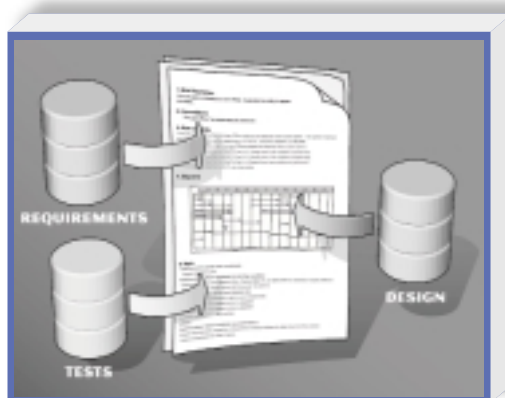# Rational SoDA

Communicating project information can be time consuming and difficult. Project lifecycle documentation and reports are often produced haphazardly, or are neglected altogether because of the effort and time involved in creating and maintaining them. Rational SoDA® overcomes these issues by automating the creation and maintenance of comprehensive project documentation and reports. Unlike manual methods, SoDA generates complete documentation more easily and with greater consistency by automatically extracting data from various project tool databases.

Familiar Interface for Easy Adoption

Rational SoDA leverages the industry's most popular publishing tools — Microsoft Word and Adobe FrameMaker+SGML — making adoption straightforward.

Rational SoDA for Word appears as an additional menu item in the Microsoft Word menu bar, while all of the familiar Word commands remain intact and available to format generated information. SoDA uses Microsoft Word to format the generated information and the user can then apply Word features to further format and elaborate upon the generated information as required.

Rational SoDA with Frame includes the Adobe publishing tool FrameMaker+SGML and is available for both Windows and UNIX platforms. SoDA with Frame leverages FrameMaker's powerful publishing capabilities to format and structure the generated information.

Extract Data from Multiple Sources

Producing documents that combine data from other project tools is easy with Rational SoDA. SoDA knows the data models of the tools you use and generates documents by extracting the requested data directly from the tools' data repositories. With this ability, you can now create comprehensive project documents, including complete status reports, requirements documents, use case specifications, design documents, test plans, etc.

Using the Rational SoDA interface, which presents the source data models to the user, a mapping between the document structure and the information source data is created in the SoDA template. All data accessible through the tool's API is available when building a SoDA template. SoDA then generates the document by extracting the requested data from the source tools.

Publish to the Web

Rational SoDA can automatically generate documents and reports in HTML format. Now all team members can easily access up-to-date SoDA documentation and reports via the Web. This is particularly useful for sharing documentation across teams that are geographically distributed or work in multiple-platform environments.

Templates: Standardize & Customize

A template-driven tool, Rational SoDA encourages the standardization of document types within a project or throughout a company. Document standardization can help achieve quality goals such as ISO, SEI CMM, and IEEE conformity. Plus, it eases communication and comprehension across the project team.

Rational SoDA provides an easy-to-use, intuitive graphical user interface on top of a WYSIWYG editor for creating document templates. SoDA templates contain document format information, such as structure and style, and specify source locations and elements of information to extract from other tool repositories.

▶ *Rational SoDA for Word generates documents by extracting data from your project tool databases.*

SPECIFICATIONS

Rational SoDA for Word

▶ **Hardware:** 100 MHz processor (200 MHz recommended); 64 MB RAM recommended

▶ **Operating System:** Microsoft Windows 95, 98 or NT 4.0

▶ **Disk Space:** 60 MB

▶ **Word Processor:** Microsoft Word 97, or 2000

Rational SoDA with Frame on Windows

▶ **Hardware:** 100 MHz processor (200 MHz recommended); 32 MB RAM (64 MB recommended)

▶ **Operating System:** Microsoft Windows 95, 98 or NT 4.0

▶ **Disk Space:** 100 MB

Rational SoDA with Frame on UNIX

▶ **Hardware:** 32 MB RAM (64 MB recommended); Sun Sparc or Ultra Sparc workstation, HP 9000 Series workstation, IBM RS/6000 or PPC workstation, or SGI Workstation

▶ **Operating System:** Solaris 2.5.1, 2.6, or 2.7, HP-UX 10.2 or 11.0, AIX 4.1.3 or 4.2, or IRIX 6.2, 6.3, 6.5

▶ **Disk Space:** 200 MB to 400 MB depending on installed components

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Rational SoDA Integrations

	Rational SoDA for Word	Rational SoDA with Frame				
Platform	WINDOWS	WINDOWS	SOLARIS	HP	AIX	SGI
Rational Apex	●	●	●	●	●	●
Rational ClearCase	●	●	●	●	●	●
Rational ClearQuest	●	●				
Rational RequisitePro	●	●				
Rational Rose	●	●	●	●	●	●
Rational Rose RealTime	●	●				
Rational TeamTest	●	●				
Rational TestMate			●	●	●	●
Adobe FrameMaker+SGML		●	●	●	●	●
Microsoft Word	●	●				
File System	●	●	●	●	●	●

Rational SoDA provides over 70 templates that support Rational tools and the Rational Unified Process,™ in addition to industry standard templates supporting MIL-STD-498, and DOD-STD-2167A. Furthermore, you can easily customize and create your own templates to comply with your project's standards. The template wizard in Rational SoDA for Word makes creation and maintenance of templates easy, saving valuable programming resources.

Regenerate Precise, Up-to-Date Documents Easily

For large, complex systems, software documents can range from hundreds to thousands of pages. The documents must be continuously updated as the software evolves to reflect changes. Rational SoDA makes regeneration very efficient by updating only the portions of the document or report that were affected by modifications to the software system. Supplemental information that was manually entered into a document is automatically maintained when the document is regenerated. SoDA protects your investment in the document preparation phase by preserving all manually entered data while keeping the document updated and consistent with all of its data sources.

When reviewing a document, you can navigate between a document section and the information source,* make or review changes in the information source, and then regenerate the section to reflect those modifications. This consistency ensures that the documentation precisely depicts the project status at all times, making Rational SoDA the ideal tool to support quality initiatives such as requirement and design reviews, code walkthroughs and test coverage.

Rational SoDA and Rational Suite: Unifying Software Teams

Because it is a project-wide documentation automation tool, Rational SoDA is part of the supporting foundation — the Team Unifying Platform — in all Rational Suite™ solutions. The Rational Suite family unifies individual members of the team into a productive, collaborative force by integrating market-leading tools into role-based suites. Rational Suite comes in five variants: Rational Suite AnalystStudio™, Rational Suite DevelopmentStudio, Rational Suite TestStudio™, Rational Suite PerformanceStudio® and Rational® Suite Enterprise.

Rational SoDA, like all Rational tools, is supported by an extensive worldwide service and support organization which offers a role-based education and training curriculum as well as a variety of implementation and technical support services.

What aspect of your project doesn't need to be documented? By making project documentation straightforward and comprehensive, Rational SoDA enables your team to document the whole project in an easy, non-obtrusive way.

* Not available with all integrations.