

ASAM-ODS improvements

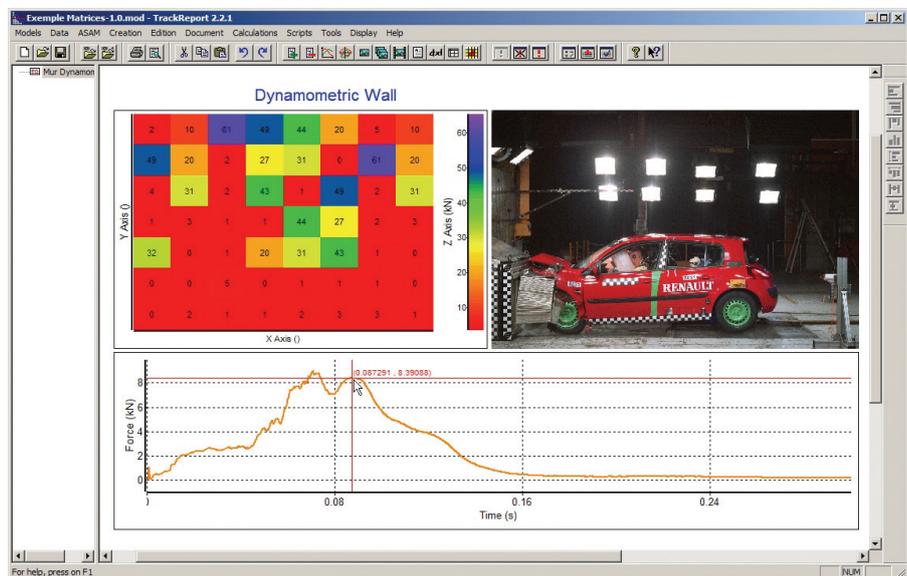
Data management just became easier, due to a new package for TrackReport/ASAM-ODS architectures that uses a common standard interface based on web services

■ As outsourcing becomes more popular in automotive testing, and test data volumes grow extensively, there has never been a greater need for test data standardization. Ensuring smooth communication between various test centers is essential, so engineers need tools that help them to control data, offer easy and efficient access, and provide search functionalities and archiving facilities.

Orme is a major provider of software tools for signal and image analysis, and has been involved in data management for many years. Its experience, as well as increasing customer interest in standards for data management, has led the company to choose and invest in the ASAM-ODS standard. Indeed, the company believes that ASAM-ODS is a standard that cannot be ignored in the automotive field, and increasingly in other fields.

For many years, Orme has been developing and continuously improving an ASAM-ODS Client for its well-known TrackReport automatic test report and signal analysis tool. Such a module enables TrackReport to understand and read data from databases with any ODS data model, as well as ATF files. It also enables quick, efficient, and fully configurable complex search requests through huge datasets.

But in such complex information technology (IT) architectures, involving many test centers, one quickly realizes that business requirements come up against IT constraints. This cannot be ignored, particularly in big companies, where networks are subjected to high security levels, norms, and strict protocol rules. And these rules are even stricter if servers have to be reached from external users, such as partners, suppliers, etc. Ask any IT manager for the preferred protocol he would like on his networks. He will certainly answer HTTP or HTTPS – and dream of web services.



The package uses a common standard interface based on web services to ensure effective communication

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Thus, Orme has developed a new package for TrackReport/ASAM-ODS architectures, using a very common standard interface based on web services. These web services ensure communication between client and server, translating classical CORBA or RPC messages of ASAM-ODS servers into SOAP-format messages, and handling transfers of data. This means that

only an HTTP/HTTPS protocol is required on the networks. On top of that, SOAP format is such an established standard that the use of this package appears very easy to handle using third-party tools, and it works very efficiently on a network.

By adding this new web service package to its catalog, Orme has expanded its offering, and reinforced its capability to build efficient data management systems in complex IT architectures. This completes the TrackReport and TrackImage crash-test analysis software suite, and makes Orme a major player in the passive safety area. ■

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