

The forecast website supports your team preparing and updating the forecast.

General : forecasting

We see companies that update their forecast twice a year, some companies update 3 times and a majority of our large customers has 4 forecast sequels a year. All of these forecast types are supported in the Forecast website , it is up to you how to use it. A forecast update usually starts with a quarter end closing. Data is then used to updated the numbers with the most recent knowledge from all different departments. The collaboration must be perfect. Which also applies for the tools.

As we have experienced, the shared folders on shared networks are not the best of breed for this purpose. SharePoint is pretty close. It supports version control, project management etc, and we have added our process knowledge to make it an easy to use tool for forecasting.

By our choice for the 1 click install, it is necessary to buy/install the components separately. This way the workspace and task lists will be directly installed in your own SharePoint farm. All prices are valid per registered organization (chamber of commerce or equal) and are excluding sales tax.

Forecast website

The website offers the structure for a best practice forecast process. It offers version control, audit trail, document and task control.

The unique coding system (structured storage) supports collaboration between and over all departments involved. You can imagine how easy documents can be tracked and traced.

All libraries are designed to contain all information on a central place (single point upload). The planning and control library contains 50 different document types as: fixed assets, intercompany reconciliation, reports etc. The other libraries representing the collaboration between the planning and control department and other departments that use the same document types.

The tasks list available from the Financial suite are completely in sync with the libraries, resulting in quality assurance for all documents.

Business case

How to deploy SharePoint as the best forecast collaboration solution for all departments and companies enabling project management for your forecast?

- ✓ Frequency of use : 4 * per year
- ✓ Deploy ability: privately held company, subsidiary or holding company
- ✓ Solution: Forecast website, containing a forecast workspace and forecast tasks

Make or buy - payback time

Compare the purchase costs with your cost of making or outsourcing.

Internal development time:

- ✓ Experienced SharePoint user skilled in forecast updates: approx 120 hrs
- ✓ Novice SharePoint user :approx 200+ hours.

Based on this information, you can make up your mind

Payback time for this product: some weeks.

Contents and options of the website

The use of shared folders and shared folders on the network drives has been replaced by the central library for planning and control. This is a place where you can file all forecast documents on one place. You only have to select the metadata and the period and from that moment on you can be in control and find your documents the easy way.

Options for the website.

- ✓ The website structure follows the forecasting process.
- ✓ The website can easily be upgraded with our product for forecasting tasks.
- ✓ All tasks from our Financial suite are coded in sync with the coding for storage in the libraries.
- ✓ The website enables project management support for the forecast period with Gantt charts etc.
- ✓ Announcement of the first upcoming due date on the home page (see our demo).
- ✓ Shared library for documents related to 12 periods forecast.
- ✓ Shared libraries for documents delivered by other departments.
- ✓ All libraries use document and version control, are secured and facilitate the use of unique documents.
- ✓ 15 different views for easy finding your documents.
- ✓ View for consolidation documents.
- ✓ Views for group reporting documents sent and received.
- ✓ Views for forecasts per period are supported.

Functionality

Standard functionality for this website:

- ✓ Structured storage©: unique coding system for all documents and tasks based on B/S, P and L etc, Excel, Word, PowerPoint etc.
- ✓ Single point upload©: all documents can be uploaded in central libraries
- ✓ Many predefined views on the libraries facilitate easy finding
- ✓ Intercompany documents are shown in separate tabs
- ✓ Catered for the generic forecast task list

Synopsis

Please visit our demo website to experience the look and feel of the forecast website. It tells you more than many screen dumps.

The forecast is catered for the use of the forecast tasks product from the Financial suite©. The task lists have the same logical order as all other task lists and libraries, starting with the Balance sheet followed by the profit and loss account, cash flow calculations and tax. Over 65 tasks are predefined as structured tasks©. Adapting these tasks will give you a head start for your .

We recommend the use of our forecast task list for optimal efficiency.