COMSYS SAS Environment Assessments are designed to increase value by:

- Improving the efficiency and accuracy of the flow of data through the organization;
- Increasing the quantity and quality of information obtained from data through analytics;
- Utilizing existing IT investments more effectively and efficiently; and
- Recognizing processes that can be automated to increase efficiency and accuracy.

COMSYS is able to provide our clients with a fresh perspective on their existing architecture and data flows and interfaces. During a SAS Assessment, COMSYS collaborates with clients to help develop a roadmap for increasing the value recognized from their IT and SAS-related investments.

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Our assessment process is outlined below.

Assessment Process

• Requirements Gathering

Meetings will be conducted to evaluate business issues, schedules, and timelines associated with the assessment. A list of artifacts will be developed and interviews will be scheduled as deemed necessary for the success of the assessment.

• Artifacts Analysis

Information collected during the initial requirements gathering and onsite interview phases will be reviewed and analyzed. This information will play a crucial role in the creation of the SAS Assessment Suggested Action Plan (SAS ASAP) document.

• Onsite Interviews

COMSYS consultants will spend two to five days onsite interviewing key people relevant to the Assessment project. Information will be gathered through the interviews and our observations about processes, data, and analysis which take place at the client site. During these interviews, COMSYS will seek to learn more about your environment and both the positive aspects of the environment and the areas for improvement.

• Analytics Review

A review of how the client uses analytics to make business decisions will be performed. COMSYS will also look for opportunities within processes where analytics can add value but are not currently being utilized.

• SAS Assessment Suggested Action Plan (SAS ASAP) Document

When the information gathering has been completed, COMSYS will provide the client with recommendations in a document organized in the following manner:

- Executive Summary
- Observations
- Recommendations for Improvement
- Recommended Next Steps

• Knowledge Transfer

The SAS ASAP document will be presented and discussed with the client at the end of the assessment. This can happen via on-site presentation, on-line presentation, or conference call.

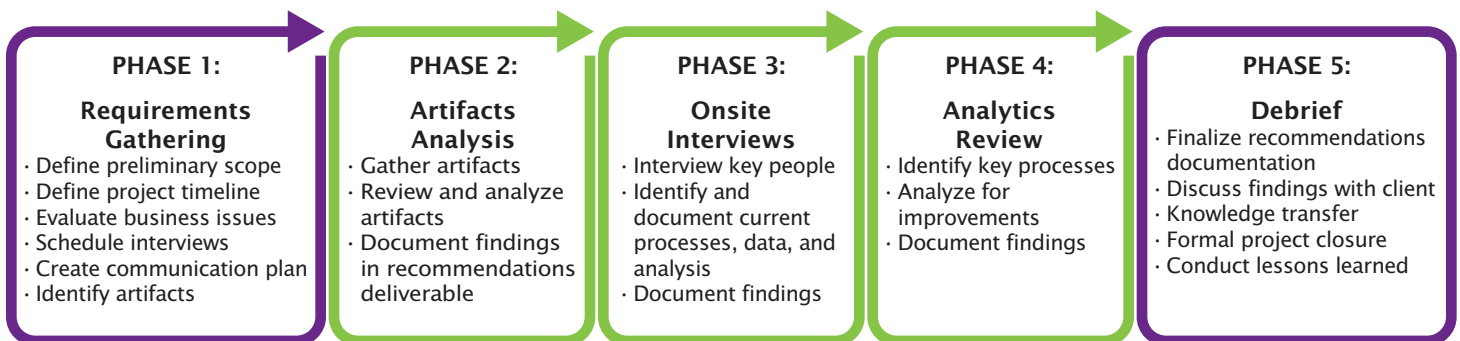
CLIENT BENEFITS

Engaging COMSYS to perform a SAS Assessment provides our clients with the following benefits:

- Independent, third-party evaluation of the client’s environment;
- Insight from a partner who can share industry best practices;
- A low-cost, low-impact project that could either validate a company’s use of SAS and analytics or get the company on the right road to greater ROI from their SAS investment; and
- A road map document that will help gain executive sponsorship for new projects or the acquisition of new SAS solutions and/or tools.

SOLUTION SUMMARY

If you are looking for a validation of your SAS usage or trying to understand the new SAS solutions, a SAS Assessment from COMSYS Business Analytics and SAS Practice is the perfect solution. Our team of highly-skilled Architects, Programmers, Statisticians, and Project Managers can help to perform a valuable evaluation of your use of SAS.



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