

FRx[®] FORECASTER

FRx SOFTWARE CORPORATION



FRx Forecaster—It's about control.

Today's dynamic business environment requires flexible budget development and fast, easy revision capabilities. FRx Forecaster allows you to effortlessly distribute budgeting data and financial information throughout your organization, collaborate with management, plan more effectively, and achieve your business objectives.

FRx Forecaster is designed to work for your company. If you want timely, relevant budgeting and planning in your company, start experiencing the benefits of FRx Forecaster today.



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FRx[®] Forecaster makes it easy for you to immediately realize the benefits of budgeting and planning

The very words “budgeting and planning” remind accounting professionals of long, exhausting hours spent developing a budget, which is then ignored by most people in the company. Many view participation in the budget process as a waste of time because they just don't see the benefit. They feel that the budget numbers aren't based on valid assumptions or accurate data. And because budgeting is so time consuming, most budgets are obsolete by the time they are approved.

A good business process for budgeting and planning for your financial future can have a positive impact on your company's bottom line and show an on-going return on investment through time and money savings.

FRx Forecaster allows you to quickly implement a comprehensive budgeting solution that saves time and money throughout the year

FRx Forecaster is a Web-based budgeting application that saves time and money throughout the year. Because it is easy to learn and use, end-users can start building a baseline budget in as little as two weeks.

Many can utilize FRx[®] ExpressLink to assist in establishing a baseline budget. With this unique built-in capability, financial data may be pulled from your general ledger or imported, which saves you time and ensures the accuracy of your financial information. With FRx ExpressLink, the initial set-up of FRx Forecaster is automated, so the transfer of basic information such as the chart of accounts and historical general ledger data is easily transferred into FRx Forecaster. Capital, revenue, personnel, and other information can easily be imported. Many of the tedious manual tasks associated with budget set-up are automated for you.

FRx Forecaster makes it practical and cost effective for managers to use budget and actual information to help make daily decisions. You can monitor business conditions and adjust plans, all of which have the potential to improve business performance and justify the investment in FRx Forecaster.

By implementing FRx Forecaster, you can easily base your daily decisions on the most current numbers compared to the budget, and continually adjust the plan with ease.

FRx Forecaster gives you control of budgeting and planning by simplifying, speeding up, and more efficiently managing the entire budgeting process

Historical information can be populated from your general ledger, which makes it easier and faster to establish a baseline budget. Everyone can enter their cost center data into templates made by you over the Web. You can involve more people in the process; especially those not always involved in the budgeting process (but should be) and those responsible for daily decisions.

Workflow management helps companies more efficiently manage the budget process by monitoring and keeping it on schedule. A quick glance tells you the status of budget components by center and individual. You also have a map of the line-of-authority to see who is responsible for specific pieces of the budget allowing notifications to be sent to the right individual when budgets are due.



Photo: BananaStock

With FRx Forecaster, you save about six weeks for every budgeting and planning cycle you run. That's a significant savings, in time and money, for your organization.

FRx Forecaster lets you streamline the budgeting process

Individual creation of budgets, changing the budget model, budget consolidations, iterations for review and modification, reporting, and collaborating with interrelated departments; it is easier and faster to construct a thoughtful budget that is based on valid data and assumptions, and therefore is more predictive of the future. Because FRx Forecaster is completely Web-based, it is readily available for all individuals participating in the budget process.

FRx Forecaster also makes it easier for Excel users to continue to use spreadsheets, if necessary. Create a variety of user-defined Excel output files, so that you can create budgets, manipulate and analyze.

Adjustments and changes are easy to make with FRx Forecaster—and they are reflected throughout the budget without additional work on your part. The result is a higher quality plan with goals that are realistic and more achievable. You can immediately view the impact as the numbers change.

Input Screens make it easy for you to control what users see and how they enter numbers

A simple, browser-based interface and familiar functionality helps you and your end users get comfortable with inputting and analyzing data quickly and with minimal training. Input Screens can be customized to use the time periods and accounts that you specify, and you can define formulas for calculations and assign them to any line, column or cell. Each budget version stores up to 13 periods to support multiple scenarios and flexible input screens can be defined with up to 100 different periods from multiple budget versions. Copy/Grow functions let you enter an amount in a cell and either copy the amount across time periods or increase or decrease the amount according to your specifications. Single account input allows you to input and compare the current account's budget against a baseline amount. And, the Single Account Input Screen makes it easy to apply automatic increases or decreases based on variance percentages or amounts over the baseline.

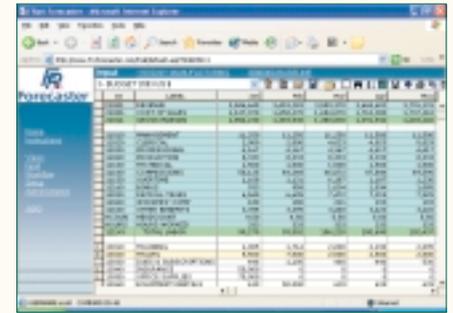
Your budgets are accurate, relevant and realistic with FRx Forecaster

FRx Forecaster makes budgeting and planning easy, but will the budgets be used? The major reason budgets are ignored is that they aren't relevant or realistic, and they quickly become obsolete. With FRx Forecaster, accommodating changes is easier when you can view one report that shows both budgeting goals and actual performance. With ownership of the numbers, and current budget-to-actual comparisons, it is very powerful for front-line managers and others to see how their departments are performing in relation to their targets. And there's no waiting for a report that might be weeks out of date—anyone can access a current report via the Web whenever they want. They can also answer their own questions immediately by drilling down from summary data in the budget to supporting details.

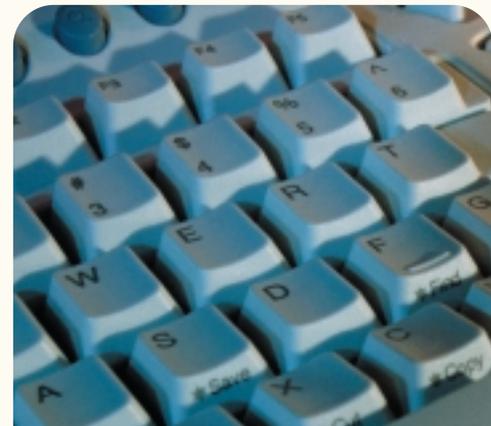
After the budget process has been completed, you continue to receive feedback on the accuracy and realism of the budget. FRx Forecaster gives you an easy way to keep score—how are individual departments and divisions doing in relation to the budget? This business process reinforces management's commitment to making the budgeting process meaningful and more relevant.

You can collaborate by using email notification, memos, notes, attachments, and a centralized bulletin board to post goals, objectives, assumptions and instructions. This documentation helps everyone understand the rationale behind important budget numbers and changes made by others.

Control costs and understand your numbers better with our line-item detail for activities like travel, entertainment, and meals by entering supporting line items for any account. A difference row alerts you to any variance between the account balance and the line-item entries. This approach to budgeting gives you the flexibility to add details for specific items and roll up the information for presentation and review. Line-item detail along with summary roll-ups, compensation budgeting, capital expenditure planning and expense allocation and revenue modeling allow you to build a precise budget.



Input Screens can be customized to use the time periods and accounts that you specify, and you can define formulas for calculations and assign them to any line, column or cell.



Human Resources Budgeting allows you to add detailed budgeting data for specific personnel and includes flexibility in designating salaries and bonuses

Employees typically account for the highest expense in a company's budget. When it comes to budgeting for this important cost component, FRx Forecaster supports you with advanced capabilities that allow you to plan for human resource expenses with precision and flexibility.

FRx Forecaster allows you to easily understand the impacts of salary adjustments, bonuses, overtime and benefits. Employees can be budgeted on a monthly or annual basis, using an hourly or salaried status, and they can be tracked by defining both hours and FTE/headcount. Quickly allocate employees across multiple cost centers and easily view employee information to quickly determine the time allocation by individual. Detailed records for each component of employee compensation are stored to make it easy to pull this important information into account-level views. An incremented benefits tier can be defined to apply fixed benefits—flat rate, fixed amount, or fixed amount incremented. Limits on individual benefits can be defined and enforced.

The Capital Expense Module allows you to standardize the accounting of capital expenditure by cost center

Based on the type of capital expense, depreciation is calculated according to the time frame you choose, and the results are allocated to the appropriate accounts. You can even track the cash outflow and balance sheet impact of projected purchases.

The Revenue Module tracks revenue by market and product

Custom formulas can be used to calculate revenues and cost of sales in the worksheet. Enter factors such as price/cost per item and items sold, and then let FRx Forecaster automatically calculate your profit margin for you.

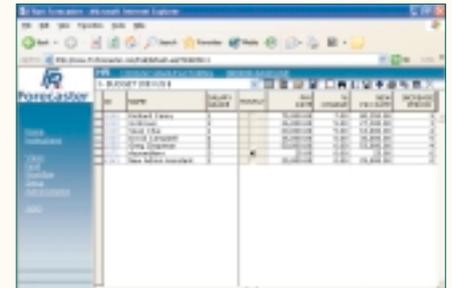
Allocate amounts from one cost center to multiple cost centers

With the allocation wizard, you can allocate company overhead or other items among cost centers by defining the distribution percentages yourself, or letting FRx Forecaster distribute it on the basis of the factors you choose, such as headcount or square footage.

Quickly adjust your plan to take advantage of changes in the business environment

FRx Forecaster gives you the ability to monitor the status of your business in real time. Comparison reporting allows you to immediately track trends in your business. And you can quickly and easily access the information you need to test a variety of alternatives to support a well-informed decision to expand, contract, emphasize or de-emphasize business initiatives.

For many companies, budgets are unrealistic and inaccurate because their systems can't easily accommodate change. As a result, arbitrary across-the-board changes are made to expenses and revenues. FRx Forecaster makes it easy to make top-down adjustments and communicate the reasons for budget changes. New versions can be made to accommodate unexpected changes in assumptions or business conditions using online collaboration tools.



The screenshot displays a software window titled 'FRx Forecaster - Microsoft Windows Explorer'. The main area shows a table with columns for 'Employee', 'Salary', 'Hours', 'FTE', 'Benefits', and 'Total'. The table contains several rows of data, including names like 'John Doe' and 'Jane Smith', along with numerical values for each category. The interface includes a standard Windows menu bar and a toolbar with various icons.

Detailed records for each component of employee compensation are stored to make it easy to pull this important information into account-level views.

Use the FRx® DrillDown Viewer™ to make FRx Forecaster and FRx® Financial Reporter especially vigorous tools for analysis

Reports from FRx Financial Reporter can combine FRx Forecaster and general ledger data into the same report. It's easy to drill down past the account level to retrieve transaction-level detail located in either the general ledger or the FRx Forecaster database. That means supporting details that roll up to an account are a mouse click away.

ABOUT FRx SOFTWARE CORPORATION

FRx Software Corporation, a Microsoft Business Solutions company, is the leading provider of advanced financial analytic applications to mid-market and emerging enterprise organizations seeking to bring more control to their financial analysis and reporting processes. Its flagship product, FRx® Financial Reporter, is used by more than 100,000 sites worldwide to bring control to the financial reporting process. FRx Financial Reporter is also considered the financial reporting standard for mid-market companies and emerging enterprises, with interfaces to more than 50 industry-leading financial accounting systems. FRx® Forecaster is a browser-based budgeting and planning application that makes it easy for organizations to immediately realize the benefits of budgeting. Enterprise Reporting, the third application rounding out FRx Software's comprehensive product suite, gives companies the flexibility to create the most efficient solution for complex, distributed reporting requirements. With Enterprise Reporting, companies can easily automate procedures unique to their business environment to give them complete control over consolidations, statutory reporting, budgeting and analysis.



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