

General

This document asks the typical questions and answers them.

01. About SpApp

001 **What is SpApp?**

SpApp is an **Enterprise Appmaker**. It is used to create and manage business applications without code.

002 **Who are its makers?**

SpApp is designed and developed by Sysnet Associates (India) Private Limited, Bangalore, India. **Sysnet** is a Software Product company of 15+ years repute. It focuses on building products for industries and businesses.

003 **Why is SpApp useful?**

SpApp builds Apps directly without programming. It avoids many steps of SDLC, thus benefiting the customer. Its **Specify, Check & Deploy** steps save 40-70% of time/cost compared to traditional methods.

004 **Where is SpApp used?**

SpApp is in productive use since Oct 2005. It is used to build applications of different sizes in several domains including that of Manufacturing, Distribution, HealthCare, Education, Service and much more. It is recognized by the industry, as a **viable alternative to traditional programming**, in parts of India, USA and UK.

005 **Is SpApp reliable?**

SpApp is established as a **formal software product** over four years. Shrink-wrapped products and projects based on SpApp have been sold in excess of 8000. SpApp is very reliable. With such a large and growing customer base, SpApp has become the defacto standard in Enterprise Appmakers.

006 **Who uses SpApp to build Apps?**

SpApp is best used **by IT and Business Analysts** to build systems. Typical IT developers are not required. SpApp uses a menu-driven Specification model to create an App. This activity needs only application of domain expertise. There is no coding involved. So, IT experts are not required.

007 **How does SpApp avoid code?**

SpApp is an Enterprise Appmaker. Its main objective is to avoid coding, code generation and maintenance and databases and SQL. SpApp uses a suite of very sophisticated algorithms - SRJ (**Stratified Resolute Jess Technology**) to manage the App specification and management.

008 **Where does SpApp store data?**

SpApp does not use traditional RDBMS-based databases. It uses **own native Appstore**. This store manages the App and Data together at all times. The Store is very efficient in Storage, Access, Search and other such activities on it.

009 **SpApp looks proprietary. What is the safety?**

SpApp uses proprietary algorithms and methods. As an evolving genre of Appmakers, the field is very nascent and standards are yet to form. As a precautionary measure, an App's Definitions and Data can be taken out as SQL statements at any time. Also, specific data may be exported at any time in several formats.

010 **What is the role for a DBA in SpApp?**

SpApp does not need a DBA. Database operations are very simple and menu-driven. They can be done by an Administrator (typically, a customer official), periodically.

02. About Domains

001 Where do we use SpApp?

SpApp is used in **any Business Information System**. It is not useful in a CAD, Graphics or Games scenario. It is not used in BI, Analytics, etc. It is used in systems of transactional nature, monetary or otherwise.

002 What are the typical domains where SpApp is deployed?

SpApp is used in any Business Information System, **of transactional nature**.

Some of the domains include Manufacturing, Distribution, HealthCare, Education and Service, at a broad level and Payroll, Inventory, Accounting, Invoicing and Finance at a functional level. Many more are possible.

003 Can a system cover more than a function?

Yes. SpApp is used to **develop ERP systems** in any Business domain. There is no limit to number of functions that can be built into an App.

004 How complex the systems can be?

SpApp has been used to **build mid-range to large-scale ERP** systems in several domains. Systems with 30+ modules, 500+ profiles, 5000+ calculations and 10000+ checks have been built and deployed. Such systems equate to 500+ tables and 1000+ programs in traditional programming.

005 Can we add to a system's scope later?

Yes. An App can be **improved upon at anytime** (subject to customer acceptance, etc). SpApp supports many upgrades done and delivered, over a period of time.

006 Can we see a list of domains feasible with SpApp?

Yes. The list below is incomplete and is for guidance only. **Many more areas are feasible.**

- Accounts
- Audit
- College/School
- Consultant
- Cooperatives
- Courier
- CRM
- Distributor
- E-Governance
- Factory
- Hospital
- Hotel/Restaurant
- HRMS
- Lawyer
- Payroll
- Personal Finance
- Pharmacy
- Resorts
- SCM
- Services
- Stock Trade
- Student
- Trader
- Travel
- Warehousing

03. About Technology

001 What technology is used in SpApp?

SpApp uses **SRJ** (Stratified Resolute Jess) technology as its core engine. It is an integrated engine of several components. The complete engine is built from scratch and advanced AI & programming techniques are used.

002 What is new about SRJ technology?

SRJ technology **takes a ground-up approach**. All components that are required for a business system are built from scratch. SRJ provides Encryption and Compression in its appstore, for example. Such an approach gives excellent performance advantage over traditional systems built on databases.

003 Is SRJ technology reliable?

Each aspect of SRJ engine, is **thoroughly tested** for all the combinations possible. SRJ engine's reliability has been put to severe stress tests before commissioning. Hence, SRJ engine is very reliable.

004 Where does SpApp store data?

SRJ engine stores **App and Data together as a bundle** (file of SDM extension). The engine manages the storage, retrieval, access, search, recovery, update, removal and such other issues automatically. There is no programming or user-driven issue involved.

005 Where does SpApp store Logic?

SRJ engine stores App Logic as an **integral part of AppStore**. The engine manages the storage & retrieval of App logic automatically. There is only a Specification Guide to create an App/System.

006 Where are the programs that we otherwise write?

The **App logic is the SpApp representation** of our traditional programs. SRJ engine stores the App Logic in AppStore and provides a quick storage & retrieval mechanism.

007 How a long traditional program be represented as simple logic?

Typically, a program devotes more than two-thirds of its code to screens, initializations and temporary store. The SRJ engine's **AI-based Rules mechanism** handles the core logic without burdening itself with the general programming concerns mentioned above. SpApp's natural design helps a deal.

008 Where is the code for Screens?

SpApp has a **built-in mechanism** to generate code for screens display. SpApp has a provision for Application builders, to specify (not code) screen layouts, if they wish.

009 Is SRJ quick?

SRJ engine **is very quick**, compared to any RDBMS database such as Oracle, MS SQL, MySQL. Its storage, retrieval and search are several notches quicker.

010 Explain the significance of SRJ.

SRJ (Stratified Resolute Jess) engine loosens up a piece of data into multiple strata of information and ties up with occurrences with a tight yet expandable leash. This **Resolution of Stratified Jess** for an information is an AI conceptual miracle in SRJ.

011 How are logical links handled in SpApp?

SRJ engine stores the Logical links among App elements, as **Multi-Layered & Multi-Linked (ML2)** links. Such storage facilitates easy access to such links.

012 How are record deadlocks resolved in SRJ?

SRJ engine does not use traditional RDBMS stores. **Deadlocks are not relevant** in SRJ. The leashes holding data do not get deadlocked and have a sequential control mechanism.

04. About AppBuilding

001 What are the steps to build an App?

Specify, Check and Deploy are the only steps required in SpApp. SRS document suffices as the reference document for the analyst to specify the app logic.

002 What about several SDLC stages that we normally use?

SpApp **avoids several complex steps** such as Logical & physical system design, Program specifications, Form design, Unit coding, Unit testing and much more. Many SDLC steps are indeed avoided.

003 What about ER and DFD diagrams?

They **can be used** along with the SRS document. SpApp follows a specification process, to be entered in a menu-driven manner. It is the Specifications as well as the Build effort.

004 Do we need to learn another language?

No. SpApp provides a **facility called SpecGuide**. It is a menu-driven feature. Using this, an application can be created very quickly.

005 What are the test tools provided for, in SpApp?

Unlike in traditional systems, no testing is required at unit level. The testing is done only **at functional level**. So, test case plans, etc., suffice.

006 What are the steps, in brief, to specify an App?

Specify an Application Name, mention profile names, specify identifications, all calculations and data entry choices for each profile and the App is done. For each profile, a list screen, a dataentry screen and a standard report become automatically available. If the data entry screen is required to be manually laid out, one may do it. If a custom report is required, it can be specified. Of course, functional testing is critical before deployment.

007 What are the protections available for an App?

Each App carries a **password**, specified by the Administrator (periodically alterable). Legal users are defined at any time. All files pertaining to an App stay encrypted at all stages. They are visible only to authorized users. Accidental removals or power shutdowns are recoverable, in most cases. Thus, an App remains safe and available all the time.

008 How do you create a profile?

Firstly, name the profile **as in real-life**, say "Customer". Define its unique identification such as "Customer ID". Specify "Address" element as multiline. Specify "Contact Person" as singleline. Put up checks & calculations, as required. SpApp builds the required business elements automatically. The Customer profile is specified.

009 How do you put up a calculation?

SpApp puts up a **menu to collect a Calculation**. Just mention the elements, operators and conditions, if any. Also, mention the Target element in the given profile or in an related profile. The business elements are created automatically and linked up with the target element.

010 How do you relate two profiles?

SpApp provides many ways of linking up profiles. All of them **follow a natural process**. You could specify the profile Invoice Line to be tightly held by Invoice (Header) profile. You may use the business element of the Identification in a parent profile, as the current element. There are many more such options. SpApp provides a complete suite of AI mechanisms to track relationships across profiles.

011 Can you define a field avoiding calculations, etc?

Yes. An element **can be specified directly** choosing easy options such as Singleline, Multiline, Today, Later Date, Now and so on. This approach may look similar to RDBMS-based RAD tools but SpApp follows the same AI techniques to maintain these elements.

012 Can you define elements that are hidden?

Yes. An element **can be specified hidden** and used only in calculations. Such elements are not shown while managing data but are available in SpecGuide. They participate in calculations as normal elements.

05. About AppUsage

001 Does SpApp support formal logins?

Yes. An App may have any number of users. Each user needs to enter his/her **user name and password** to login to the App. Of course, a user may set a preference to auto login (or even boot login), to force SpApp to do this automatically.

002 What are the user preferences?

SpApp sports several features such as Screen Date/Time, Scroller, Login options and much more, in Custom Settings option. These **can be set by a user to his/her choice**.

003 Is it feasible for a user to adjust say, screen colors without regard to other users?

Yes. SpApp provides a **Custom Settings feature** to support complete **color & font settings** of each profile's data entry.

004 What about screen layouts?

SpApp provides an optional facility to **specify the screen layouts for data-entry screens**. Other screens appear automatically.

005 Is it possible to ensure a user sees only relevant profiles?

Yes. SpApp provides a complete **User Management Screen**, available to the Administrator only. This screen helps to ensure access to a given user is controlled at profile level and also at element level.

006 Is it possible to select a set of data from a profile, for viewing?

SpApp provides the View facility with options to select a **unique data or a set of data**.

007 Is it possible to view only Alerted data?

Yes. From the Alert screen, an **alert can be selected and switched to the concerned data row**.

008 What are Related data?

A Profile's data may be linked to another profile's data. In List view, SpApp shows related data for each parent row.

009 Can one switch from a parent data row to related data row?

Yes. A parent row may be highlighted. Then, a given related profile's data row may be selected. SpApp takes one to the related profile with ease. This can be done to any number of levels. We can return back too.

010 Can one return to the first parent, after drilling down several levels?

Yes. Go to **Top (F10) option** takes you to the parent row at one shot, irrespective of the levels of drill-down.

011 How to print a particular data row?

A Profile's data row is printable at anytime, **as a standard report**. This feature comes with many selectable parameters. It has a graphics option.

012 What to do if we need a custom report?

If a custom report is defined using SpecGuide, then such a report is **made automatically available**. The required parameters may be specified and the report may be printed.

013 What are the supported options for a generated report?

A report may be viewed, printed, faxed, emailed, saved as an image (png, jpg or gif) or saved as an Excel file.

014 How to play a media file in SpApp?

The file can be played from the top screen or from the business element of the profile. SpApp has a **built-in media player** which recognizes most file types.

015 Sometimes, I find the machine slow. How to check its speed?

SpApp has a Computer Performance screen. It has a **Speed Gun** in it, which shows the current value and what's good for you. Study the various computer resource values provided and increase some, particularly memory and CPU.

06. About Administration

001 Does SpApp support backups?

Yes. **An App may be backed up by the Administrator** at anytime. It is a simple menu-driven activity and does not need any DBAs.

002 What about checkpoints and such stuff in Databases?

SpApp manages check points very differently and **fully transparent to end users and administrator**. In case a user needs to wait due to an admin operation, he/she waits.

003 How do we backup app logic?

The backup is **a single process** and the complete store comprising of logic and data is backed up at one shot.

004 How fast is the backup?

The backup process takes **under a few seconds**, typically, even in an ERP scenario.

005 How do I protect my backup from misuse?

The backup process needs a **password attached** to the backup file. This password is required before restore.

006 Does SpApp support automatic recovery?

Yes. SpApp supports an automatic recovery process which is permanently working in the background. Due to reasons such as disk crash, memory errors, hardware issues, etc., sometimes this feature may not work.

007 How to maintain SpApp free from viruses?

SpApp does not and cannot protect itself from viruses. But it has an **Integrity Check** option. The Administrator is required to check the integrity of SpApp files periodically.

008 How to remove sample data from the App after testing?

SpApp supports a **Go Live option**. This option run by the Administrator, removes all the sample data at one stroke. Then, the App is ready for Live use.

009 Thought, someone saw my Admin password while I typed it in. Can I change it?

It is recommended that the **password is changed periodically** by the Administrator and also by individual users. It is just a small screen where the old and new password (with confirmation) are entered.

010 What is SpApp License?

SpApp is supplied under license (irrespective of commercial terms). The license and its accompanying PIN are important for the customer to note down and keep away safely. If someone uses SpApp without a license, it is unlawful and illegal.

011 What is Purging?

SpApp supports an important facility of **removing old data from the App**. This ensures a good performance for the system. Purging data is menu-driven, with conditions specified.

012 How to export data?

SpApp provides an extensive facility for export of app data, based on selected profile and conditions. Such data may be exported into **csv, txt and dat files**. Data export shall be done only by the Administrator.

013 I have a text file of data to import into my SpApp application. How to do it?

SpApp provides a **static interface** for data import. External data can corrupt the integrity of your Application. The formats of the App profile and the Text file must match 100%, including hidden elements. SpApp rolls back if improper data is imported. However, relevance of quantities and other numbers are not checked for.

014 Does SpApp support App-level movement?

Yes. SpApp supports app-level movement in terms of **Copy, Move and Delete** functions.

015 Does SpApp support Audit trail?

Yes. SpApp provides a very easy-to-use Audit trail facility. It **can be switched on or off** by the Administrator.

07. About Security

001 How safe is the data in SpApp?

Data is absolutely **100% safe** in SpApp. Data is kept encrypted and compressed at all times. User Access is possible only through legal SpApp calls.

002 What about error rate in SpApp data?

SpApp provides **100% accurate** data at all times. Errors may creep in in case of hard disk sector errors, etc. In such cases, SpApp provides a mechanism to auto-recover data and proceed smoothly.

003 What about snooping by spyware, etc?

SpApp has a **protective mechanism** to prevent snoops, malware calls, etc. Special key sequences to identify legitimate calls are internally used.

004 How are the transfer controls for data in SpApp?

Data is absolutely safe while transferring in Client/Server or in Web mode. It uses a **highly secure algorithm** to control the transmission, accuracy and security. It does not use the traditional SSL methods.

005 At the App level, I can just copy the App to another place and it should work. Will it?

No. Copying an App, set of files or a folder does not make the installation proper. SpApp checks internally for many things and **prevents such intrusions**.

006 What about virus attacks?

SpApp, as other software systems, **stands exposed to virus attacks**. A proper anti-virus software installation is mandatory. However, SpApp provides an Integrity Check feature to let know if SpApp files are corrupt.

007 How do I recover SpApp from mistakes like accidental file deletion?

SpApp has ensured a certain level of protection from accidental deletions. Also, SpApp reinstalls are possible. All cases of errors **are not protected against**.

008 Can we get an idea on SpApp volume and test limits, from an App perspective?

SpApp is very powerful and **supports ultra-large systems**. Extensive volume and stress tests have been done. Typically, computer resources determine the overall performance for any software system.

Parameter	SpApp Limit	Tested upto	Remarks
File Size	Free Hard Disk Space	1.2 GB	Virtual Memory Size is important
Records	2.147 Billion	100 Million	Not relevant in SpApp
Record Size	2.147 GB	2048 KB	Not relevant in SpApp
Applications	65535 per Installation	1000	Simultaneous usage
Users	65535 per Application	1000	Concurrent access simulation
License Capacity	2.147 Billion	200	Actual concurrent access rights
Profiles	65535 per Application	2000	Equates to an RDBMS Table
Checks in a Profile	2.147 Billion	5000	Validations & Checks on a screen
Rules in an Application	2.147 Billion	50000	Calculations and Conditions
Reports in an Application	65535	1000	Custom Specified Reports
Identifications	65535 per profile	100	Equates to an RDBMS Key
Business Elements	2.147 Billion per profile	10000	Equates to an RDBMS field
Active Alerts	2.147 Billion per App	1 Million	Data and Personal alerts

009 How safe is SpApp in case of a disk crash?

No software is safe in a disk crash. If the relevant hard disk sectors are not affected, SpApp would start up.

010 I removed the App file intentionally. I could start SpApp and the App came up. How?

SpApp **takes care of many scenarios** including the one you tried. The Data safety is paramount in SpApp. Such things can only be done by the Administrator thru' menu-driven options of SpApp.