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### **Choosing an SAP Form Tool:**

SAPscript, Smart Forms or the Adobe/SAP Solution [Session code 2301]



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Matthias Zeller, Sr. Product Manager, Adobe Systems Incorporated



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### **Agenda - Choosing an SAP Form Tool**



- Introduction
- Tool Overview
  - SAPscript
  - Smart Forms
  - Joint Adobe/SAP Solution
  - Other Tools
- Tool Selection
  - New Forms
  - Existing Forms
- Summary







systems

inc

Adobe

### Mark Smithson: MHS Systems Consulting, Inc.

 Senior Consultant with special expertise in form printing and development in SAP applications

### Matthias Zeller: Adobe Systems, Inc.

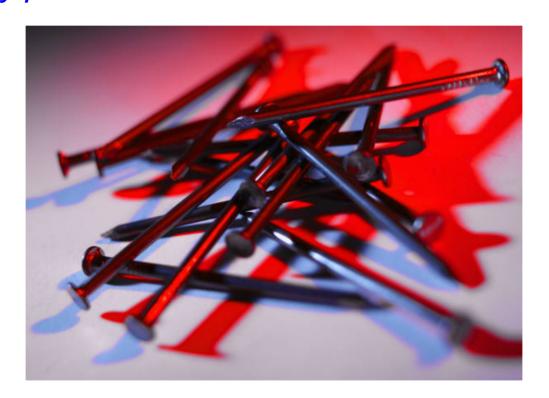
 Senior Product Manager responsible for the product requirements, evangelizing, and roll-out process in the Adobe/SAP Alliance







### "To the man who only has a hammer in the toolkit, every problem looks like a nail." - Abraham Maslow



### Introduction



- SAP offers three distinct output form tools
  - **SAPscript**
  - **Smart Forms**
  - Joint Adobe/SAP Solution

Third-party form tools exist as well

Choosing the right one can be confusing



### **Tool Overview - SAPscript**



### **Background**

- Based on mainframe product from 1980s
- Minor improvements over time

### Pros:

- Legacy tool a 'known quantity'
- Many existing preconfigured form templates

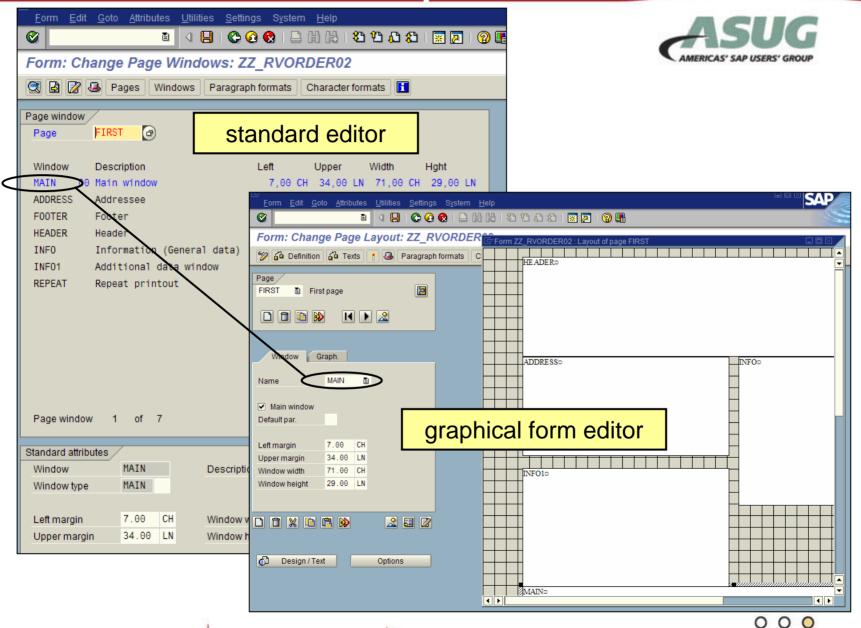
### Cons:

- Not particularly 'user-friendly'
- Limited output options
- No further enhancement



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### **Screen Shot - SAPscript interface**



### **Screen Shot - SAPscript output**

Current System = TRN



ASUG AMERICAS' SAP USERS' GROUP

IDE 8 Holding AG, Postfach 16 05 29, D-60070 Frankfurt/M

MHS Systems Consulting, Inc. 2250 Woodland Ln N Riverwoods IL 60015

**Order confirmation** 

Number/Date 20 / 10/30/2003 Reference no./Date unconfirmed line Cust. no. 100001

Ship-to address

We deliver according to the following conditions:

Currency USD

Terms of payment Within 14 days 2.000 % cash discount Within 30 days without deduction

Terms of delivery CIF destination

Weights (gross/net) - Volume - Mark

Gross weight 7.600 LB Net weight

7.600 LB

tem Material Description

Price Price unit Value

000010 C-125-0001 Codein Phosphate 62.5MG 152 EA 7.95 USD 1 EA

152 EA 7.95 USD 1 EA 1,208.40 Split the overall quantity over the following delivery dates:

Qty Unit Delivery date

Qty Unit Delivery date 1 EA Day 11/30/2003

Final amount 1,208.40

000

### **Tool Overview - Smart Forms**



### Background:

- Introduced in release 4.6c
- Replaced SAPscript as official form tool

### Pros:

- More advanced output options (PDF, XML)
- Graphical editor
- Table & template painters
- Vastly improved graphical interface

### Cons:

- Fewer form templates than SAPscript
- No further enhancement as of Web AS 6.40 (bug fixes only)

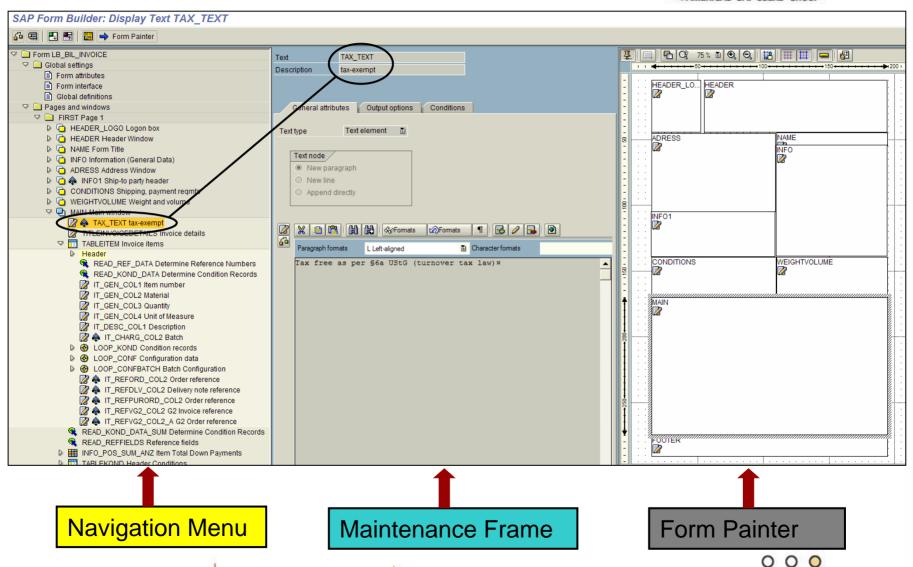


### **Screen Shot - Smart Forms interface**

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### **Screen Shot - Smart Forms output**



The Preconfigured Company 3475 Deer Creek Road Phone: (650)849-4009 Palo Alto, CA 94304-0000 Fax: (650)849-4004 U.S.A. Internet: www.saplabs.com/poc Page 1 of 2 03/26/2002 16:11:10



### Invoice

Sold-To-Party

Breat Pirk Inc.

3475 Deer Creek Road

LOS GATOS CA 99032

Document No /Date 90000217/ 03/22/2002 Delivery Note No./Date 80000212/03/22/2002 Reference Order 598/03/22/2002 PO No./Date PRINT TEST ORDER/ Customer No. 1002892 Currency USD Invoice Amt 4.212.14 Up to 04/21/2002 without Term of Payment

Incoterm DHL Gross Weight 50 LB Net Weight 50 LB

Item	Material/Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Value
10	This is the "Sales note for customer" This is the second line for the "Sales note for customer", 3226 myPCC Print Paper	20 EA	19.99	399.80
	This is the sales text for the material. Line 1. This is the sales text for the material. Line 2.			
	Customer Discount	-0.500 %		-19.99
	Material Discount	-5.00 USD	EA	-100.00
20	3227	15 EA	29.99	449.85
	myPCC Glossy Photo Paper			
	This is the sales text for the material. Line 1.			
	This is the sales text for the material. Line 2.			
	Customer Discount	-0.500 %		-22.49
	Material Discount	-7.00 USD	EA	-105.00
30	3228	10 EA	39.99	399.90
	myPCC Heavy Weight Photo Paper			
	This is the sales text for the material. Line 1.			
	This is the sales text for the material. Line 2.			
l	Customer Discount	-0.500 %		-20.00
40	3229	2 EA	499.99	999.98

| Company Page 1 of 2 load Phone: (650)849-4000 03/26/2002 14:21:17 | 4-000 Fax: (650)849-4004 | Internet: www.saplabs.com/pcc

### Purchase Order

Information PO Number 216 Date 01/21/2002 Vendor No. 10374 Currency USD Payment Terms NT30 Description Net due in 30 days Buyer myPCC Buyer 1 650-849-4000 Phone Resale No. XX XXX XX-XXXXXXX **Delivery Date** 02/04/2002 Inco Terms San Francisco Description

Quantity UM Net Price Net Amount 2.00 11.00 22.00 MATEIALNUM 007 14.08 2.00 16.00 -1.92 3.00 EA 8.00 24.00 4.00 32.00 EA. 8.00 30.00 5.00 EA 6.00 6.00 7.00 42.00

Page 1 of 3 000 03/28/2002 14:15:59 4 (poc

Request for Quotation

### NOT AN ORDER

20000125 02/08/2002 myPCC Buyer 1 650-849-4000 XX XXX XXXXXXXX 03/10/2002

rn the Quotation to Purchasing Dept. at the

Unit Pr	ice	Amount
	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00

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### **Tool Overview - Adobe/SAP Solution**



### Background:

- Collaboration between SAP and Adobe Systems
- Being introduced in Web AS 6.40/NetWeaver 04
- ERP 04 solution will provide forms based on the new technology

### Adobe provides

- Open technology, de-facto standard for forms
- Combine benefits of PDF with open XML technology

### Benefits of SAP-Adobe cooperation

- Integration of Adobe PDF technology into SAP solutions
- 500 million Adobe Readers distributed worldwide
- User-friendly design tool significantly reduces TCO
- Pre-existing PDF forms, e.g. government forms, can be reused



### **Adobe/SAP Solution - Print forms**



### Pros:

- Adobe Designer integrated into ABAP Workbench Form Builder
- User-friendly, 'paper-like' layout
- Adobe Designer can import existing PDF forms
- Leverages people's experiences with paper forms (e.g. IRS W4 form)
- Easy client-side form printing
- Supports PDF, PS, PCL and ZPL output

### Cons:

- No direct conversion from SAPscript (Smart Forms only)
- Limited number of SAP pre-built forms today



### **Adobe/SAP Solution - Interactive forms**

### Graphical Forms Designer



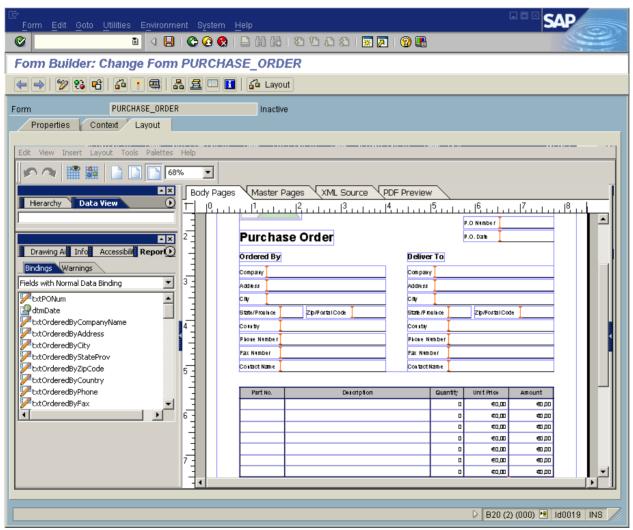
- Integrated with SAP development environments (NetWeaver Developer Studio and ABAP Workbench)
- Import existing PDF documents and make them interactive
- PDF Documents with Adobe Reader Rights
  - Enable new functionality in Adobe Reader, like "Save as", Annotations, Digital Signature and Certification
  - Can be turned on by document
- Interactive online forms
  - Visually rich Adobe PDF forms
  - Tightly integrated with existing SAP User Interface framework
- Interactive offline Adobe PDF forms (round-trip forms)
  - Created and distributed from the SAP application
  - Are completed by the user in Adobe Reader while offline
  - Completed form can be submitted using the integrated "submit" button, via e-mail or http



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### **Demo - Adobe/SAP Solution - Print forms**





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### **Choosing a Tool for New Forms**



### Factors to consider:

- Current SAP version
- Preconfigured form availability
- Form complexity
- Resource availability
- Tool 'ease of use'
- Output options needed
  - Short-term
  - Long-term



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### **Choosing a Tool for New Forms**



- Scenario 1: Customer Account Statement
  - Potentially complex form where only SAPscript offers preconfigured version
  - Consider SAPscript start with preconfigured form
- Scenario 2: Invoice
  - On Web AS 6.40 or higher: Consider Joint Adobe/SAP Solution
  - Otherwise, consider Smart Forms start with preconfigured form
- Scenario 3: Personnel Change Request Form
  - On Web AS 6.40 or higher: Consider Joint Adobe/SAP Solution
  - Otherwise, consider Smart Forms Web form (e.g. in BSP)



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### **Upgrading Existing Forms**



- Path: SAPscript Smart Forms Joint Adobe/SAP Solution
  - Basic SAPscript to Smart Forms conversion tool
  - Semi-automatic wizard from Smart Forms into Adobe/SAP Solution
  - Interface definition (Forms Context) from Smart Forms can be reused with new Adobe/SAP Solution
- Factors to Consider:
  - Typical form lifespan (3 to 8 years)
  - No 'loss-less' conversion
- The Bottom Line:
  - Convert only with good reason and support
  - Use structured approach
    - e.g. our 'SAPscript to Smart Forms Conversion Methodology' presented with SAP Labs at 2003 ASUG Annual Conference







### "Our Age of Anxiety is, in great part, the result of trying to do today's jobs with yesterday's tools."

- Marshall McLuhan





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### Summarv



- Learn the differences among the various form tools
- A 'hybrid' approach is fine!
- For new forms, use the most advanced tool available which fits your needs and implementation timeframe
- Protect your investment in existing forms by upgrading judiciously



### **Further Information**



### Public Web:

Preconfigured Forms: <a href="http://service.sap.com/smartforms">http://service.sap.com/smartforms</a> (-> Preconfigured Smart Forms)

SAP Service Marketplace: <a href="http://service.sap.com/adobe">http://service.sap.com/adobe</a>

Adobe/SAP Partnership: <a href="http://www.adobe.com/sap">http://www.adobe.com/sap</a>

MHS Systems Consulting, Inc.: <a href="http://www.mhs-sys.com">http://www.mhs-sys.com</a>

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### Further related Presentations at ASUG

Using Electronic Forms to Streamline HR Business Processes (1902)

Using Adobe Interactive Forms: Part 1 – Business Overview and Usage Scenarios (708A); and 2 – Technical Overview and Demonstration (708B)

Adobe Partner Booth #2443

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### Q&A



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Thank you for participating.

Please remember to complete and return your evaluation form following this session.



Session Code:

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