
CASE STUDY

EPAM SHAREPOINT CONNECTOR: BUILDING SPOTFIRE FUNCTIONALITY INTO SHAREPOINT TO ENABLE REAL-TIME PROJECT STATUS UPDATES



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IMPROVING THE DESIGN ASSURANCE PROCESS FOR A GLOBAL ENERGY COMPANY

The client is a leading global energy company operating mainly in the upstream sector with a strong and diverse set of assets. Faced with no way to easily provide real-time project status updates for the development of products for its offshore oil platform, the company wanted to improve its design assurance process. In general, design assurance tracks all phases of engineering associated with these products, including requirements definition, drawing and specification control, design adequacy verification, change control and supporting documentation. Each phase would require project managers and subject matter experts to manually assess and capture mission-critical details in order to provide status updates and manage employee tasks.

This inefficient state of affairs stemmed from the fact that the data defining project status was stored across several Microsoft SharePoint lists, meaning that status-related data could not be found all in one place. While SharePoint succeeded in providing a common, trusted place for data gathering, project managers and stakeholders were still lacking a proper visualization dashboard that could ingest, serve and visualize all of the data in real-time.

CONNECTING SHAREPOINT TO SPOTFIRE TO ENABLE INSTANT DATA VISUALIZATION

With the constant pressure to provide consistent and accurate project updates, project managers were struggling to give full attention to details and deadlines. Instead, they were often distracted by the task of manually integrating and refreshing data to give an accurate view of project progress.

The client knew that unifying and visualizing disparate data sources would solve the problem. To do so, connection was required between the data stored on SharePoint lists and the Spotfire data visualization platform. The problem was, they were struggling to connect the data stored in multiple lists on SharePoint to Spotfire's software. With this challenge in mind, the company partnered with EPAM to make information tracking and project status updates more transparent and instantaneous.



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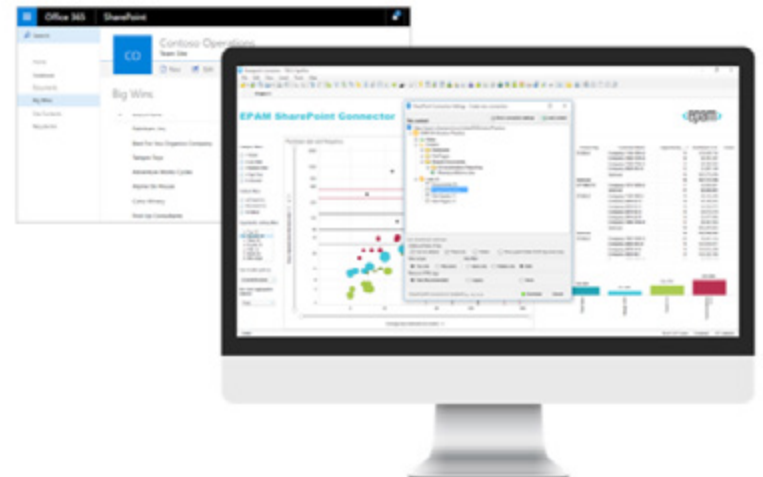
ENABLING PROJECT OVERVIEW DASHBOARDS

EPAM implemented one of its accelerators – the EPAM SharePoint Connector – to automatically integrate the client’s Microsoft SharePoint data with TIBCO Spotfire analytical dashboards in real-time, which resulted in consistent and up-to-date project status reports. The provided solution also allows users to insert multiple lines of data into Spotfire and visualize them within the analytical dashboard, ensuring that all SharePoint-stored data, regardless of format, is now captured within one dashboard, serving as a single point of transparency.

Overall, the SharePoint Connector makes it easy to manage multiple projects in parallel with an easy-to-digest summary page. With the provided project overview dashboard, the client is able to:

- Track status of projects managed on SharePoint through SharePoint lists or Excel files that are embedded in Spotfire dashboards
- Handle dependencies and relations within SharePoint inside Spotfire reports through SharePoint List IDs
- Quickly build lightweight project management reports using live data from SharePoint without data transformation
- Refresh project status automatically
- Leave comments within the dashboard, which simplifies and accelerates collaboration

Furthermore, as they contain consolidated charts and KPIs, the overview dashboards can also serve as a base to compare the results of all projects in one place.



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ANSWER ANY QUESTION AT
ANY SCALE**

CONTACT

enterpriseanalytics@epam.com

to get a free demo of EPAM SharePoint
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RECAP: PROJECT STATUS REPORTING MADE EASY FOR PROJECT MANAGERS

EPAM helped the client to optimize project management across the entire business by enabling quick and transparent project overviews, holistic reporting throughout the project lifecycle, and status updates for projects managed on Microsoft SharePoint.

With the EPAM SharePoint Connector, the client's project managers now have the following advantages:

- Ability to switch between dashboard and SharePoint seamlessly with one click, which accelerates decision-making processes like approving pending requests
- Automatic data integration and refresh, which saves valuable time for project managers and business analysts
- Quick project overview, which increases transparency over project management
- Easily manageable report access
- Increased cooperation and teamwork as a result of collaboration capabilities within the dashboard

With a flawlessly executed solution by EPAM, the client's design assurance process has been fully upgraded to incorporate Spotfire data dashboards, which now serve as a tool for enhancing project excellence.



EPAM SHAREPOINT CONNECTOR

STREAMLINE REPORTING WORKFLOWS WITH SECURE DATA ACCESS TO MICROSOFT SHAREPOINT

CHALLENGE

Leveraging enterprise data stored on Microsoft SharePoint inside analytics is time consuming, and can be very costly to automate. Data validation, temporary data storage and exports require the constant participation of the IT department. Enforcing strict enterprise governance when connecting Microsoft SharePoint and TIBCO Spotfire is a must for every organization.

SOLUTION

The EPAM SharePoint Connector for TIBCO Spotfire enables SharePoint data to be embedded within analytics, automates data import, ensures regular data refresh and also solves all integration challenges, such as enforcing strict enterprise security and protecting sensitive business data.

BENEFITS

UNLOCK ENTERPRISE DATA

- Enable SharePoint data to be leveraged in TIBCO Spotfire analytics
- Retrieve deeply held data with powerful search and retrieval of lists and sub-list items

AUTOMATED DATA ACCESS

- Easily differentiate requirements among user teams
- Personalize training and exam materials for different user groups

ENTERPRISE SECURITY

- Ensure strict enterprise security standards with built-in support for various authentication methods (basic, forms, integrated Windows and SSO)

KEY PRODUCT FEATURES

- Native integration in TIBCO Spotfire as a custom data source
- Automated refresh when opening reports
- Support for multiple SharePoint data types (e.g. Microsoft Excel files, CSV files, Custom Lists, Calendars, Text Files, etc.)
- Support for recursive content (e.g. lists inside lists or folders inside folders) for unlimited depth
- Automation job support
- Compatible with SharePoint 2007, 2010, 2013 and SharePoint Online

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