

Utilising Gold Client®

ERP
HR
BW
CRM
GTS
SRM

*Six compelling reasons for
utilising Gold Client
in an SAP® environment.*

**Gold Client offers a true alternative
to lengthy client copies and/or
costly database copies.**



Gold Client empowers Basis teams with a dynamic method for refreshing an existing client or creating a new client in the SAP environment. The process is a “build up” approach for constructing the desired client, starting with the base configuration and then loading all Master Data. Selective subsets of Transactional Data are then loaded using Gold Client’s Intelligent Data Transfer mechanism to create a minimal, yet adequate amount of historical Transactional Data for testing. This creates a streamlined client that looks, acts, feels, and works like Production. The resulting client is approximately 10% of the original Production client size. Therefore, a one (1) terabyte Production client would yield a 100GB Development, Sandbox, Test, or Training client utilising the Gold Client method.

**Improves change control processes
by providing developers and
configurators with a development
environment containing reliable
testing data.**

Oftentimes the main complaint from our customers is that the data in the Development environment is bad: outdated, inaccurate,



stale, and useless. The Development system is rarely copied from Production because version history and control is lost in a copy. The Gold Client software introduces a viable method for refreshing these Development clients. Also, since the footprint of the client created from Gold Client is manageable, a true Sandbox or Unit test client can be created within the existing Development system, thus preserving the version history. This dramatically improves the data quality in the Development system allowing developers and configurators the ability to once again conduct reliable Unit testing in the Development environment. Therefore, fewer transports will be moved since the Unit testing can occur before release of the transport. This also means fewer transports to fix problems created by other transports that could not be tested in Development. In effect, this moves the integration point away from Production and closer to Development, where it belongs.

**Systems will be used for their intended purposes.
Landscape integrity is restored.**

With “bad data” in the Development system, Developers and Configurators often creep into the Testing system to get their work done. By giving the Developers a system with data they can rely upon in Development, the Testing system can once again be reserved for testing efforts. Training systems are also often poached for various reasons. Again, a cleaner more reliable Development system can protect against this practice.

**Less physical storage required for support of
Non-Production systems.**

Most of our customers obtain the Return on Investment in physical storage or disk. The common feeling that “disk is cheap” is a myth. The cost to support multiple copies of a large Production system can be astounding. True, the actual disk drives themselves may be cheap in relation to some of the larger horsepower on the floor, but the cost really extends beyond the cost of the drives themselves. A complex RAID strategy alone can increase the actual amount of disk used to 2 or 3 to one. Cost of the physical frames, backup windows, tapes, increased wear and tear, probability of failure, and staff resources to support it all can drive the fully loaded cost up dramatically.

To better illustrate the savings in storage, let’s examine an SAP environment that is comprised of a common real world scenario that many companies experience today.

- A company supports a Production SAP system of 600GB plus:
- Development system – with unreliable data | 80GB
 - Two Testing systems – both full copies of Production | 1200GB
 - One Training system – a full copy but eighteen months stale; this system needs to be refreshed but disk space is running a bit low and what disk space they have is needed to support the growth of Production | 600GB

As the database copy practice is utilised, the Non-Production systems refreshed with a copy grow at the same rate as Production. With Production growth at a rate of 15GB per month, 45GB per month is required for the Non-Production systems. Gold Client fulfills a need at every angle of this landscape. With the utilisation of Gold Client, the Development system can now be rebuilt and introduce a sandbox client with real Production data and/or a Unit Testing client, even though this will most likely increase the disk requirements for Development. This is possible because the Training system and Testing systems, having clients created with Gold Client, require substantially less storage. Even in the case that a company has a need for one of the Testing systems to remain a full copy of Production, the environment requires considerably less storage savings. The new storage requirements after Gold Client are 150GB for Development, 100GB (with plenty of spare room) for one testing system, 600GB for a full copy testing system, and 150GB for the Training systems (allowing room for multiple clients). The end result disk savings is nearly a Terabyte (880GB).

Without Gold Client	With Gold Client
600 Gigabytes for Production	600 Gigabytes for Production
1880 Gigabytes (or 1.9 Terabyte) for All Non-Production	1000 Gigabytes (or 1.0 Terabyte) for All Non-Production
	Disk savings: 880 Gigabytes

This scenario factors an average SAP environment; many landscapes are more complex or have larger Production systems, which would yield even greater disk savings.



Standardisation of replicated data creates efficiencies.

When Gold Client moves data from a source to a target, the data is truly “cloned.” This means that the data is replicated in its exact form, including number range. Therefore, Master Data such as Materials, Customers, Vendors, etc., will match throughout the environment. Customer 12345 in Production will be 12345 in the clients generated by Gold Client. Transactional Data also remains the same. This not only makes Production support easier for the project staff, but it also creates synergies of testing scripts or automated testing solutions.

Gold Client may have a direct impact on Sarbanes-Oxley initiatives.

Replication of Production systems to less secure Non-Production systems, which are often accessed by outside consultants, creates a true SOX issue. With the ability to limit the data that is replicated into the new client and the ability to select specific subsets of data, Gold Client significantly helps to reduce the exposure to a Sarbanes-Oxley violation.



Gold Client Solutions Partner | **Australia**
www.trentiniconsulting.com



www.goldclient.com

SAP® Certified
Powered by SAP NetWeaver®

Gold Client Solutions are powered by
Hayes Technology Group, Inc.

