




# ServerCAR

## Smart Import

Ideas International's (IDEAS) **Smart Import** provides an essential productivity benefit to Server CAR subscribers by automating the import of server asset data into a Server CAR project.



The majority of the time spent in planning a server consolidation project is consumed by gathering asset data, cleansing the content, and entering the information into a planning and analysis tool. Smart Import, in conjunction with Server CAR, dramatically streamlines this time-consuming process, offering productivity gains in the range of four- to tenfold.

Smart Import accepts server asset data from any asset register system, system management tool, or discovery tool that exports data in either .CSV or .XLS file formats. Smart Import does not require a prescribed data format and can function with only minimal levels of relevant data.

Ideally, the input data should allow identification of the product model, processor chip and core count, and clock speed. This level of data enables unique, automatic matching to the servers indexed within the Server CAR database. However the absence of some of this data does not stop Smart Import from functioning.

Smart Import further enhances input data flexibility through its ability to search for desired data elements across multiple columns; it even allows for multiple desired data elements to exist in a common column.

Smart Import will attempt to create a unique match for each input data item. Where a unique match is not possible, Smart Import provides a range of features to assist you with server identification.

Smart Import utilizes fuzzy matching logic, advanced data string manipulation techniques, and alias/exclusion databases to optimize match results and automatically exclude items in the input file not relevant to server consolidation analysis.

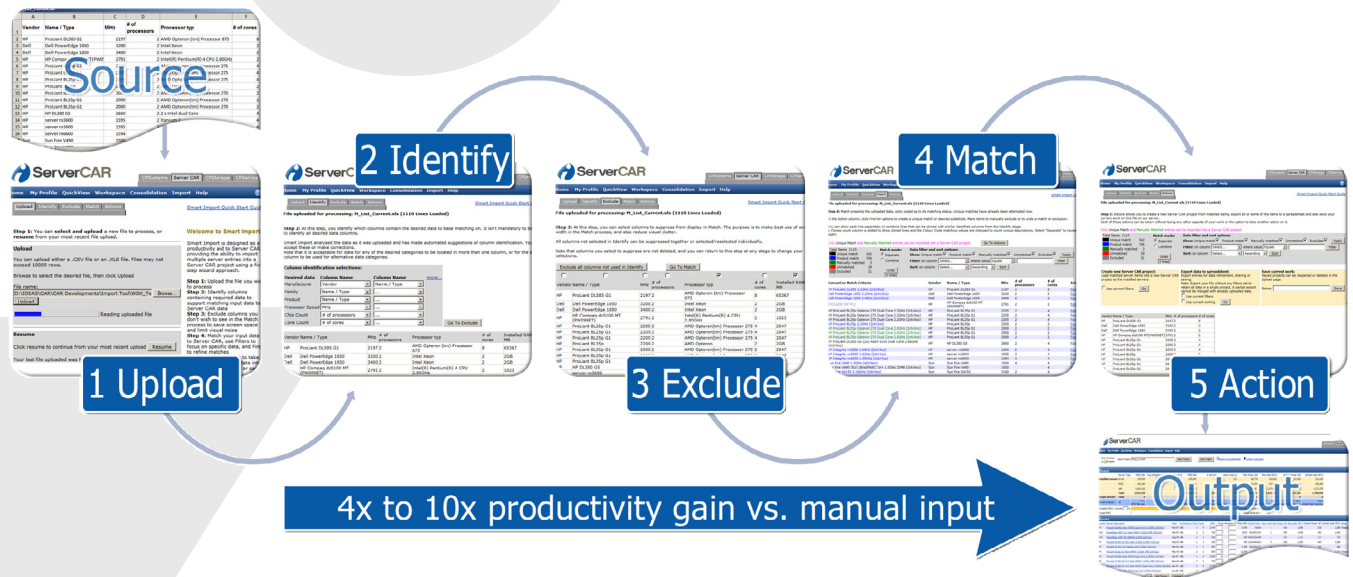
Making use of IDEAS vast Competitive Profiles database, Smart Import allows data matching based on textual inputs as well as SKU-based numerical data.



**Features Summary**

- » Ability to import .CSV and .XLS files
- » Automated and manual identification of data location in the input file
- » Automated and manual exclusion of data columns not required in the actual matching screen displays
- » Options to clone match selections to similar input data items
- » Ability to compress the input data into rows of like items to further improve matching productivity
- » Data display filter and sort options to create user-selectable data views
- » Undo features to restore specific input data items to their original state
- » Ability to load matched data directly into a new Server CAR project
- » Ability to export processed data files to a spreadsheet for further data collection or external sharing and manipulation
- » Automatic retention of current input data even after closing the browser session
- » Ability to save multiple input files in Smart Import for later recall and processing

Fig 1 - Smart Import: Five-Stage Workflow



**About Ideas International**

Ideas International (IDEAS) is the leading global supplier of comparative intelligence on enterprise IT infrastructure. Servicing both IT vendors and large-scale IT users, IDEAS products focus on: servers; storage; virtualization and consolidation; and software and infrastructure services. IDEAS online

products are backed up by expert industry analysts who can also deliver specialized advisory and consulting services.

For more information about Ideas International, please visit: [www.ideasinternational.com](http://www.ideasinternational.com)



**Americas**

Ideas International, Inc.  
800 Westchester Avenue  
Suite N337  
Rye Brook, NY 10573-1354  
USA

Tel +1 914 937 4302  
Fax +1 914 937 2485

**Asia/Pacific and Worldwide Headquarters**

Ideas International Limited  
Level 3  
20 George Street  
Hornsby, NSW 2077  
Australia

Tel +61 2 9472 7777  
Fax +61 2 9472 7788

**Europe, Middle East, Africa**

Ideas International Europe  
Milton Park Innovation Centre  
99 Milton Park  
Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 4RY  
United Kingdom

Tel +44 (0) 1235 841 510  
Fax +44 (0) 1235 841 511