



# Sage Accpac ERP Newsletter

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## The Future of the Web is Now

### A Look at "SData" for Sage ERP Accpac Version 6.0

With the release of [Sage ERP Accpac Version 6](#), Sage revamped the technical "guts" of your Accpac system and implemented a new web services protocol named Sage Data ... or "SData" for short. While SData may not evoke the oohhss and aaahss that some of the other cool new features are getting, SData is quietly one of the most significant changes to Sage ERP Accpac in many years. SData is the future of the web, and it's here now in Sage Accpac Version 6 so let's take a closer look.

#### What is It?

SData is a technology protocol based on the same standards used by major web-based companies like Google, Yahoo, and Amazon. SData is significant because it defines a set of standards for web-based applications to integrate and synchronize with each other. That means everything you use to run your business, whether it's a Sage product or some other industry-specific or third party application, will **talk the same language**, share data, and synchronize with each other. It's important to note that SData also makes it easier to push data out to your mobile device so that you have access to Sage Accpac (or any other Sage product like HR, Fixed Assets, or CRM) anywhere and anytime.

#### SData and Microsoft Office

Here are just a couple of very simple examples of how SData provides a bridge between your business information and the Microsoft Office productivity tools you probably use everyday. We all know that Excel is a widely-used business tool. But you need to get the data into Excel before you can slice, dice and analyze ... and that's where SData comes in. Using the SData standard, you can pull information from accounting, operations, CRM, and HR straight into Excel and analyze data from across your entire business. In fact, you can [download the Excel Add-in](#) and try it for yourself. You'll find other useful tools and plug-ins at [http://sdata.sage.com/sdatacore\\_showcases.html](http://sdata.sage.com/sdatacore_showcases.html).

#### SData On the Go

As we've mentioned, SData also simplifies mobile access to your business data (with full security of course!). Let's say you're a salesperson onsite with a customer and you want to review the details of the products supplied by your company. You can break out your laptop, mobile device, or iPhone, type a URL into your browser, and the details are retrieved from your company's Accpac inventory and accounting system.

**GIVE IT A TRY** - If you're running Internet Explorer 7, you can try this for yourself by simply clicking on this URL: <https://interop.sage.com/sdata/accounts50/SDO/-/Products>. You'll be directed to a live copy of Sage Accounts 50 hosted on the web. The Login is **MANAGER** with **no password**.

You can interact with the information because it's **live data** coming from the accounting system. You can also replace ".../Products" at the end of the URL with ".../Customers" and ".../Salesorders" to see other live examples of SData at work.

#### The Future is Now

Hopefully you're starting to see just how significant SData is going to be to the future of your Sage ERP Accpac system. You'll find a wealth of additional information at <http://sdata.sage.com>.

# 3 Reasons You'll Love Accpac Intelligence

If you're running an older version of Sage ERP Accpac, you probably haven't had an opportunity to get your hands dirty with Sage Accpac Intelligence (SAI). If that's the case, you're really missing out on one of the best reporting tools that Accpac has ever offered. In fact, here are 3 reasons we think you'll love the new SAI reporting tool.

## 1. More Than a One-Trick Pony

First and foremost, Sage Accpac Intelligence is so much more than just a financial reporter that's pulling data only from your General Ledger. SAI looks across your entire Sage Accpac database to report on information in **any module**. For example, a single report can display information from multiple companies and across operational areas like sales, accounting, payroll, manufacturing and inventory. Now THAT'S well-rounded talent.

## 2. A Familiar Face



Sage Accpac Intelligence is an Excel-based reporting tool. With millions of customers worldwide using Excel, it's likely that you're already familiar with this indispensable business tool. That means your learning curve will be short and a world of analytical tools will be at your finger tips using Excel formulas, pivot tables, and charting tools. In fact, all of the SAI reporting output goes straight into Excel so you can add rows and columns, combine operational data from other sources, and slice, dice, and analyze to your heart's content.

## 3. Good Looking AND Intelligent

With a variety of pre-formatted reports, Sage Accpac Intelligence is a real "looker." All that raw data in your Accpac system is converted into graphs, charts, and dashboards

that make it easy to spot trends and identify emerging opportunity. Bite-sized pieces of visual data combined into one view that's worth far more than a thousand words. Perhaps more important, underneath that pretty face lies a powerful business intelligence engine which means you can slice, dice, filter, and analyze, to your heart's content ... all without the need for technical assistance from the "IT Guy."

## So What Are You Waiting For?

Want to see what you're missing? Take a look at SAI in action on YouTube with the [Sage Accpac Intelligence Report Manager overview](#).



Or [contact us](#) for a PDF copy of **Sage Accpac Intelligence Tips and Tricks**. This 42-page eBook is loaded with tips for speedy navigation, automatic report distribution, report scheduling, and more.

## Accpac Version 5.4 Retirement

An important notice has been issued by Sage that support for Sage ERP Accpac Version 5.4 will be discontinued as of **April 1, 2011**.

Please be sure to contact us with your questions about the Sage version support policy or if you'd like assistance with an upgrade to the current Accpac Version 6.

You can also learn more about Sage ERP Accpac Version 6.0 at [www.sageaccpac.com/version6](http://www.sageaccpac.com/version6).

"THE #1 SAGE ACCPAC ERP PROVIDER IN BOTH THE U.S. AND CANADA"

**CONTACT US ...**

**CORPORATE OFFICES IN:** Exton, PA and Miami, FL | (866) 408-0800 | [info@adssglobal.net](mailto:info@adssglobal.net) | [www.ADSSGlobal.net](http://www.ADSSGlobal.net)

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## SageCRM Now Available on Your iPhone

That's right! SageCRM, part of the Sage ERP Accpac Extended Enterprise Suite, is joining the legion of iPhone "apps." SageCRM alone can extend the power of your Sage Accpac solution with features that connect your front and back office, synchronize data, and allow real-time visibility into inventory and customer info.

Except now, you can do all that with the ease and mobility of an iPhone.

### Native iPhone Features

SageCRM for iPhone takes advantage of native iPhone capabilities like the date spinner and the accelerometer, which senses when the phone is turned on its side and automatically shifts the display to landscape mode. That way, you'll get a birds-eye view of all the sales opportunities in your pipeline, and then use the 'click-to-dial' feature when you're ready to close that deal.

### Customer Service In Your Pocket

Extending CRM functionality to sales people, executives, and other company personnel on the move helps them do their jobs more accurately and efficiently.

Increasingly, business today is conducted on tablets, Smartphones, and other mobile devices that have quickly become the tools of choice for most business professionals. As adoption grows, features advance, and prices drop, mobile technology like SageCRM for iPhone has transitioned from an optional "nice to have" capability to a critical business productivity tool and competitive advantage.

### Staying Productive Online or Off

With SageCRM for iPhone, even your downtime is productive. That's because your CRM data can be stored locally on your iPhone, allowing you to work online or off—no need to be connected to the SageCRM server. Just synchronize later and you're good to go.

### Get it Now ... What Are You Waiting For?

Equipped with all the existing SageCRM mobile functionality, SageCRM for iPhone (beta) is available for FREE download free from the [Apps and Extras section](#) of the [SageCRM Online Community](#).

### Seeing is Believing

Click below to see SageCRM for iPhone in action!



**Questions?** Contact us to learn more about SageCRM - an important component of the Accpac Extended Enterprise Suite.