

# Report Book Manager – Regression Test

MITIGATE OPERATIONAL RISKS AND REDUCE EXTERNAL REPORTING COSTS



The external reporting function has gained greater importance over recent years and has begun to play an increasingly prominent role in the daily operations of investment management organisations. External reports are the most common means for investment managers to communicate with their client base. It is therefore essential for an investment manager to generate external reports that are up-to-date and error-free.

The Regression Test tool enables investment managers to regularly check for any layout changes in external reports that may have happened as a result of system upgrades or other changes to the system environment. While most applications only test a sub-set of the report generation process, the Regression Test tool evaluates the end result, that is, on the external reports themselves, making most other tests obsolete. This solution enables users to more accurately check for errors before reports are distributed to clients.

## **BENEFITS**

- Avoids the costly effects of reputational damage resulting from errors in client reports, fund reports and financial reports
- Implements a more effective means of testing any unforeseen changes to the client report as a result of an upgrade or other changes to the system environment
- Minimises the risk of errors through pixel-by-pixel comparison of generated report books
- Is rapidly deployed, typically within a few days, enables organisations to quickly commence utilising the functionality and reaping the benefits

## **THE CHALLENGE**

Software and hardware suppliers provide frequent updates to their systems which include error corrections (patches), upgrades, as well as new functionality. Often suppliers recommend updating installations frequently and some even make updates mandatory in order to receive ongoing support. IT complexity has increased largely due to the growing number and capabilities of software and hardware applications now present at most investment management organisations. Despite applying a well-tested update from one supplier, there is no guarantee that the update will not affect other applications. It is therefore prudent, if not essential, to run regression tests before generating client reports following the updates.

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## THE SOLUTION

SimCorp Dimension's Regression Test solution automates the process of testing end-client reports after changes to the system environment or associated applications. The test results show a pixel-by-pixel comparison of report books from the before and after images and any changes to the report book, including colours, positioning, text, number or figure changes are captured by the Regression Test tool.

The Regression Test tool is an add-on to an existing SimCorp Dimension/Equipos Report Book installation. This solution requires no additional server, and installation takes no more than a few days to complete.

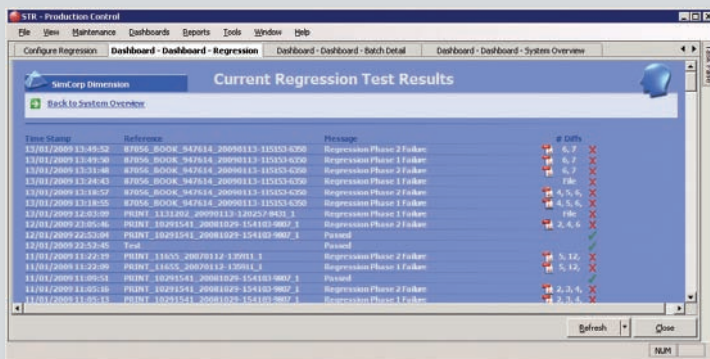
The Regression Test dashboard displays a list of executed reports highlighting those that were erroneously changed in the process. The dashboard can also display the exact page that contains differences. The functionality can even be set up to re-run historical reports checking that no changes have been made since they were originally produced.

Examples of updates that can be tested with the Regression Test tool:

- SimCorp Dimension patches and upgrades
- Any changes to the usage of SimCorp Dimension
- Equipos patches and upgrades
- Windows updates and upgrades
- Printer driver updates
- Updates from third parties
- Hardware changes

Note:

*This is an add-on module to the SimCorp Dimension and Equipos Report Book Manager and Client Reporting functionality.*



Time Stamp	Reference	Message	Result
13/01/2009 13:49:42	R7055_BOOK_947614_20090113_115353-6290	Regression Phase 2 Failed	6, 7
13/01/2009 13:49:50	R7056_BOOK_947614_20090113_115353-6290	Regression Phase 1 Failed	6, 7
13/01/2009 13:51:08	R7056_BOOK_947614_20090113_115353-6290	Regression Phase 2 Failed	6, 7
13/01/2009 13:54:43	R7056_BOOK_947614_20090113_115353-6290	Regression Phase 1 Failed	1, 6
13/01/2009 13:58:57	R7056_BOOK_947614_20090113_115353-6290	Regression Phase 2 Failed	4, 5, 6
13/01/2009 13:58:55	R7056_BOOK_947614_20090113_115353-6290	Regression Phase 1 Failed	4, 5, 6
13/01/2009 13:59:00	PRINT_11531204_20090113-154103-9807_1	Regression Phase 1 Failed	1, 6
13/01/2009 13:59:06	PRINT_10291541_20081029-154103-9807_1	Regression Phase 2 Failed	2, 4, 6
13/01/2009 13:59:09	PRINT_10291541_20081029-154103-9807_1	Passed	
13/01/2009 13:59:05	Test	Passed	
13/01/2009 13:59:19	PRINT_11655_20070312-130911_1	Regression Phase 2 Failed	5, 12
13/01/2009 13:59:20	PRINT_11655_20070312-130911_1	Regression Phase 1 Failed	5, 12
13/01/2009 13:59:31	PRINT_10291541_20081029-154103-9807_1	Passed	
13/01/2009 13:59:30	PRINT_10291541_20081029-154103-9807_1	Regression Phase 2 Failed	2, 3, 4
13/01/2009 13:59:33	PRINT_10291541_20081029-154103-9807_1	Regression Phase 1 Failed	2, 3, 4

The Regression Test Dashboard showing any differences in the executed reports