



DataFax Publication Tool (DFPT)

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Overview

- **Problem –**
 - Multiple DataFax instances
 - Database downtime for modifications
 - Testing in production environment
- **Our Solution**
 - Graphical tool to publish configuration files from development server to production server
 - Uses Perforce, a software configuration management system
- **Benefits**
 - Minimize database downtime for modifications
 - Single development server and multiple production servers
 - Increased flexibility for testing
 - Complete history of study configuration modifications





Problem

- Synteract has multiple production servers
- Modifications to production database require downtime to Data Management and Data Processing staff. EDC further complicates downtime
- Any modification after a database opens must be tested in production environment with production data
- No audit trail of database modifications



Our Solution: DFPT

- ClinTrial provides an add on called Multisite which allows database modifications to be published from one server to another
- DFPT is our solution to add similar functionality to DataFax
- We wanted to create a tool that is **user-friendly, configurable** and **compatible** with our database design process





What it Does

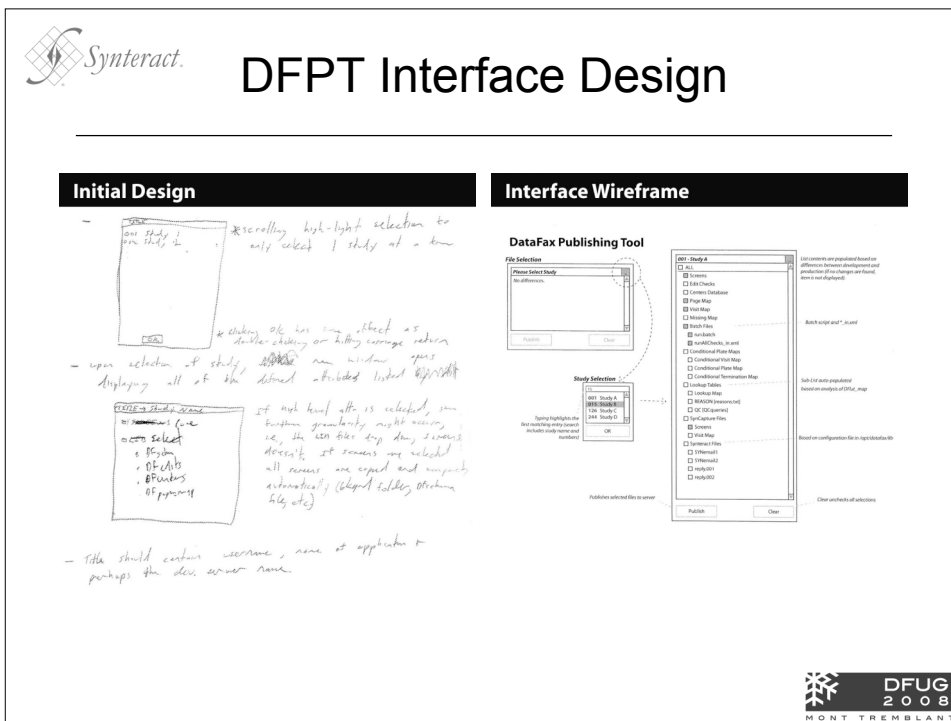
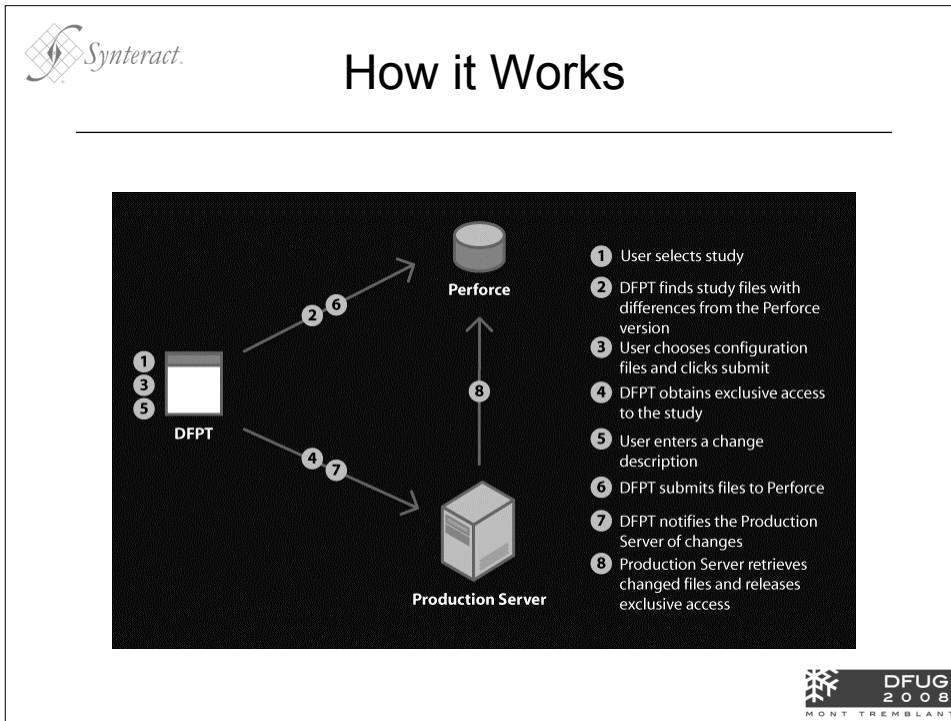
- Graphical client tool on development server
- Allows for selection of any production server
- Modified configuration files may be selected to publish
- Modifications are tracked in Perforce and are annotated with a reason for change and the user making the change

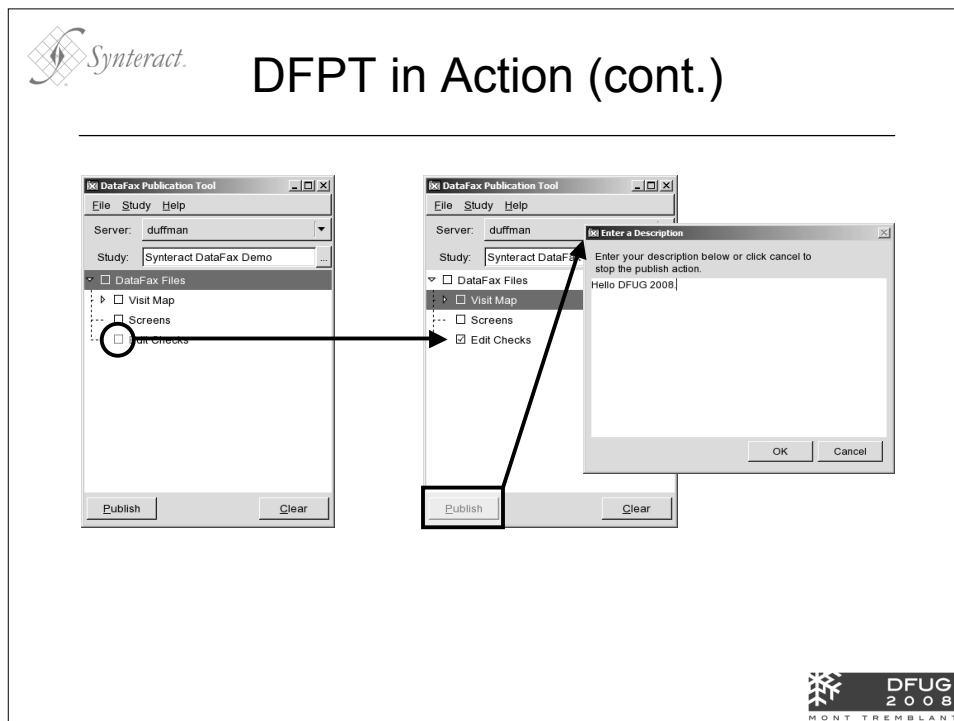
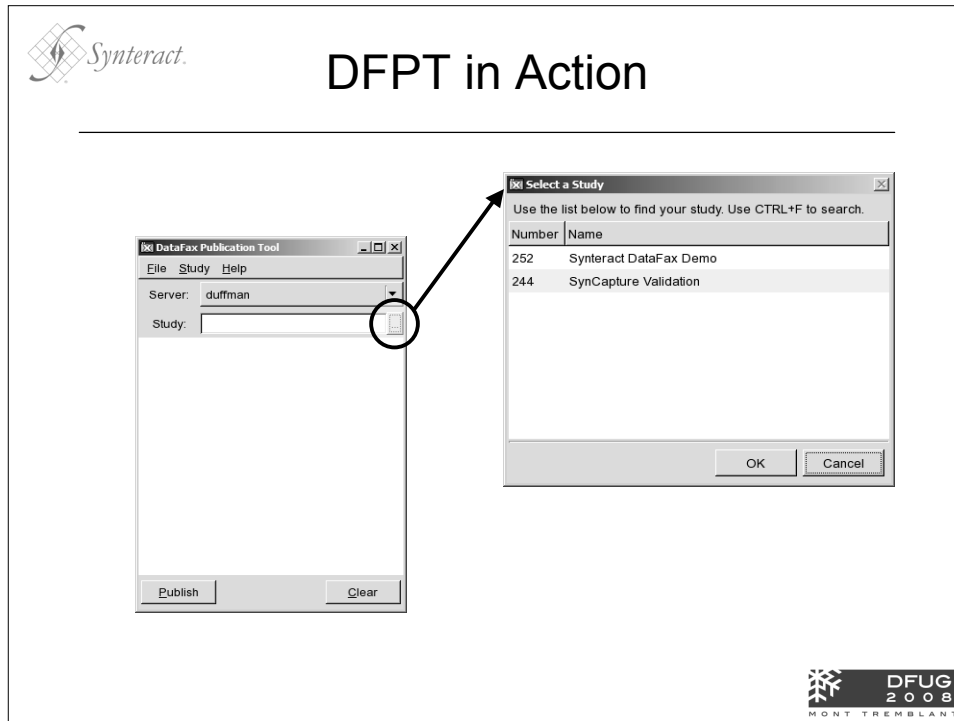



How it Works

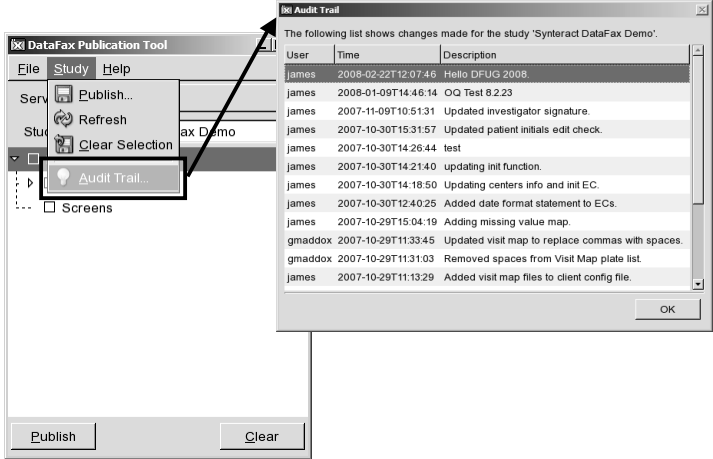
- After study is selected, system determines changed files by looking for differences in the Perforce repository for that study
- User selected files are published to Perforce and selected production server is notified of changes
- Production server retrieves changed files from perforce repository after gaining exclusive access for the study









 DFPT in Action (cont.)




The following list shows changes made for the study 'Synteract DataFax Demo':

User	Time	Description
james	2008-02-22T12:07:46	Hello DFUG 2008.
james	2008-01-09T14:46:14	OQ Test 8.2.23
james	2007-11-09T10:51:31	Updated investigator signature.
james	2007-10-30T15:31:57	Updated patient initials edit check.
james	2007-10-30T14:26:44	test
james	2007-10-30T14:21:40	updating init function.
james	2007-10-30T14:18:50	Updating centers info and init EC.
james	2007-10-30T12:40:25	Added date format statement to ECs.
james	2007-10-29T15:04:19	Adding missing value map.
gmaddox	2007-10-29T11:33:45	Updated visit map to replace commas with spaces.
gmaddox	2007-10-29T11:31:03	Removed spaces from Visit Map plate list.
james	2007-10-29T11:13:29	Added visit map files to client config file.



 Benefits

- Database downtime to publish modifications is reduced to seconds v. hours
- All development work occurs on a single development server
- Test data can be retained on development server after study has opened because only configuration files are published
- All database modifications are tracked in the Performer repository which allows us to view previous changes, revert to previous versions and graphically see changes to configuration files





Questions?

