

# Simplify your Business Intelligence with Sharperlight

#### Whether we like it or not, the world is not black and white.

Despite how comprehensive your ERP solution is, your organization will likely always rely on 3rd party or legacy data systems that aren't easily accessible to your reporting solution, without manual processes or implementing costly data warehousing and OLAP technologies.

# Seeing the light

Sharperlight is an easy to use, fast to implement reporting and business intelligence solution, providing live, out of the box access to your Microsoft Dynamics ERP data. It also extends access to other 3rd party applications and data sources to deliver a comprehensive, enterprise wide BI solution.

With one report you can consolidate multiple sites, companies, and systems without losing the ability to drill down through to the transaction level.

Sharperlight's powerful ability to writeback referential and transactional data from a spreadsheet or web browser to the Microsoft Dynamics ERP, empowers users to act upon the data they're seeing in real-time.

The Sharperlight Datamodel framework is highly adaptable and can quickly keep in tune with a growing organization to include new data systems or additional modules within Microsoft Dynamics ERP.

User defined fields and tables created in Microsoft Dynamics ERP, are automatically recognized to ensure you are able to report on all data in your Microsoft Dynamics ERP system. Other custom data sources can also be merged to provide a complete reporting and analytical solution.

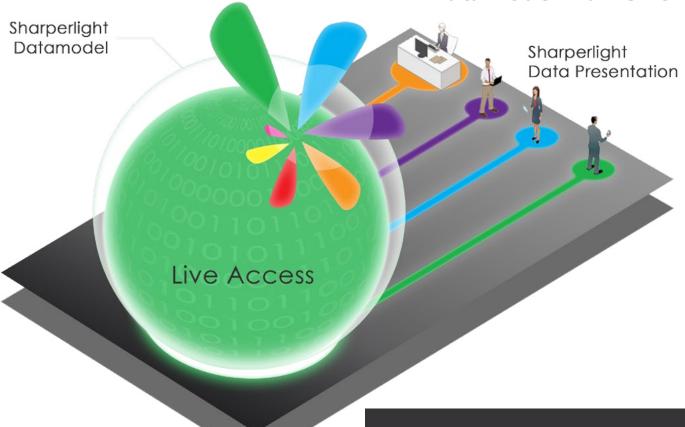
Users can easily define their own datasets for budgeting, forecasting and modeling from Microsoft Dynamics ERP and other systems, greatly simplifying the reporting process and reducing the demand on data specialists to write complex custom reports.

Sharperlight provides live, out of the box access to the Microsoft Dynamics ERP (AX, NAV, GP or SL) suite of solutions and 3rd party data across your entire organization.



What is Sharperlight?

The Sharperlight Datamodel Framework



# **Sharperlight Datamodels**

The Sharperlight Datamodel takes away the underlying complexity of multiple disparate systems by presenting all your data through a consistent user interface.

To achieve this, the Datamodel for each system acts as an intelligent connection between the system and the presentation interfaces. Datamodels are bi-directional allowing for extraction and insertion of data for integration, aggregation and consolidation of datasets in a truly agile and flexible environment.

When installed, the Datamodel framework will automatically expand to include and custom tables and fields within Microsoft Dynamics ERP.

Datamodels are also user-extendable as required using Custom Fields in Query Builder and Datamodel Extensions in Studio. All Sharperlight tools are included in every implementation.

# **Technology Features**



Rapid Datamodel Development



SOA and N-tier architecture with Data Services delivered using a REST Service and .NET API's



Query Builder and XML Query Language



Consistent User Interface (Filter, Selection and Output)



Sub Queries (Filter and Output)



Drilldown and Drill Through



Re-brandable



Compatible with Every Windows® Release from Windows XP to Windows 10.



64 Bit ready



The Sharperlight solution suite consists of a number of different modules:

## **Query Builder**

The Sharperlight Query Builder provides a common user interface for the entire suite. This drag and drop UI makes it easy to create powerful queries and sub queries across multiple sites, companies and systems with preview and drilldown functionality available at every step. Its rich filtering and user expression language adds the flexibility to create far more complex queries when required.

The Query Builder also provides a direct link to Sharperlight's Datamodels, so they can be extended with Custom Tables and Custom Fields. They also look and behave like any other element available in the Query Builder, making for a consistent and predictable user experience.

#### **Microsoft Excel**

Make your favorite analysis spreadsheet more useful than ever.

The Sharperlight Microsoft Excel Add-in allows you to create intelligent cell and table formulas that natively bind to data in Microsoft Dynamics ERP dynamically, with automatic recalculations and lookup dialogs on referenced cells. It also handles validation and security for Sharperlight's Data Writeback facility, making your spreadsheet capable of securely updating Microsoft Dynamics ERP.

The Microsoft Excel Add-in is compatible with Microsoft Office 2003, 2007, 2010 and 2013.

# **Page Based Reporting**

Page Based Reporting provides "pixel perfect" reports in a variety of ready to share formats, including HTML, PDF, Excel, Word and TIFF.

Each reporting page can include sub reports, sub queries, charts, maps, images, dashboards and forms (such as Invoices).

Coding of custom functions is in C# or VB.NET, so your inhouse or solution partner's developers can easily support your customization requirements.

#### **Explorer**

The Sharperlight Explorer is a standalone data explorer and analysis toolset, for Drilldown and Drill Through data navigation. Accessible from within Sharperlight XL or from the desktop, Explorer Drilldown links are delivered through the .NET Data Provider which loads Explorer and allows random slice and dice analysis.

Drilldowns can be retained and embedded in published Dashboards via the Web Channel.

#### **Web Channel**

The Sharperlight Web Channel is a secure web interface for accessing and viewing published queries. Via this service, live published content can be shared, filtered and refreshed on-line.

Your up-to-date reports can be available to those that need them 24x7x365 with full Drilldown and Drill Through capabilities.

Published content can be saved to CSV, HTML and Word.

#### **Publisher**

Make a full library of queries designed in Query Builder available on the Sharperlight Web Channel with custom titles, descriptions, versioning and history. All secured with full user group access control.

Enable Caching with refresh aged by days, hours and minutes.

Extend the layout of reports with sub-reports to make dashboards or tabbed webpages.

Supported output formats include Tables, Charts, Pivot Tables, RSS and ATOM feeds.

#### **Dashboard**

Dashboards consist of multiple tiled portals that combine a wide variety of real-time, customizable reports in one convenient location.

With every dashboard having a unique URL via the Sharperlight Web Channel, live optimized data can easily be embedded into any existing web browser interface.

Dashboard creation and maintenance is also available via web browser native HTML5. This avoids the need for Flash or Silverlight interfaces, maximizing cross-platform compatibility across desktop, laptop and mobile devices with a variety of operating systems.

#### **Datamodel Studio**

The Sharperlight Datamodel Studio is a development environment for constructing and maintaining Datamodels.

The Datamodel Studio is included with every installation of Sharperlight and is designed to assist first time users all the way up to technical authors.



# **Materialized Queries**

It is sometimes useful to have the ability to stage query data into a physical data set that can be summarized for performance or fixed to allow consistent reporting over time. This concept is often referred to as an Agile Data Mart.

Materialized Query is the Sharperlight terminology for this functionality and it is a standard extension of the Query Builder interface.

#### Writeback

Writeback is the Sharperlight interface technology that writes data back to a database using Web Services or API's.

From the Web, data can be written back to supported systems

From within Excel, worksheet data can be uploaded to a destination database using validation and controlled by the processes defined in the Sharperlight.

Writeback templates can be saved into the workbook and reused time and again.

Referential data as well as transactional data can be written back whilst maintaining all application controls.

### **Security**

Sharperlight allows permissions to be setup against companies and tables.

Every published query can be secured to user groups within Sharperlight. If a user is not within the accessible group they will not be able to see the published query in the web.



**For More Information Contact:** 



Eclipse Group +44 (0)203 866 8800 enquiries@eclgrp.com www.eclgrp.com