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software

# What is a Process Server? A Non-Technical Perspective

## Sage Accpac Process Server

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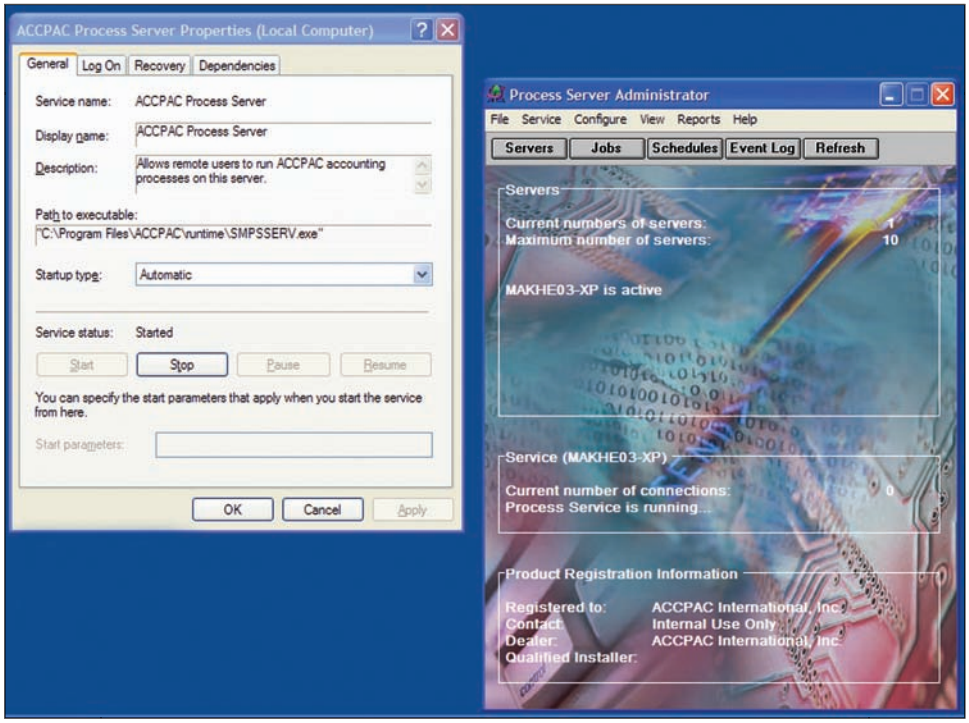
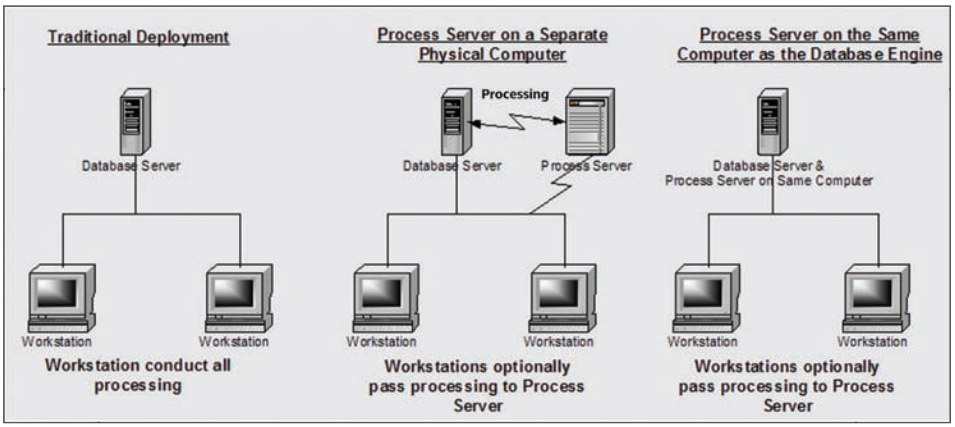
Sage Accpac Process Server gives you flexibility in handling posting, report generation, and other processing-intensive tasks.

Process Server offloads processing from your individual workstation onto other Microsoft Windows systems. Process Server runs as a service on these machines, and gives users the ability to send processing-intensive tasks from their computers to these machines. In most cases, the process server will be a computer dedicated solely to providing processing services to client computers. In addition to the benefits of centralized processing—better use of hardware resources, less demand for bandwidth across the network, and faster postings, to name a few—Process Server immediately frees client workstations to perform other tasks.

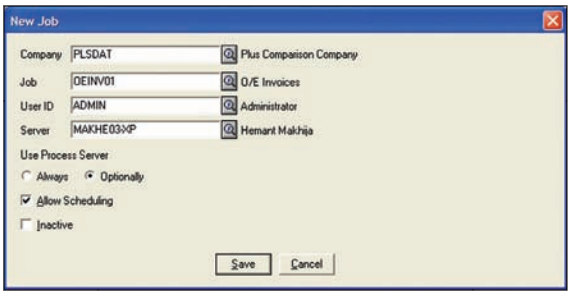
Examples of processes you might want to offload include batch posting, day-end processing, and Crystal Reports generation[1]. By taking advantage of the scheduling features available in Process Server, you can schedule system-intensive activities such as day-end processing, and AR/OE invoice runs for the middle of the night, when their execution will not impact users.



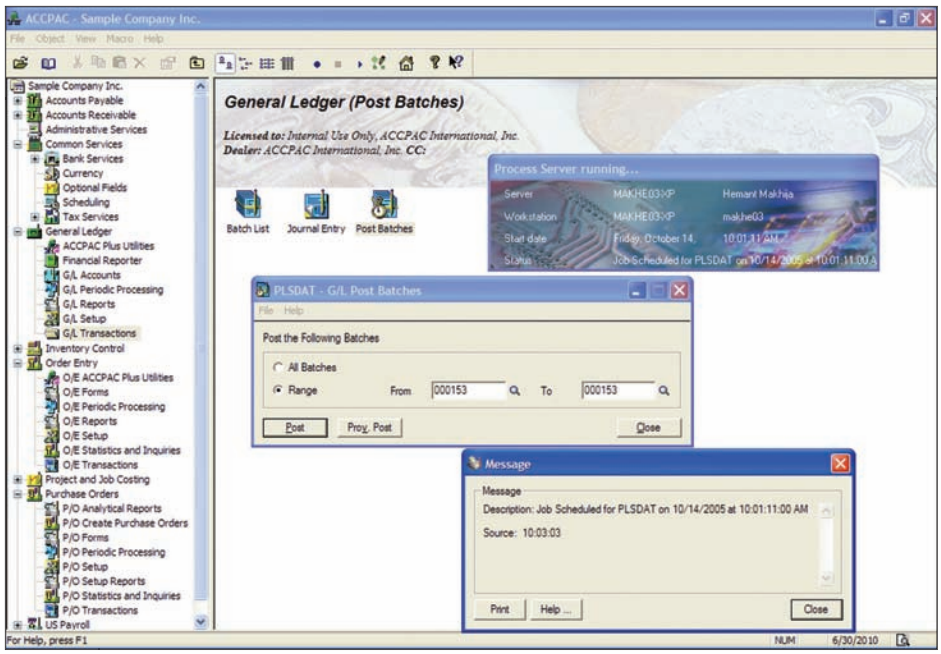

[1] Process Server can process "single-pass" reports. A single-pass report completes the entire execution of the report at once, unlike a "processed" report that first generates a temporary file, then creates the report from the data contained in the temporary file. Processed reports typically have a pre-processing front-end selection screen. Examples include reports with advanced filtering criteria such as Aged Trial Balance, Aged Payables, and Statements.




Sage Accpac Process Server is the ideal way to prevent network congestion from slowing down your Sage Accpac users. It also promotes efficient use of bandwidth by moving transaction-intensive processing to back-end servers. By passing the posting or report generation to your database server or another computer that is physically connected to your database server, you can eliminate the latency associated with most LANs used by Sage Accpac clients.

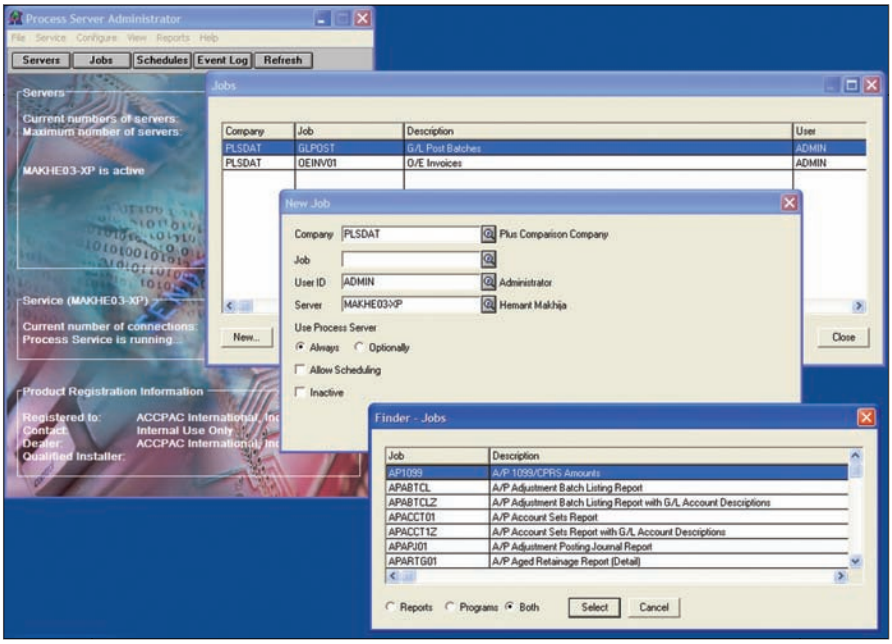



Process Server also allows you to share the resources of a powerful computer with many less powerful computers. For example, a high-speed CPU with a lot of memory and a high-speed network connection to your database server will offer a pool of mid-range workstations much faster processing (such as batch posting) than if each machine conducted its own processing. Process Server supports multiple companies, so a single installation can support all the companies installed at a client site.

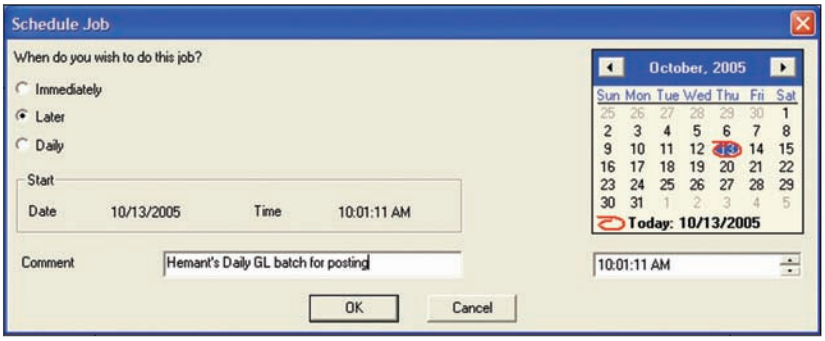



Process Server can be set up for specific companies, users, and functions within each module. Additionally, use of the process server can be "forced," or presented as an option when a user requests a function that is available to be offloaded. When a job is offloaded, an audit trail is maintained on the Process Server Administrator, and the user who scheduled the job receives notification that the task has been processed.

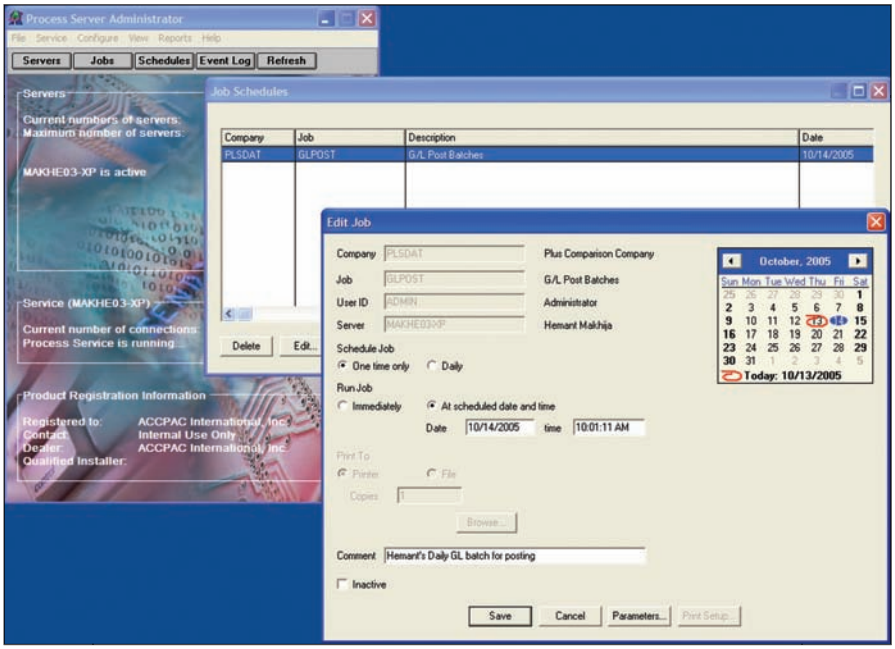
This page includes illustrations of some of Process Server's features.




Examples of reports and programs that Process Server can schedule




User interface for scheduling execution of Report/Object

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