Changes and Enhancements

SAS Software in UNIX Environments

This section describes the features of SAS software under UNIX that have been implemented or changed since Release 6.12. Changes described here are either unique to UNIX environments or are implemented differently under UNIX than in other operating environments.

Windowing Environment

The windowing environment of the graphical interface for Version 7 runs only on terminals that support the Motif style of the X Window System. The ASCII interface for character-based terminals is no longer supported. (Line mode does not require Motif and is still supported.)

Note: Interactive line mode is still available △

X Resources

- You can now specify more resources, such as **SAS.startSessionManager**, **SAS.wsaveAllExit**, **SAS.awsResizePolicy**, and **SAS.isToolBoxPersistent**, through the Preferences dialog.

  V8 The Preferences dialog in Version 8 has an additional tab, Results, that allows you to set options that control the SAS Output Delivery System.

- In Release 6.12, you could use the Resource Helper (reshelper) to customize colors, keys, and fonts. In Version 7, you use the Font dialog to customize your fonts. However, you can still use reshelper to customize colors and keys.

- The following resources are new:

  SAS.autoSaveInterval
  specifies how often that the data in the text editor windows should be saved.

SAS.autoSaveOn
specifies whether you want SAS to automatically save the documents that you currently have open.

SAS.helpBrowser
specifies the name of the Web browser that you want to use to view SAS System help.

SAS.wsaveAllExit
specifies whether you want SAS to execute the **WSAVE ALL** command when you exit your SAS session.

- V8 In Version 8, the following resources are new:

  SAS.autoComplete
  specifies whether SAS automatically fills in the remaining letters of a command when you start to type a command in the command window that begins with the same letter as a command that you have entered previously.

  SAS.commandsSaved
  specifies whether SAS saves the commands that you enter in the command window into a file in your SASUSER directory.

  SAS.htmlUsePassword
  specifies whether SAS prompts you to enter your password before sending HTML files to your browser.

  SAS.resultsAutoNavigate
  specifies whether SAS automatically displays results files when they are generated.

  SAS.resultsHTML
  specifies whether the ODS HTML destination is open or closed.

  SAS.resultsHTMLStyle
  specifies the style definition to use for HTML output.

  SAS.resultsListing
  specifies whether the ODS Listing destination is open or closed.

  SAS.resultsTmpDir
  specifies the destination for HTML files.

  SAS.resultsUseWork
  specifies whether SAS should use your WORK directory as the destination for your HTML files.

- The following resource is obsolete:

  SAS.pmenuOff

Using SAS Files and External Files

- UNIX operating systems now support files larger than two gigabytes. Therefore, SAS support for partitioned data sets is no longer needed and has been dropped from SAS software. See Appendix 3, “Combining Partitioned Data Sets,” on page 323 for more information.
- You can use UNIX wildcard characters to specify pathnames in the FILENAME, INFILE, and %INCLUDE statements and the INCLUDE command. See “Using Wildcards in Pathnames (Input Only)” on page 105 for more information.

- V8 In Version 8, you can specify the FILELOCKS option in the LIBNAME statement. This library option allows you to control file locking on a per-library basis.

Macro Facility

V8 The SYSMAXLONG automatic macro variable returns the maximum long integer value that is allowed under your operating environment.

Functions and CALL Routines

- The following functions are new:

  DINFO
  returns information about a directory.

  DOPTNAME
  returns directory-attribute information.

  DOPTNUM
  returns the number of information items that are available for a directory.

  FDELETE
  deletes an external file.

  FEXIST
  verifies the existence of an external file by its fileref and returns a value.

  FILEEXIST
  verifies the existence of an external file by its physical name and returns a value.

  FILENAME
  assigns or deassigns a fileref for an external file, directory, or output device and returns a value.

  FILEREF
  verifies that a fileref has been assigned for the current SAS session and returns a value.

  FINFO
  returns the value of a file information item.

  FOPTNAME
  returns the name of an item of information about a file.

  FOPTNUM
  returns the number of information items available about a file.

  LIBNAME
  assigns or deassigns a libref for a SAS data library and returns a value.

  MOPEN
  opens a file by directory ID and by member name and returns either the file identifier or a zero (0).

PATHNAME
returns the physical name of a SAS data library or of an external file or returns a blank.

- The following function and CALL routine are now obsolete:

  HOSTHELP

  CALL SOUND

Statements

V8 Version 8 provides two statements that you can use to run asynchronous tasks:

SYSTASK
allows you to execute asychronously operating environment commands from within your SAS session.

WAITFOR
suspends the execution of the current SAS session until the asychronous task that you specify has finished executing or until a specified time interval has passed.

System Options

- The following SAS system options are new:

  MSGCASE
  determines whether SAS displays notes, warnings, and error messages in uppercase.

  V8 BLKSIZE=
  specifies the default block size for SAS data libraries.

  V8 SORTANOM=
  specifies certain options for the host sort utility.

  V8 SORTPARM=
  specifies parameters for the host sort utility.
- The following system options have been renamed:
  - SASMSG= has been renamed to MSG=.
  - REMOTE= has been renamed to CONNECTREMOTE=.
- The following system options are obsolete:

  FSDEVICE=

  HELPENV=

  LARGEFILE

  PARTSIZE=

  SAMPLOC=

  SITEINFO=

  VECTOR

XWAIT=

- The following system options were portable in previous versions of SAS software but are now host options:

  ALTLOG=

  ALTPRINT=

  AUTOEXEC=

  COMAMID=

  CONFIG=

  DBCS

  DBCSLANG=

  DBCSTYPE=

  FULLSTIMER

  LOG=

  MSG=

  OPLIST

  PRINT=

  PROCLEAVE=

  SORTPGM=

  STIMER

  SYSIN=

  SYSLEAVE=

  VERBOSE

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