Workstation Planning

ARGUS Enterprise 11.0

12/4/2015
ARGUS Software – An Altus Group Company

ARGUS®
SOFTWARE
An Altus Group company

Workstation Planning
ARGUS Enterprise 11.0
12/4/2015

Published by:
ARGUS Software, Inc.
750 Town and Country Blvd
Suite 800
Houston, TX 77024
Telephone (713) 621-4343
Facsimile (713) 621-2787
www.argussoftware.com

Information in this document is subject to change without notice and represents no commitment on the part of ARGUS Software, Inc.

This document is copyright © 2015, ARGUS Software, Inc. All rights reserved. This document is a confidential and proprietary trade secret of ARGUS Software, made available only under a license agreement and or other agreements containing obligations of confidentiality.

"ARGUS" and “ARGUS Enterprise” are trademarks of ARGUS Software, Inc. All other trademarks and registered trademarks are property of their respective companies.

Table of Contents

Purpose 1
About Workstation-Scale Design 2
Architecture 3
System Requirements 4
AE Workstation & Client 4
ARGUS Enterprise Database Server 5
Summary 6

© 2015 ARGUS Software, Inc.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide information about the architecture and server system requirements of workstation-scale design.

© 2015 ARGUS Software, Inc.

About Workstation-Scale Design

The workstation version of ARGUS Enterprise 11.0 is a good fit for production environments with one to five users , each running locally but connecting to a SQL database running either locally on the user machine or, if required, on a centralized server, allowing data to be shared within the workgroup. The design is appropriate for establishing a production environment in the case of smaller work groups with a few portfolios and a small number (<100) of models in each of those portfolios. Consider the medium-scale implementation if more portfolios are required, if the workgroup expects more than one hundred property models within the portfolios, if security is important, or if complex data integration is required.

Larger enterprises may also find the workstation-scale design useful in pilot or test environments. In pilot environments, the workstation-scale design can be used for pre-production design and concept prototyping with system customization. The workstation-scale design may also be a good solution as a test environment, maintained in permanence for ongoing system changes and upgrades.

When considering the workstation-scale design, consider the following benefits and limitations of the approach:

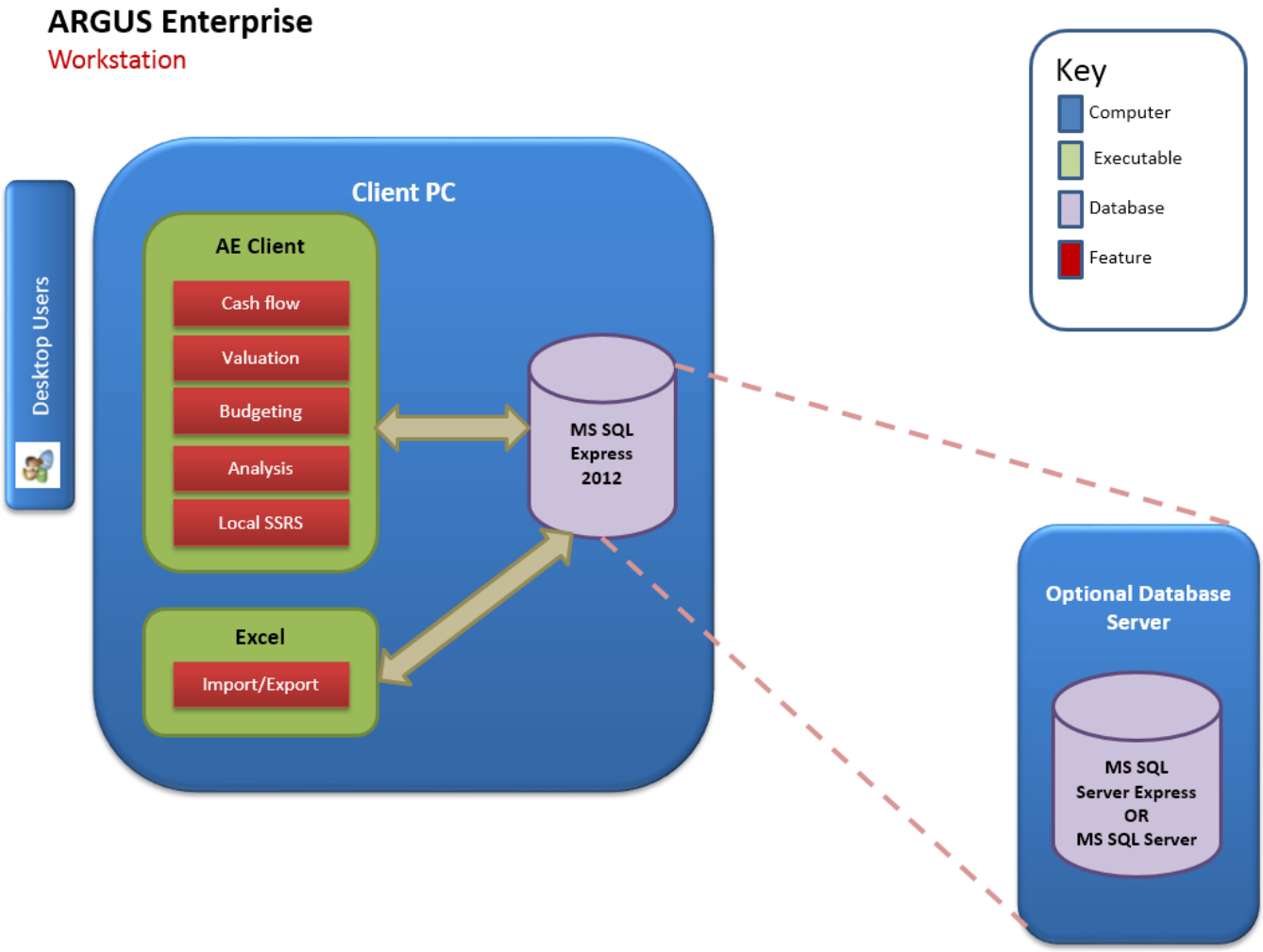
- **Compact** — The workstation-scale design represents a physically and economically compact approach to system build-out.
- **Simple** — The workstation-scale build-out provides the quickest avenue in terms of hardware and software provisioning, with the lowest requirements for ongoing maintenance.
- **Performance** – All processing is done locally within the system using a single processor. This means actual performance returned by the system on large-scale jobs such as sensitivity is severely impacted.
- **Security** – Each user directly connects to the database using standard ADO authentication parameters. This gives the clients the opportunity of directly update the database without Audit or Logging taking place.
- **Integration Services** – Are not available.
- **Scalability** – The workstation-scale design is limited in the number of property portfolios and concurrent users it can support. For increased scalability, please consider the medium or large-scale deployment.

© 2015 ARGUS Software, Inc.

Architecture

The architecture shown below avoids excessive bottlenecks of the CPU and RAM on the server while being simple and efficient to implement.

The workstation physical architecture represents the most compact approach and minimum scale configuration possible for ARGUS Enterprise. The application tier is removed and collapsed into the Integrated ARGUS Enterprise Client, while the data tier is isolated to a single database stored locally on the user machine or a separate physical server with on-board storage. This configuration does not offer fault-tolerance at the solution level and only minimal fault tolerance at the hardware level (reliant upon IT build-out policies and hardware standards).



© 2015 ARGUS Software, Inc.

System Requirements

The following represents minimal supported system requirements for use of ARGUS Enterprise 11.0:

AE Workstation & Client

Component	Required
Computer and Processor	2 gigahertz (GHz) processor or higher
Memory	4 gigabyte (GB) RAM or higher
Hard Disk	2 GB; a portion of this disk space may be freed up post-installation by removing the original download package.
Display	1024x768 or higher resolution
Operating System	Microsoft Windows Vista with SP1 (32-bit or 64-bit); Microsoft Windows 7 (32-bit or 64-bit) , Microsoft Windows 8 (32bit or 64bit); Microsoft Windows 10 (32bit or 64bit).
Other	Installation of the .NET framework 4.0 is a pre-requisite for use with the Enterprise platform. These minimum guidelines are subject to modification based on unique system specifications.
Additional	Export to PDF requires an accompanying reader such as Adobe Acrobat Reader. Some functions, such as *Export to Excel*, require Microsoft Excel 2007, 2010, 2013 or 2016. ARGUS Add-In for Excel requires Excel 2007 or higher. File exported to the .sf format require ARGUS Valuation-DCF to open/modify.

© 2015 ARGUS Software, Inc.

ARGUS Enterprise Database Server

A separate database server is not required as the use of SQL Express on the workstation is supported.

Component	Required	Recommended
Processor	Dual processors rated faster than 2.5 GHz	Quad processors rated faster than 2.5 GHz
RAM	4 GB	8 GB
Disk	5 GB	>5GB
Operating System	Windows Server 2008 R2 Std x86 or x64	Windows Server 2012 R2 Std x64
Database	Local Microsoft SQL Server 2008 Express or later	Shared Microsoft Server 2012, or later
Other	If local reports are not used, then SSRS is required for Repertoire Reporting.	

A shared installation of SQL Express may be used; however, the following limitations apply to SQL Express installed on a server:

- 10 GB database
- Single core processing
- 1 GB RAM.

If you choose to install a shared installation of SQL Express, we do not recommend more than three concurrent users.

© 2015 ARGUS Software, Inc.

Summary

To quickly on-ramp an ARGUS Enterprise 11.0 system, the workstation-scale design offers compelling strategic features and flexibility in purpose. Please consider that when starting with a core workstation-scale design, definite challenges exist if the environment proves to be under-scaled in actual usage. Initial selections in physical hardware are critical to ensure that performance and data volumes meet the usage needs for the duration of the environment.

Expectations for end-users in a pilot or test environment should be set at a lower level than for a production environment. While shown with the SQL Server Reporting Services component installed locally within the client, there is some performance gain in distributing this component to a remote host either installed on the SQL Server database or otherwise. In this design approach, performance gains are most clearly found by adding/using faster CPUs and RAM on the client PC.

© 2015 ARGUS Software, Inc.