

**Special points of interest:**

- ACL — More Than An Audit Tool
- Useful Tips on ACL
- ACL Survey Results
- ACL User Feature
- Training Promotions

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## ACL — More Than An Audit Tool

Since its inception in 1987, ACL has been primarily aimed at auditors, who could best make use of its powerful features. Although ACL was originally developed for auditing use, it has now evolved to a powerful analysis and reporting tool for many other corporate users. With its strong data analysis capabilities – analyse and report on virtually any data accessed from a mainframe, mini or personal computer – ACL for Windows is now used by many general corporate users who need to examine database information.

ACL is no longer just an audit tool. ACL provides business assurance that complements and completes business intelligence. ACL's whole solution gives organizations access to all their data and enables them to analyse, and independently validate data and transactions for integrity, in a fraction of the time once required. ACL's powerful

analytics and robust capabilities have enabled the world to achieve fast pay-back reduce risk, assure compliance, minimize loss, and enhance profitability, while making decisions with speed and confidence. With ACL, organizations can trust their data and see results like never before.

Based on a survey conducted in September 2002 — commissioned by Prodigy Data Solution Pte Ltd (see page 2 for graphical result). Apart from auditing function, many of the users apply ACL for other functions such as Fraud Detection, Data Quality Management, Cost Recovery, Corporate Governance and Risk Management and so forth.

Feedback from users indicated that there has been a lot of interest in using ACL from many different business units.

ACL — it's not just for audit anymore!

## Prodigy Data Solution — Your Total Business Solution Provider

Established in 2001, Prodigy Data Solution Pte Ltd is a Total Business Solution Provider based in Singapore. We provide scalable, high-volume data handling solutions and services

for any data inquiry, analysis, reporting and risk management needs.

Currently the sole authorised distributor for ACL for the Asia South region, we provide complete business solutions which include software, support, training & consulta-

tions and publications.

Prodigy Data Solution forms strategic alliances with internationally based risk management and consulting firms and internal audit service providers. This combination of resources enables us to provide innovative solutions, reduce risk and increase client satisfaction.





## ACL Tips of the Month

Steps for determining which Logical commands (i.e. CLASSIFY, NUMERIC or AGE) to use for summarisation of data fields:

1) Determine the KEY field based on your Business Objectives

2) Determine the Key field's TYPE; whether it's a:

- Character Field,
- Numeric Field, or
- Date Field

3) Reconcile the key field's TYPE:

- **Character**  
-> use CLASSIFY command
- **Numeric**  
-> use STRATIFY command (\*it is also good to perform PROFILE or STATISTICS command prior to running STRATIFY for the first time on the field)
- **Date**  
-> use AGE command

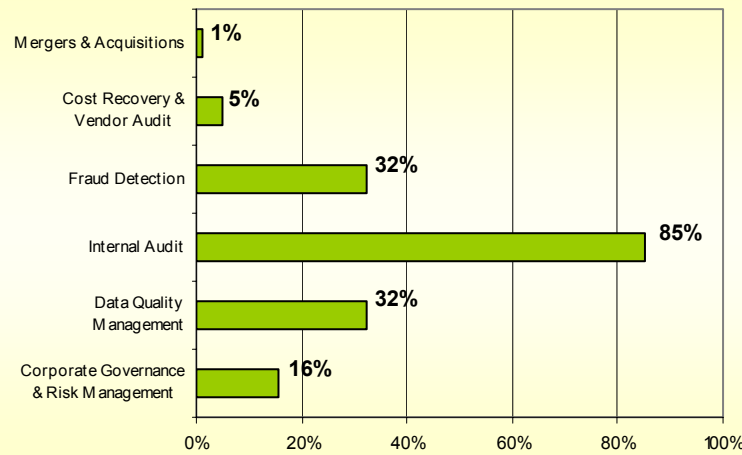
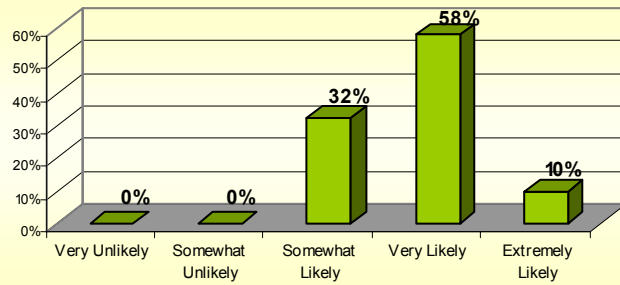
For example:

Business Objective: Identifying duplicate payments of salary in a Payroll Audit Assignment.

- 1) KEY field: EMPLOYEE\_ID
- 2) Key field's TYPE: Character
- 3) Logical Command: CLASSIFY

## A Glimpse of ACL User Survey Results

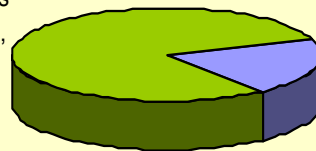
Likelihood to Recommend Associates to use ACL



The type of functions ACL users perform using ACL software

Competitive advantage of ACL in terms of Time and Cost Savings

Some to Tremendous Advantage, 80%

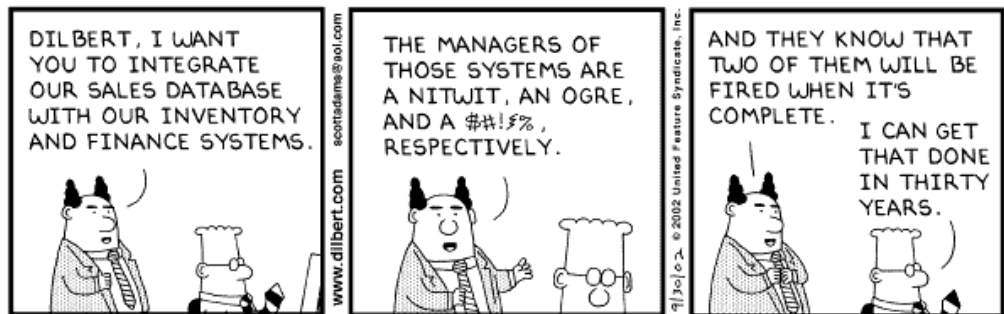


No Advantage, 0%

Little Advantage, 20%



## On A Lighter Side



## ACL — Bringing You To A Higher Level of Assurance

**Mr Abhay Phalke** is the Divisional Manager (Internal Audit) of **\*\*TATA Engineering**, in which ACL has been in use since 1980s. In-charge of the internal audit function at Telco's Pune Plant, Mr Phalke leads a multi-disciplinary team of 17 auditors for financial, operational, system and management audits.

Internal Auditors at TATA Engineering use both ACL for Windows and ACL Direct Link for SAP R/3 extensively throughout the company for analysis of data from Material Management, Finance, Costing, Production Planning to Sales & Distribution. Mr Phalke stated that ACL has enabled his group to achieve higher quality in less time.

"ACL has all the functionalities that an auditor would typically require which results in saving time while doing any analysis like summarizing, stratifying, setting relations between files, finding exceptions, locating duplicates etc. **ACL also make the impossible possible** as the desired analysis can be performed on large data files in a jiffy. We have used files which

contain upward of 1.5 million records. It has also made it easy to download data from SAP through Direct Link without having to redefine the input layout etc. and thus saving time. Repetitive tasks can be automated through use of batches and dialog boxes. Benford Analysis has become very simple as it can be done by a single command. Log files help in tracing any problem or errors in processing. As a result of all this, audit quality substantially improves because the entire data can be analysed instead of sampling. This gives a much higher level of assurance to the management."

"ACL is a good tool and helps in doing things which otherwise would have been manually impossible. It is also very easy to use. At the instance of the head of Internal Audit function in the Company, I have since played a lead role in extending the use of ACL in other Company locations at Jamshedpur, Lucknow and Mumbai" said Mr Phalke.

"Interestingly, before SAP-ERP platform was implemented in the company, the auditors in Jamshedpur Plant wrote all their audit

softwares directly in programming languages like "Pro\*C", "SQL/PLSQL" and "C". In the then legacy environment, these were preferred as they were found more productive and versatile with distinct edge over the available ACL version. However, after SAP came, the auditors lost the flexibility of writing their softwares in ABAP/4 due to security reasons and they perform fell back on ACL after the direct link was available. In the current environment, ACL with direct link provides the best option for downloading and analyzing data."

*\*\*TATA Engineering, one of India's largest private sector companies with a turnover of over Rs 80 billion, is the country's leading commercial vehicle manufacturer and has significant presence in the multi-utility and passenger car segments.*

**Mr Abhay Phalke** began using ACL in 1987, and was the first user in Asia and amongst the first few in the world. He has over 23 years of experience in using CAATTS and has been invited twice to speak at the ACL Asia User Conference



## ACL Training Promotions

### Malaysia Promotion

**Sign Up**

**At US\$650.00 Only**

ACL Introductory Course for  
October and November 2002

### Singapore/ Indonesia/ Thailand/ Philippines

**Sign Up**

ACL Introductory Course one month  
before commencement of training

**Enjoy 5%  
Discount**

**BONUS**

**Sign Up**

3 Participants at one time and  
enjoy additional 5% DISCOUNT

**Special Offer  
for Limited  
Period ONLY!**

Call (65) 62212810  
or email  
[info@prodigy.com.sg](mailto:info@prodigy.com.sg)  
for more information.  
Conditions apply.



Are you getting the most out of data analysis software? Prodigy Data Solution can help you acquire the skills you need to realize the full value of ACL

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ACL Tips
- Articles on  
Fraud Detection
- ACL User Case  
Study
- And many other  
useful industries  
information

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## Your Total Business Solution Provider

### Our mission...

With the mission to facilitate the success of our clients in business, Prodigy Data Solution is fully committed to assist our clients in adding value, making their team and business process more efficient.

### Our products and services...

**Products:** Prodigy Data Solution is a full service distributor for ACL Services. We are the sole authorized distributor for ACL software in the Asia South region. We provide complete business solutions which include software, support, training & consultations and publications.

**Services:** Prodigy Data Solution tailors services to the end customer. As the heart of our business, we make service a priority. We offer both scheduled and customised training, depending on our customer's end needs. Whatever our customers' requirement, Prodigy Data Solution's Training & Consulting team is able to offer planning, development, and implementation services tailored to individual organisation. Prodigy Data Solution understands that no customer is the same.

We also provide other services such as risk management consultancy, audit outsourcing, data: cleansing, access, reporting and database management. For a full list of Prodigy Data Solution's products and services, please contact [info@prodigy.com.sg](mailto:info@prodigy.com.sg).

## ACL Open Enrolment Training Schedule — Oct 02 to Jan 03

VENUE	COURSE NAME	YEAR	DATES
Singapore	Introductory	2002	November, 11-13
			December, 09-11
		2003	January, 13-15
	Intermediate Workshop	2002	December, 02-03
	Data Access	2003	January, 17
	Developing Applications	2002	November, 14-15
	Function	2002	December, 27
		2003	January, 16
	Refresher	2002	December, 26
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Introductory	2002	November, 05-07
			November, 19-21
			December, 03-05
		2003	January, 07-09
			January, 20-22
	Intermediate Workshop	2002	December, 12-13
	Data Access	2002	November, 22
	Developing Applications	2003	January, 23-24
	Functions	2003	January, 03
Refresher	2003	January, 10	
Indonesia	Introductory	2002	November, 25-27
		2003	January, 07--09
	Intermediate Workshop	2002	November, 28-29
Bangkok, Thailand	Introductory	2002	December, 16-18
	Intermediate Workshop	2002	December, 19-20
India	Introductory	2002	October, 29-31
		2003	January, 27-29
	Intermediate Workshop	2003	January, 30-31

For more information on trainings beyond February 2003, please call (65) 6221 2810 or email [info@prodigy.cmo.sg](mailto:info@prodigy.cmo.sg)