



Sincera's Simple Automated Services Interface (SASI)

Automated loading, updating and deleting for the Granite inventory system

Sincera's Simple Automated Services Interface (SASI) is a service provided by Sincera that enables Granite customers to load, update or delete large numbers of Granite inventory records faster and with fewer errors than by using the Granite client. Unlike competing solutions, SASI requires no installation on your servers, no direct access to your database schema, and no special permissions on your system. With a connection to your network, SASI can begin delivering measurable ROI immediately. This service is ideal for Granite end user tasks that are large and repetitive in nature (e.g. switch decommissions, re-homes, bulk changes where the updated information is unique to each item changed). Some of the benefits of SASI include:

- SASI allows your employees to spend more of their time managing the network, and less of their time entering data.
- SASI can run unattended at night or while Granite users are working on other business.
- SASI provides detailed reports of what was loaded, which changes were made and what records require correction and reprocessing.
- SASI increases the speed at which important database changes are made, thus minimizing/avoiding change control issues, enhancing the value of your Granite inventory data and maximizing your return on investment.

SASI uses the Granite ASI API for access into the Granite database. Because it uses the ASI (which the Granite end user client also uses), all of Granite's middle-tier business logic is fully respected by SASI. This means SASI can perform any action that is allowed using the standard Granite client. Unlike loading methods that go directly to the database and bypass all of the middle-tier business logic, SASI honors both the inherent Granite business logic and your organization's business rules. This prevents possible database corruption or other inaccuracies.

The following are SASI use case scenarios performed by Sincera:

Use Case #1: Bulk update of segment billing information.

Test platform: 10-processor Sun server, 10 GB or RAM, isolated to a single user.

Using this test environment to simulate an actual Granite customer implementation, a Sincera subject matter expert (SME) with over 10 years of experience with the Granite system identified 86 circuit segments requiring updates to their respective telco costs and billing codes, with each record requiring

unique values. The SME filtered in Granite for the list of segments to be updated, copied that list to a spreadsheet, added the costs and the billing codes for each segment and performed the updates manually, then ran the same updates through SASI.

Performing the necessary manual steps using the Granite end user client to input the updates required about 1 minute per segment. Thus the entire list of segments took about 90 minutes to manually update. Under normal working conditions (interruptions, phone calls, etc.) this task might easily have taken several hours. When using SASI to perform the same updates, the process took a total of 15 seconds.

Use Case #2: Data input and update on major Granite objects

Test platform: Lenovo laptop running Granite in stand-alone mode, 2 GB RAM.

In a simulation intended to demonstrate a fuller range of the capabilities of SASI, Sincera put together a set of data files that added the following data to a test database:

- *20 sites*
- *26 containers (racks)*
- *118 shelves*
- *622 slots*
- *619 cards*
- *1042 ports*
- *7 cables*
- *59 cable pairs*
- *29 segments*
- *44 paths plus 1 path revision*

The total number of objects added and/or updated for this use case was 2,586. The path revision included not only making a change to the path, but also adding an entire path leg to the original path. The time required for a skilled user to perform the inserts and updates above into Granite manually was estimated to be between 12 and 16 hours. Using SASI to perform this same set of inserts and updates required approximately 90 seconds.

To learn more about SASI and how it may benefit your Granite inventory implementation please contact Kevin Wilamowski at Sincera Consulting +1-603-540-6150 (kwilamowski@sincera.net).