

## Session Recap

**Session Topic:** SAS® Visual Analytics Designer  
**Session Date:** 03Nov2014  
**Recording:** <http://support.sas.com/training/us/lw/lwrecord.hsql?date=03Nov14&ccode=19884>  
*Due to technical difficulties, the recording did not capture the complete session.*

This session recap includes the Q&A from the session. Additional information and links to more detailed content are included.

Don't forget to [register](#) for additional Ask the Expert: SAS Visual Analytics sessions.

SAS Visual Analytics Toolkit

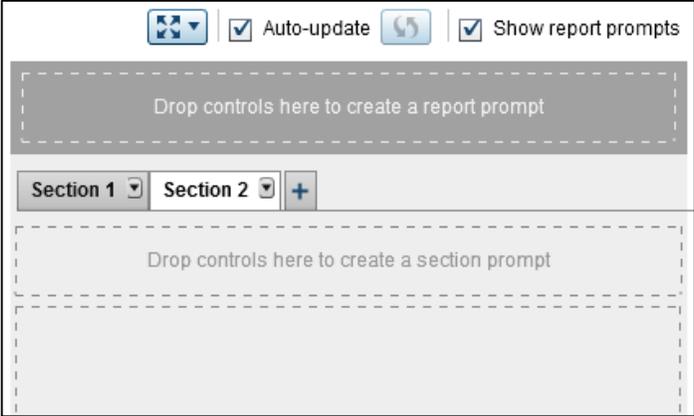


- [Product Overview](#)
- [Getting Started Resources](#)
- [Try the software yourself](#)
- [Community](#)
- [Free Video Tutorials](#)
- [Documentation](#)
- [Training](#)

<b>Question:</b>	What is the easiest way to convert a BI Dashboard or Web Report Studio report into a Visual Analytics Report that looks like a Dashboard?	
<b>Answer:</b>	There is not a conversion process. New reporting graphs are being added with every release. With 7.1, there are hidden graphs. To see all of the available hidden graphs, select the <b>Objects</b> tab. There is a drop-down arrow that you can select. It then provides the option to "Show or Hide Objects." When you select that, you will see a list of new graphs that can be added to the display.	
<b>Additional Information:</b>		
 <b>Online Documentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">SAS® Visual Analytics 7.1 User's Guide</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Creating and Working with Reports</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Show or Hide a Report Object</a></li> </ul>	 <b>Videos</b>	 <b>Technical Papers</b>

<b>Question:</b>	<i>In the other Business Intelligence products that generate SQL code, you could add valid SQL CASE statement for logic. Is that supported in Visual Analytics?</i>	
<b>Answer:</b>	CASE statement logic is supported only in SAS code. In Designer, there are LASR Queries that are generated. The good part here is that there is an interface for creating your own IF-THEN/ELSE logic. When you create a new calculated item, you have the ability to choose operators. The Boolean operators provide an option for putting together IF-THEN/ELSE expressions	
<b>Additional Information:</b>		
 <b>Online Documentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">SAS® Visual Analytics 7.1 User's Guide</a></li> </ul>	 <b>Videos</b>	 <b>Technical Papers</b>

<b>Question:</b>	<i>I heard that parameters are something new to Visual Analytics 7.1. How can that be beneficial?</i>	
<b>Answer:</b>	<p>Parameters are similar to macros in that they store a value. During the session, we talked about four examples where parameters can be useful.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create an OR between two prompts. You can do that by adding a parameter to each of the prompts. Then in the list table, add a filter expression where you can say if value = parameter1 or value = parameter2.</li> <li>2. Display Rules: Create a single selection slider that has a parameter. Then use that parameter to set a display rule on the table.</li> <li>3. Contains Operator. You can use a parameter to simulate using a text input object that will subset the list table based on any character that you type into the text input. For example, if you type in "b" for Make, then the List Table object can be subset such that any car that contains a 'b' is displayed. By default, in Visual Analytics you don't have this capability because a text input is based on the starting value of the string. So to accomplish this, you have to add a filter to the List Object that uses the Contains operator on the Parameter that is passed in from the Text Input.</li> <li>4. Rank: Create another text input object and assign only a parameter. Then on the List Table object, select <b>Rank</b>. You can then select <b>TOP n</b> to display. However, instead of <b>n</b>, you can enter the parameter name from the text input.</li> </ol>	
<b>Additional Information:</b>		
 <b>Online Documentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">SAS® Visual Analytics 7.1 User's Guide</a></li> </ul>	 <b>Videos</b>	 <b>Technical Papers</b>

<b>Question:</b>	<i>How can I get a filter on section 1 to filter all of the other sections also?</i>	
<b>Answer:</b>	In Visual Analytics 7.1, there is a new area at the top of a report where you can add a Report Prompt. Report Prompts are prompts that are global and effect the entire report.	
<b>Additional Information:</b>		
 <b>Online Documentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">SAS® Visual Analytics 7.1 User's Guide</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Using Controls</a></li> </ul>	 <b>Videos</b>	 <b>Technical Papers</b>

<b>Question:</b>	<i>My GEO Region map is not showing any information. My country Region is in the form of three-letter country codes like USA or AUS. Can you tell me why?</i>	
<b>Answer:</b>	Three-letter country codes are not one of the out-of-the-box support formats. The user's guide provides examples of the valid forms that a country code can be in.	
<b>Additional Information:</b>		
 <b>Online Documentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">SAS® Visual Analytics 7.1 User's Guide</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Geographical Lookup Values</a></li> </ul>	 <b>Videos</b>	 <b>Technical Papers</b>

<b>Question:</b>	<i>How do you use prompts in a stored process with a Designer Report?</i>	
<b>Answer:</b>	Prompts are supported in Visual Analytics. It is a little tricky in finding where the prompts button is. In Visual Analytics 7.1, there is a button on the Right pane that says "Edit Prompts." You only see this button if you have the stored process highlighted. Also, if you select <b>Enable selection in the viewers</b> , then when viewing the report in the Viewer, you can select the border of the stored process and select the icon at the top of the stored process and change the prompt values.	
<b>Additional Information:</b>		
 <b>Online Documentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">SAS® Visual Analytics 7.1 User's Guide</a></li> </ul>	 <b>Videos</b>	 <b>Technical Papers</b>

**Question:** *How has printing changed in Visual Analytics 7.1? I know it was pre-production in 6.4.*

**Answer:** Printing had been redesigned in 7.1 and is now officially production. One highlight is that it prints only a snapshot of the data. Typically, what you are viewing on the screen is what you will see. Also, prompts are not displayed at the top of the report. Any filtering that is done is displayed in the form of an appendix at the bottom of the report.

**Additional Information:**

The screenshot shows the 'Print to PDF' dialog box. On the left, there are settings for Paper size (Letter (8.5 x 11 in)), Orientation (Portrait and Landscape), Options (Show appendix information, Show page numbers), and Margins (Units: in, Top: 0, Left: 0, Bottom: 0, Right: 0). On the right, under 'Select the items to be printed:', there is a tree view with the following items checked: Sales Report - North America (with sub-items: Sales by City (non US), Instructions, Pie Chart 1, Bar Chart 1), Marketing and Sales Rep Analysis (with sub-items: Instructions, Bubble Plot 1, Sales Rep Actual/Target), Sales Rep Detail by Month (with sub-item: Crosstab 1), and Marketing by Product (with sub-item: Crosstab 2). 'Print' and 'Cancel' buttons are at the bottom right.

**Online Documentation**

- [SAS® Visual Analytics 7.1 User's Guide](#)
- [Printing a Report](#)

**Videos**

**Technical Papers**

**Question:** *What is a container prompt used for?*

**Answer:** A container prompt is used to save real estate on the screen. With a container prompt, you can add multiple prompts. The container can be expanded and minimized whenever needed.

**Additional Information:**

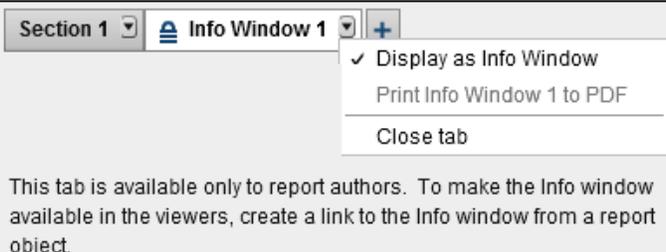
The screenshot shows a 'Prompts' container in the SAS Visual Analytics interface. The container is expanded to show two prompts: 'Facility Continent' and 'Product Sale'. The 'Facility Continent' prompt displays a list of countries with their sales figures: Argentina (6,458), Brazil (47,660), Canada (84,477), Chile (30,302), Colombia (24,089), Mexico (71,836), Peru (38,871), United States (2,545,691), and Venezuela (39,539). The 'Product Sale' prompt displays a line chart showing sales from 2002 to 2012 and a pie chart showing sales by country: Brazil, Chile, and Mexico.

**Online Documentation**

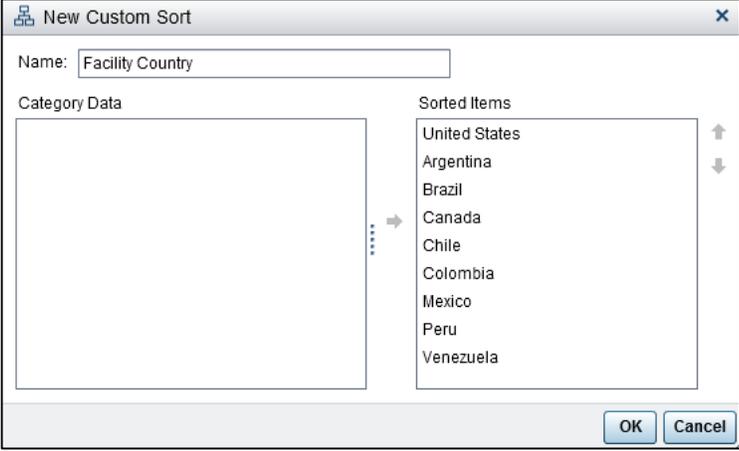
- [SAS® Visual Analytics 7.1 User's Guide](#)
- [Using Container Object Types in Reports](#)

**Videos**

**Technical Papers**

<b>Question:</b>	<i>I heard that you can hide a section. How do you do that?</i>	
<b>Answer:</b>	An Info Window is another new feature in Visual Analytics 7.1. When you create a new section in Visual Analytics 7.1, you can select a drop-down arrow on the section “Display as Info Window”. This adds a lock to the window and essentially hides it. Most folks will use it to link to more detail data from a parent section. You could also use it to hide a section that is not ready for production.	
<b>Additional Information:</b>		
 <b>Online Documentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">SAS® Visual Analytics 7.1 User's Guide</a></li> </ul>	 <b>Videos</b>	 <b>Technical Papers</b>

<b>Question:</b>	<i>Any other new filters in 7.1?</i>	
<b>Answer:</b>	There are post aggregate filters in Visual Analytics 7.1. For a List table, you can create a filter. An additional filter selection is “Filter aggregate values”. This enables you to create a filter on the aggregated value instead of the detail value.	
<b>Additional Information:</b>		
 <b>Online Documentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">SAS® Visual Analytics 7.1 User's Guide</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Working with Filters</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Using Post-Aggregate Filters</a></li> </ul>	 <b>Videos</b>	 <b>Technical Papers</b>

<b>Question:</b>	<i>I heard that in Visual Analytics 7.1 you can now have a custom sort. How does that work?</i>	
<b>Answer:</b>	With a custom sort, you select the <b>Data</b> tab and right-click the data item that you want the custom sort on. You can then select <b>New Custom Sort</b> . You have the ability to sort 25 data items in a custom sort.	
<b>Additional Information:</b>		
 <b>Online Documentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">SAS® Visual Analytics 7.1 User's Guide</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Using a Custom Sort</a></li> </ul>	 <b>Videos</b>	 <b>Technical Papers</b>

If you have any questions, please contact:

SAS Education Customer Service  
1-800-333-7660  
[training@sas.com](mailto:training@sas.com)