



Grid-Tools
The power of test data

Simple Datamasking™

Universal data masking with a
simple, flexible approach

Why risk using live data when de-identifying your records is simple?

Have your test and development teams been using live customer data? Are you now looking for a fast and effortless tool to de-identify, mask and protect sensitive records? Simple Data Masking™ is simply the solution for you.

The ability to de-identify sensitive records for multiple database types across multiple projects, small to large, is advantageous when deadlines are tight. Simple Data Masking™ is a powerful, universal data masking solution which can be used for multiple data masking requirements across the enterprise.

Boasting a flexible approach to masking and de-identifying test and development data, Simple Data Masking™ can be installed as a stand-alone solution for small to medium projects, or as part of the Datamaker™ framework. Deploy one data masking solution to suit all of your test data management projects; simple.

The clue is in the name – the Grid-Tools data masking solution is hassle-free, offering a simple, repeatable method for securing sensitive data. You store your masking rules in spread sheets; you use one tool for all of your database types and you can quickly add in your own custom masking rules. You'll experience immediate results and be using unrecognizable data within minutes!

What is data masking?

Data masking of structured data is the process of de-identifying or obscuring specific data within a database table or column. This is done in order to hide and/or mask sensitive and private information. Once the data is masked, it can be used safely outside of production environments for testing, development and QA projects.

Simple Data Masking™ algorithms are used across all tables so referential integrity is always maintained and the data is very much 'like' production data, but the data is completely de-identified for use by the tester.

What types of systems is the Grid-Tools data masking solution suitable for?

Simple Data Masking™ is suitable for organizations with a need to quickly and easily obfuscate or mask testing data across projects of all sizes, with multiple project requirements.

"We needed a custom data masking solution to de-identify production data so it could be distributed amongst our developers securely. We found Simple Data Masking to be incredibly powerful, simple and effective. It has worked very well for all of our needs so far and it masks exactly what we want to mask. We've also been impressed with the Grid-Tools support team, who have been incredibly helpful and quick to answer our support requests ."

Elizabeth Neiderman
QA Manager
PowerAdvocate

What does Simple Data Masking™ do?

In one simple solution Simple Data Masking™ provides all the tools needed to de-identify, scramble and obfuscate your testing data.

Why should you invest in Simple Data Masking™?

Using masked and anonymized data in non-production is quickly becoming the industry standard. Not only are organizations being pressured to comply with industry regulations like HIPAA, the PCI DSS and the GLBA, but using copies of live production databases has, in recent times, resulted in industry embarrassment. Many organizations are losing credibility from customers and peers as a result of unfortunate (and preventable) data leaks.

What data types does Simple Data Masking™ support?

Simple Data Masking™ supports all major database types.

Some examples include:

- Oracle
- DB2
- SQL Server
- MySQL
- Sybase
- Ingres
- ODBC
- Flat files

How is the software installed and what are the system requirements?

- The software requires a JRE and will run on Windows, Linux, UNIX and Z/OS Platforms
- The masking rules are stored in spread sheets
- Standard seed tables are shipped and can be easily added

How does Simple Data Masking™ work?

A series of intuitive and straightforward rules are defined to mask and anonymize the data.

The collection of rules includes:

- Seed tables
- Multi-table column seed tables
- Hashing
- Offsetting dates
- Substitution and replacements
- Credit Cards
- Phone numbers
- National ID numbers
- Random ranges
- Numeric variances
- Email addresses
- Any built-in SQL function
- etc

Key features:

- Simple to implement
- Works for all database types
- Works against any ODBC data source
- You can mask consistently across different RDBMSs and databases
- Auditing of old and new values
- Provides multiple built-in routines to mask data
- You can easily include your own custom masking routines
- Allows the addition of your own seed tables to ensure data looks 'production like'
- Standard seed tables include:
 - Names – First, Last, Male, Female and ethnic variations
 - Addresses – US, UK and International
 - Company names
 - etc

What are the differences between Simple Data Masking™ and Fast Data Masking™?

Feature	Simple Data Masking™	Fast Data Masking™
Architecture: Can it update data directly in the database?	The data is updated directly in the database. Copy the database, mask it and then pass it to the developers.	The data can be updated directly in the database. Copy the database, mask it and then pass it to the developers. Fast Data Masking™ can also: extract data directly without a staging area, pass data through masked views and build high performance shadow tables.
Architecture: Are the primary keys updatable?	Yes, although these will need to be disabled	Yes FDM will drop and rebuild these automatically
Multi column seed table management (i.e. a zip code and State will match)	Yes	Yes
Seed table management	You can add in your own seed tables	You can add in your own seed tables
A GUI Interface to explore and add rules	No	Yes
Version control and difference management	Use spread sheets, diff tools and your own source control	Built into the tool
Does it use local database functions to mask data?	A standard set provided with the tool	Will vary from database type to database type
What is the standard performance?	Approximately 200,000 rows in 10 minutes	100,000,000 in 58 minutes
Parallelism?	You can run multiple masks at the same time on all platforms	Built in on UNIX/Linux platforms
If a column is a null can I keep it?	Yes – configurable by column	Yes – configurable by column
Does it include cross reference management? (i.e. keep the same transformation across runs or databases)	Yes – managed by flat files	Yes – managed by database table synchronization
Common column discovery	No – You will have to identify which columns require the same mask applied	Yes – The tool will tree walk across your model to find matched columns that need the same mask applied
Can I include my own functions?	Yes	Yes
Can I mask portions of tables?	You can restrict rows to be masked using SQL where clauses	You can incorporate database subsetting as part of your masking process
Option auditing?	Yes	Yes
Can I mask flat files?	Yes – All delimited files with optional headers and trailers can be masked	Yes – all file types including complex EDI files and Cobol Ascii and Ebcidic



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About Grid-Tools

Grid-Tools is known internationally as the industry leader in data creation, data masking and test data management. Their highly experienced personnel have been writing and developing solutions for large companies in both the private and public sectors for over 30 years.

The Grid-Tools Datamaker™ suite includes a wide range of technologically advanced tools for test data management. Their signature solution, GT Datamaker™, is a revolutionary tool that creates and publishes quality test data with the referential integrity of production environments for testing and development. Cutting-edge and groundbreaking in nature, Datamaker™ offers three methods for managing and generating data in testing and development: database subsetting, data masking and data creation. Datamaker™ also offers end-to-end manageability and enhancement of test data in multiple formats.

The Grid-Tools methodology consists of using a 'data-centric' approach to testing. Their focus is to ensure the quality of the test data you are using is of the right quality for successful testing and development.