

Solving problems with data visualization

Basic concept

Fox is a tool exclusively designed to improve user experience when performing data visualization tasks. While most of the existing data analysis tools aim at quantity, Fox goal points out at showing contrasts and differences in data that otherwise could not be seen.

This is done by (a) combining user-centered design techniques with recent advances in quantitative information visualization, and (b) employing several media (interactive maps, scorecards and *sparklines*) to provide the user with a more powerful way of business control.

Features

- Fast data comparisons along time
 - by metric
 - by control point
 - by metric and control point
- Data drill down and roll up operations
- Scorecarding
- Map navigation

Licensing Policies

Fox is a commercial tool and it is being developed and commercialized by Anturio Corporation (www.anturio.com).

Services and Support

In order to use Fox or request more information about this or other product feel free to contact Anturio Corporation. This can be done via email (info@anturio.com) or directly by phone (+351 963000850).

Technical Description

Fox user interface is written in Flex 2 / Flash 9 which insures its full compatibility with all web browsers running Flash Player 9 or above.

Using Fox, user gets to access his business from everywhere at any time, while experiencing the sensations of using a common desktop application over the web.

Server side logic is written in PHP 5, meaning that fox server can be any PHP enabled web server, such like Apache or even Resin.

Data is stored in MySQL 5.0 databases. But SQL Server, MS Access or other database engines can be used.

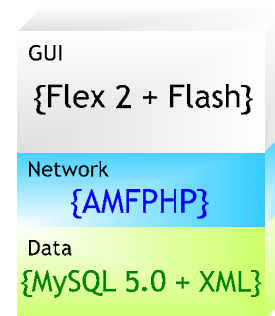


Fig. 1) Fox logic layers

Fox Architecture

The main framework structure stands on three main components:

- the multiple control sites on top of Fig. 2
- the main server structure on the middle of Fig. 2
- the client interfaces on the bottom of Fig. 2

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Anturio Corporation
 Rua João Tavira 4, 2ªA
 9000-075 Funchal – Portugal
 phone: +351963000850
 e-mail: info@anturio.com
 web: www.anturio.com

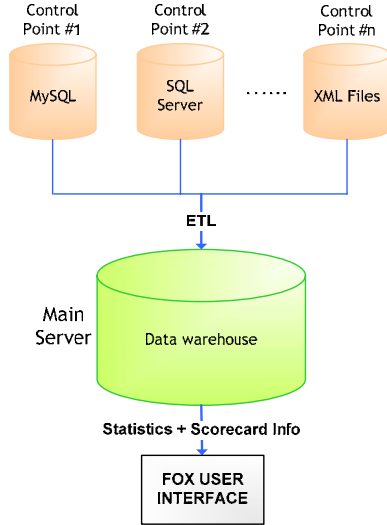


Fig. 2) Fox architecture

Control sites

Each of the control points incorporates a database with information about the control point. Databases can be MySQL, SQL Server and others, as long as they can be accessed "via" JDBC. Information in databases is usually created and maintained by a local operating system (it can be an ERP, Stock Management System or POS).

Main server structure

The main server structure includes a MySQL 5.0 database server. The MySQL server gathers data from the control sites and compiles them into statistical information for the graphical client interface. The gathering of this information is triggered by the Fox clients.

Fox Client

The Fox client communicates with the MySQL server for online data information. The clients are responsible for managing the online and offline control points, requesting information directly to the control point on a minimal basis.

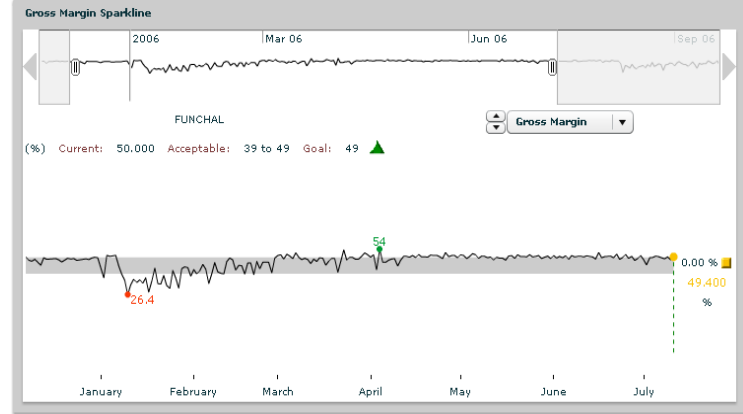


Fig. 3) Fox sparkline explorer

Using Sparkline Explorer users can quickly see how a metric has changed over time without losing track of the current value and its status towards scorecard goals.

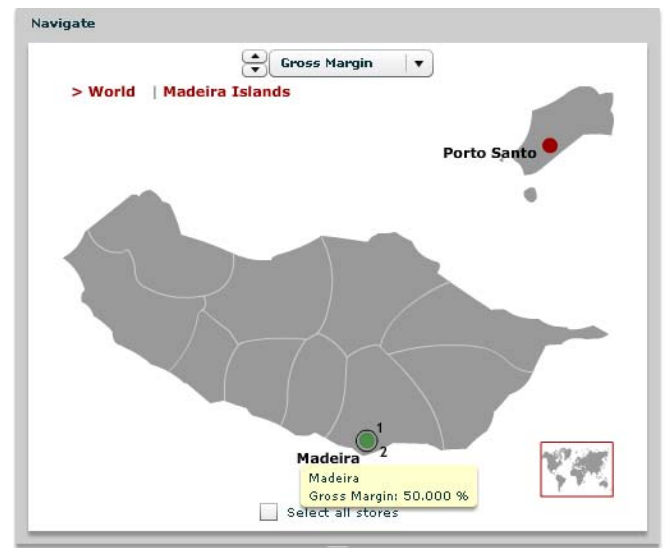


Fig. 4) Fox map

Using Fox map users can easily navigate between the different control points and at the same time keep track on the metrics statuses against scorecard goals.

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