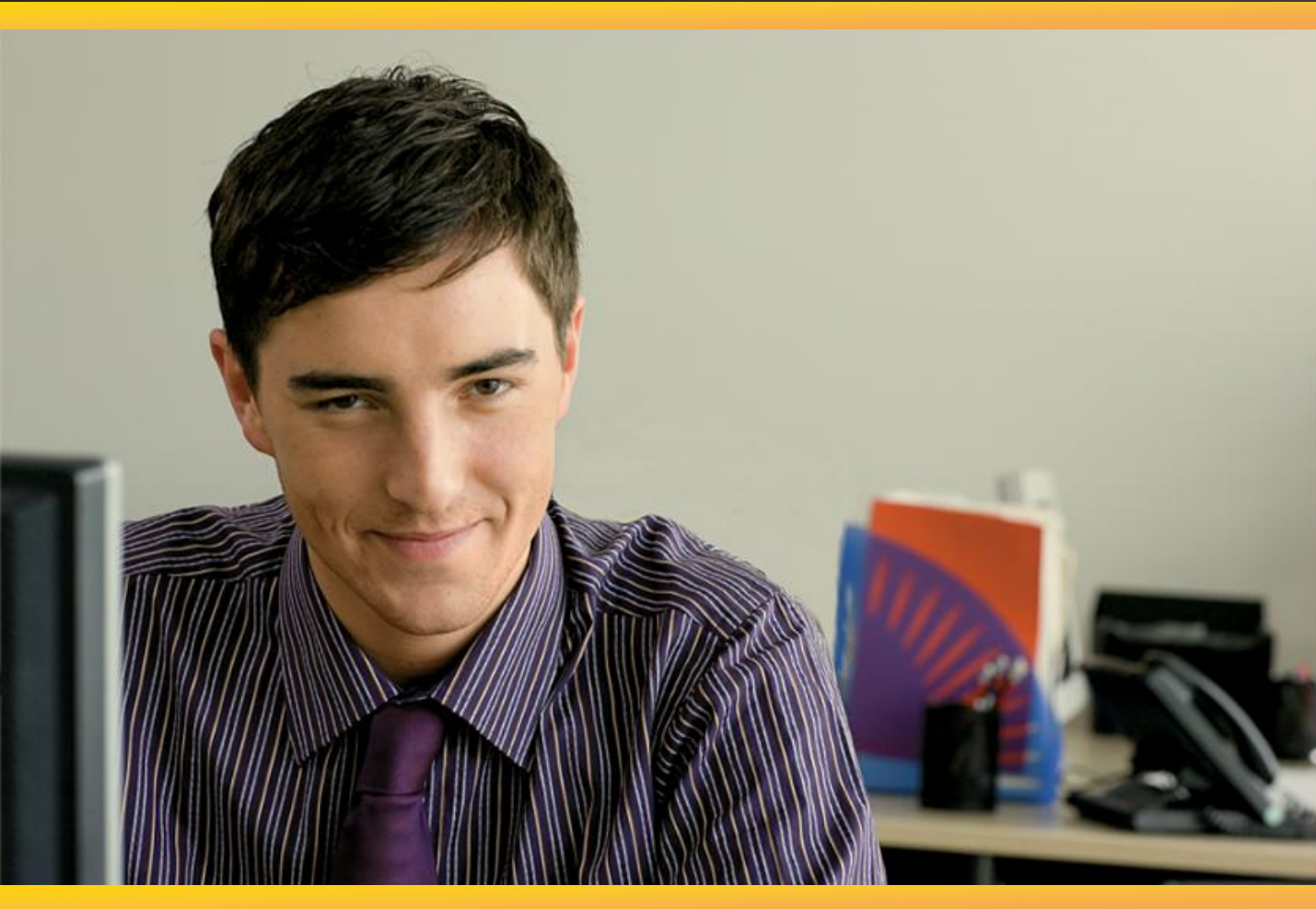




Microsoft®
SharePoint® 2010



SharePoint Composites

Do-It-Yourself SharePoint solutions



Executive Summary

SharePoint® Composites, the newest set of capabilities in Microsoft® SharePoint Server 2010, enables do-it-yourself collaborative solutions that are manageable by IT.

- 1) First, SharePoint Composites enables you to rapidly create collaborative solutions by assembling, connecting and configuring the building blocks of functionality available in SharePoint, via browser-based tools, or advanced no-code tooling in Microsoft SharePoint Designer 2010, or through Visio® Services and Access® Services which help users share diagrams and desktop database applications using SharePoint.
- 2) Second, it allows you to unlock the value of your enterprise data through Business Connectivity Services, which helps users connect with enterprise systems and interact with them as easily as with traditional SharePoint data, or directly in the rich experience of Microsoft Word 2010, Microsoft Outlook® 2010, and Microsoft SharePoint Workspace 2010. It provides search, read and write capabilities, whether offline or when connected.
- 3) Finally, SharePoint Composites helps your teams of IT professionals maintain control over the platform, allowing them to centralize desktop-based applications, manage custom code with sandboxed solutions and to maintain operational insight with health monitoring and controls.

SharePoint Composites allows your organization to derive more value from existing and future IT investments, from those made on SharePoint to those made on your own enterprise systems such as enterprise resource planning (ERP), customer relationship management (CRM), and on other proprietary applications. SharePoint Composites enables business users to repurpose those building blocks of functionality and reassemble them into new and interesting solutions, allowing IT to focus on delivering the high-priority projects that only IT can build. And because these end-user solutions are managed on a unified central platform, IT teams benefit from simplified operations and improved service levels.

Who Should Read This Paper?

This paper is intended for four roles: First, for decision makers in IT groups at corporate or business unit levels evaluating SharePoint Server 2010. Second, for managers of application development organizations in IT thinking about how SharePoint Server 2010 can play a role in their application development strategy. Third, for those interested in learning about how to improve the productivity of their organizations or how to enable their teams to become more agile. Finally, for those who want to learn more about how SharePoint Server 2010 can improve productivity in their organizations.

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Introduction

SharePoint Composites is the new set of capabilities available in Microsoft SharePoint Server 2010 that represents the Microsoft vision for end-user-driven composite applications, enabling the creation of rich collaborative solutions without code on the SharePoint platform. In this document we will talk about some of the challenges that customers face as they try to meet the demands of their organization, and how SharePoint Composites allow them to rapidly respond to business needs with no-code collaborative solutions that balance empowerment and control.

The Paradox of Control and Empowerment

One of the most important challenges that IT development organizations face can be summarized in four words: more demands, fewer resources. First, there are increasing demands not just on individuals, but on the organization overall. These demands are difficult to meet as IT budgets suffer funding and resource limitations, creating pressure on the IT backlog, the typically large set of needs that organizations have not been able to address. In addition, the organization's need for governance and controls may impact the ability of IT to improve business satisfaction.

The following is a story that we hear from our customers. First, we start with an IT department that is running at full capacity; doing everything it can to satisfy the needs of the business as much as possible. As a result, IT cannot possibly execute every project or request from the business; it can address only a limited number. We euphemistically call that set of key projects the “Top Ten” projects. During every planning cycle, there is an announcement that communicates what those projects will be, and there are of course ten business sponsors who are very happy that their projects were selected.

The question that we ask then is: “What happens to Project Eleven?” When we talk to the people sponsoring Project Eleven and the rest of the projects left unfunded, they tell us that their projects are still important for their departments, even if they were not

Hidden development efforts

Reliance on questionable platforms

Scattered spend

Lack of governance and visibility

Business risks

selected at the higher level of the organization. They hire a few people, create a solution, and start using it. Over time, this solution becomes important, and they can no longer continue to invest in the solution at the level required, so

they decide that they need to give it to IT for support. However, because the solution probably did not have much supervision from IT, it likely lacks in a few areas, such as security, reporting, scalability, or manageability. As we can see, these unsupervised

development efforts can create risks, and, because they happen across the organization, there is an aggregate amount of investment that is difficult to quantify.

The reality is that there is a tension between business departments and IT. They both want to tackle those projects and improve the business, but the paradox is that one side



requires empowerment, while the other is tasked to control an infrastructure, maintaining stability and governance. The value of SharePoint Composites in SharePoint Server 2010 is that it enables the creation of collaborative solutions that balance self-service with control, all without having to

write code. SharePoint Composites does that by allowing users to rapidly create no-code collaboration solutions that unlock the value of an organization's enterprise data, while allowing the IT department to maintain control over these solutions.

Rapidly Create SharePoint Solutions without Code

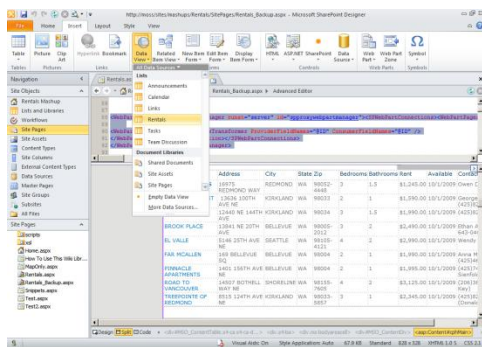
Rapidly create SharePoint solutions without code

- Empower business users with browser-based customizations
- Build declarative sophisticated solutions with SharePoint Designer
- Create human workflows and visualizations with Visio Services
- Share and publish databases with Access Services

The first group of capabilities in SharePoint Composites enables users to rapidly create no-code collaborative solutions, and react and adapt to the business needs across a broad spectrum of business scenarios. From dashboards and blogs to electronic forms and enterprise data, SharePoint Server 2010 provides users with a rich set of building blocks to create collaborative solutions rapidly. Using SharePoint Server 2010, business users can create various aspects of a business solution without code. For example, they can create customizable work areas for themselves and their teams, work on Microsoft Office 2010 documents by themselves or collaboratively, interact with line-of-business data, assign tasks and workflows, derive insights through reports and analysis of data, and share those insights directly with other stakeholders without having to consume the precious time and resources of IT personnel. In this manner, customers can create a variety of business solutions across different aspects of their business, from human resources processes to managing sales contracts, or from IT services portals to product pricing analysis, for example.

SharePoint
 Portal Wikis Doc Sets BCS Forms
 Workflows KPIs People search Visio Services
 Web part framework Blogs Tags Doc ID SharePoint Designer
 Reporting Dashboards Access Services Enterprise search
 List relationships Web edit Managed taxonomy External lists
 Navigators Folksonomies Expertise Silverlight integration
 Excel Services Offline Tag cloud Metadata
 InfoPath web part Org chart browser BI slicers Conditional formatting

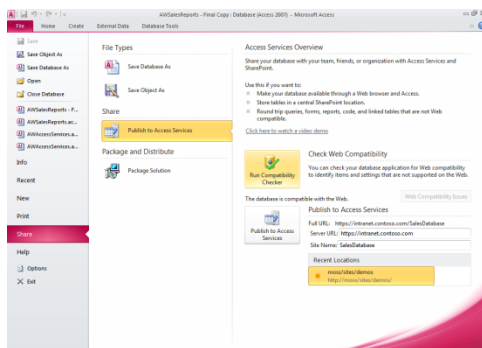
Many of these solutions can be created by users directly, using the rich capabilities of SharePoint Server 2010 available directly on the browser with a standard user interface, simplified commands on the Ribbon, Web edit, and out-of-the-box workflows and Web Parts for a variety of common scenarios.



More advanced users can create rich no-code customizations using the tools available in SharePoint Designer, including list and content type editors, reusable workflows, impersonation steps, XSLT templates, and external content types from Business Connectivity Services, among others. These users can also create process-centric and workflow solutions leveraging the rich forms technologies available in InfoPath 2010.



SharePoint Composites also help business users use their skills in the most popular diagramming tool in the world, Microsoft Visio 2010, directly on SharePoint Server 2010. Users can share and publish diagrams to SharePoint Server 2010 to create custom dashboards that connect to the company's data and can be refreshed almost in real time or even import their process diagrams for use in SharePoint Designer workflows.



Finally, users can publish Microsoft Access 2010 databases to SharePoint Server 2010 and share them with others. With Access Services users are able to eliminate database versioning problems, and IT teams can

simplify the deployment of Access 2010 forms and reports to other users while simplifying management.

Unlock the Value of Your Enterprise Data

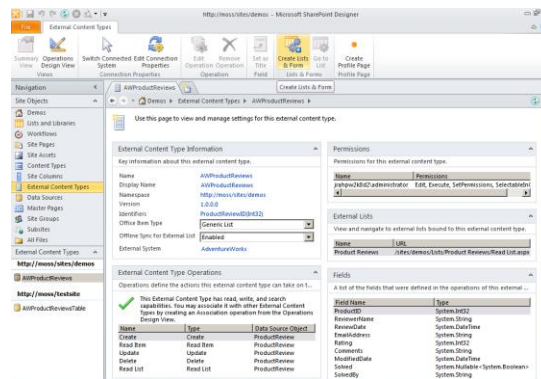
Unlock the value of your enterprise data

- Leverage enterprise data through Business Connectivity Services
- Surface enterprise data in Outlook, Word, and Workspace
- Provide full read and write access, offline or while connected
- Easily enable Search across these systems

The second group of capabilities in SharePoint Composites is actually one of the most exciting new features in SharePoint Server 2010. Business Connectivity Services allows you to make use of your enterprise data in SharePoint Server 2010. Business Connectivity Services helps you easily connect with enterprise data and create external lists, and allows users to interact with those external lists in SharePoint Server 2010 as easily as with traditional SharePoint lists.

Business Connectivity Services also allows users to expose the external data in Microsoft Outlook® 2010, Microsoft Word 2010, and Microsoft SharePoint Workspace 2010, and provides full search, read, and write capabilities.

Business users can even work with this data while offline.



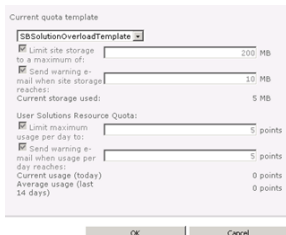
Maintain Control over End-User Solutions

Maintain control over end user solutions

- Manage custom code with Sandboxed Solutions
- Manage desktop solutions with Visio, Forms and Access Services
- Maintain flexibility with deployment online or on premise
- Maintain operational insight with health monitoring

SharePoint Composites allows IT professionals to maintain control over their infrastructure and end-user solutions. Sandboxed solutions give users the ability to deploy custom code in the sandbox, but allow IT professionals to define the level of resources that those solutions can utilize. SharePoint Server 2010 enables hands-off

management of those solutions by automatically ensuring that those solutions stay within the predefined parameters of resource and CPU consumption. SharePoint Server 2010 also provides a unified packaging format that simplifies packaging and upgrades, whether online or on premises, while health monitoring reports are available to maintain operational insight over the infrastructure.



Summary

In summary, SharePoint Composites allows you to rapidly create SharePoint solutions without code, unlock the value of your enterprise data, and maintain control over end-user solutions.

SharePoint Composites empowers your organization to take action with user-driven solutions, increasing user and department satisfaction while allowing IT to focus on high-priority projects and to maintain a stable infrastructure. Users in your organization will be empowered to solve problems on their own and to make use of their skills with Access 2010, Visio 2010, and Microsoft InfoPath® 2010 to share their databases, diagrams, and forms using SharePoint Server 2010.

Second, your organization will derive more value from the significant investments you have made on enterprise systems such as ERP, CRM, and other applications. By extending the reach of this data to more people, these investments become more valuable and useful. Your users will be more productive by interacting with enterprise data directly within SharePoint Server 2010 and Office 2010.

Finally, your IT teams will be able to maintain a manageable platform and predictable service levels, simplifying operations with a single unified platform for all solutions, whether created by business users, business units, or corporate IT.

Additional Resources

For more information, visit <http://sharepoint.microsoft.com>.