



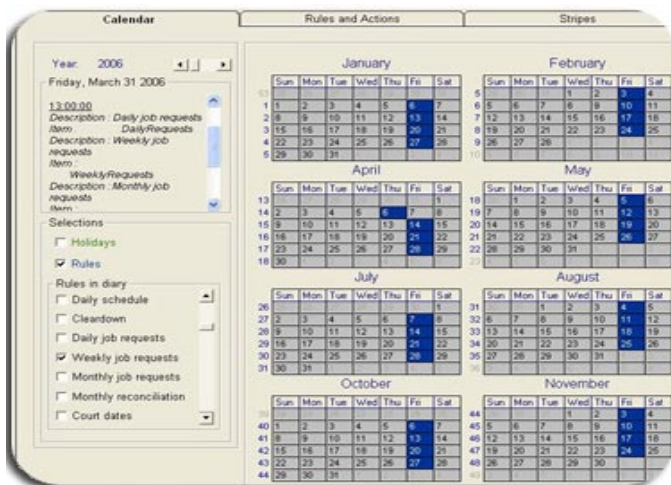
Business Process Automation for Pericles

The PTC Scheduler increases the reliability and efficiency of the Anite Pericles applications by eliminating manual intervention and automating many time-consuming manual tasks.

Benefits

- Reduces Running Costs
- Reduces Administration Time
- Increases Reliability
- Eliminates Manual Intervention
- Automates Tedious Manual Tasks
- Increases System Availability

The PTC Scheduler *for Pericles* fully automates the end to end process of batch job requests, parameter input and job execution . The rules diary at the heart of the scheduler determines when processes are to run and pre-built graphical flowcharts enable parallel processing (where possible) with job and input file dependencies. The *Pericles* application user automatically receives an information email confirming which jobs have been requested for the evenings batch run.



Advanced Diary Scheduling Rules

Automatic Job Requests

The Diary at the heart of PTC Scheduler contains period rules to enable it to automatically request *Pericles* batch jobs. The rules range from simple rules, e.g. Every day, through to more advanced rules, e.g. Run before every Court day or every 3rd Thursday unless the next day is Good Friday. The Diary will request all jobs for any rule that is true on any particular day. E.g. a Friday will satisfy a Daily rule and a Weekly Rule and may also be true for the Monthly Rule.

Features

- Automatic Job Requests
- Automatic Parameter Input
- Faster Throughput of Jobs
- User Confirmation Email
- Pre Run System checks
- Parallel Processing (where possible)
- Job Dependencies
- Input File Dependencies
- Input / Output file management
- Conditional Alerting
- End of Run Report

Automating Anite's Pericles

Pericles without PTC Scheduler	Pericles with PTC Scheduler
Jobs which run on a regular basis (e.g. daily/weekly/monthly) have to be resubmitted each time even if all the parameters remain unchanged.	These jobs are automatically launched at a predefined time and are resubmitted for the next time they are required.
Some Job Parameters have to be changed manually when a job is resubmitted. These are mainly predictable dates.	Resubmitted jobs which contain cyclic dates are automatically submitted with the date parameter correctly updated.
There is a 3 minute pause between jobs when run through the Pericles job streams to allow someone to interrupt the stream to perform any necessary tasks such as transaction backups.	No time delay between jobs (unless specifically requested by the user). Also as the schedules are defined in a "flow-chart", any extra activity can be easily incorporated at any point.
If a cash file is missing for e.g. a post-cash job, Pericles will wait "forever" until the file arrives in the correct place.	A check can be made to ensure the file exists; if it hasn't arrived by a pre-defined time an alert can be raised. There is also the opportunity to by-pass the cash posting activity to ensure the rest of the schedule is processed.
No Interface file handling	Because the PTC Scheduler can connect to multiple servers, it can also import these cash files to the correct place prior to the Pericles schedule starting. Similarly it can export files produced by Pericles to other places on the network without any manual intervention.
Some output files have the same name each time (e.g. exceptions). Although these are date and time stamped there is no indication as to the program which produced them.	The PTC Scheduler can automatically rename these files and optionally archive them to application based directories (e.d. BenefitsReportsOutput) making these files easier to find.
Manual Ad-Hoc job submission with little control over run times and sequence	User can request any intermittent (unscheduled) job and these will automatically be picked up and run at the end of the normal scheduled jobs.
No knowledge of previous jobs or their expected duration, no ability to make intelligent decisions on whether optional jobs should be run	The Predictive Job Scheduling option can be configured to raise an alert when: A schedule's predicted runtime will overrun its required finish time; a job has overrun its predicted runtime by a given %age; a job has underrun its predicted runtime by a given %age. It can also optionally skip any job which would cause the schedule to overrun.
No job analysis to show trends in number of aborting jobs, job run times etc.	Use built-in graphical analysis to forecast trends in runtime both for overall schedules and individual jobs, analyse trends in number of aborted jobs, etc.
Sequential job sequence	Jobs can be run in parallel if database access is not a problem.
No control over database backup	Initiate database backups and prevent batch processing starting until the backup has successfully completed. Backups can also be automatically started when the overnight batch schedule has successfully completed.
No automatic confirmation of submitted jobs	Before a schedule starts, a full audit of all jobs (scheduled and submitted) is performed and an email sent to support personnel such that a check can be made to ensure that all jobs that should run have been submitted. The schedule can optionally wait until a confirmation email is received before continuing.
No confirmation of successfully and aborted job execution	At the end of the schedule a report is produced of all jobs (executed and skipped), with any aborted tasks highlighted.
No immediate notification of failure	The PTC Alerts element ensures that a member of the Pericles support personnel is informed of any failed process as soon as it happens allowing timely correction. The successful completion of the schedule can also be relayed to the same personnel.

Licensing

To licence for PTC Scheduler please contact the Sales department at PTC Software
Tel. 01480 479090
email: sales@ptc.co.uk
To find out more about PTC Scheduler, visit PTC's website at www.ptc.co.uk.

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