Natural SPoD Frequently Asked Questions

This chapter contains frequently asked questions regarding Natural Single Point of Development. Where applicable, reference will be made to relevant problem descriptions/solutions that are maintained in Software AG's Support Information System SAGSIS.

- Which versions of Natural and the related products are required to use the full set of functionality?

- Can Natural objects of previous versions be used in a SPoD environment?

- Do I need Predict?

- Can I use Predict Case in a SPoD environment?

- Can I use Natural Construct in a SPoD environment?

- Can I use Predict Application Control in a SPoD environment?

- What is the difference between the SPoD application concept and the earlier application shell concept in Natural for Windows?

Which versions of Natural and the related products are required to use the full set of functionality?

For creating and operating a Natural remote development environment, or for using additional SPoD functionality, the products as described under
http://documentation.softwareag.com/natural/spod_prereq/prereq.htm are required.

Can Natural objects of previous versions be used in a SPoD environment?

Yes, Natural objects of previous versions can be used in a SPoD environment without migration.

Do I need Predict?

No, although the SPoD approach requires a Development Server File which is a central Natural system file structured like the FDIC file. This does not mean that Predict is a prerequisite for remote development, although Predict supports the SPoD application concept. Predict is needed to use the XRef functionality, the object description and/or the schema generation functionality.

Can I use Predict Case in a SPoD environment?

Predict Case (PCA) will not be integrated into the SPoD concept. It can be invoked like any other mainframe Natural application via the terminal emulation feature of the remote development environment. However, Predict Case objects will not appear in the remote development tree view.

Can I use Natural Construct in a SPoD environment?

Yes. Natural Construct (CST) for Mainframes and for UNIX are integrated into the SPoD concept. It can be invoked using the Program generation plug-in.

Can I use Predict Application Control in a SPoD environment?

Predict Application Control (PAC) is not yet integrated into the SPoD concept. Currently, it can be invoked like any other mainframe Natural application via the terminal emulation feature of the remote development environment. However, PAC objects will not appear in the remote development tree view. A partial integration of PAC functionality is currently under consideration.

What is the difference between the SPoD application concept and the earlier application shell concept in Natural for Windows?

The earlier Natural application shell was used with the frame gallery for developing, administering, and monitoring application solutions. Together, they provided an infrastructure in which numerous standards were defined and were implemented in the form of reuseable components, such as dialogs and procedures.

The application concept introduced with Natural Single Point of Development is intended to address the structure of customer solutions so as to get a new logical view on the solution which is not limited by the boundaries of the Natural libraries.