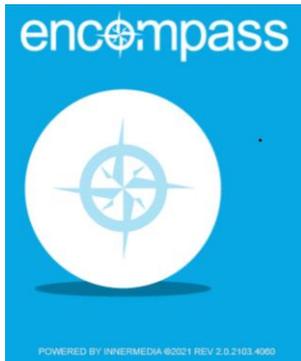




SUCCESS STORY

ENCOMPASS Success Story





Innermedia, Inc.

Using Aspose.PDF and Aspose.HTML for .NET

Brian C. Lowry, CTO, August 16, 2021

About Innermedia

Please tell us a bit about your company, department and team, as well as the challenges that you face.

Innermedia is a boutique software company that develops turn-key software solutions for a wide range of markets and applications, primarily focusing on reporting, BI, and visualization in the health care market. We have a small, diversified team of developers, with over eighty years combined experience in application architecture, development, and support. Due to the small size of team, we must be very discerning in the third-third party tools that we employ.

Problem

You came to Aspose for a reason: what problems did you need to solve? How important was it to solve these problems? What were your objectives? How many users were involved, how many customers affected?

We developed our original ENCOMPASS reporting software about six years ago. The software ingests XML and Excel data files, then generates visually appealing slides based upon a templating architecture. These slides are displayed in a WYSIWYG editor, and the user may edit them, similar to a PowerPoint slide. We originally used XSL.FO as the page description language. The ENCOMPASS software would then render the XSL.FO to both PDF and PPTX when the report was finalized.

Aspose software helps us to solve several problems. First, the third-party tool that we have been using for rendering is end-of-life. Secondly, we are looking to transition our desktop application to the web, so we are looking for third-party solutions that are capable of that transition. Thirdly, we are looking to greatly enhance the functionality of the software, so we need a partner with a depth of solutions and products. Lastly, we are migrating to HTML/SVG as our page description language, along with CSS. Aspose functionality checks these boxes, giving us both scalability as well as a solution with technical support.

Solution

Why did you choose an Aspose product? How did you implement it? What are the inputs and outputs? What does the user see?

We have been using a competitive product for over five years. We did an extensive search of all products that purport to provide solutions to our problem, including downloading and writing test code. Aspose was the only solution that met or exceeded our expectations for quality in regards to the PDF and PPTX output. Our next-generation software, while still in the beta phase, uses an SVG/HTML WYSIWYG editor. We choose SVG due to the quality of the Scalable Vector Graphics, which, unlike bitmap graphics, do not degrade when scaled. Our clients demand the highest print and screen quality, since the ENCOMPASS reports are viewed by executives.

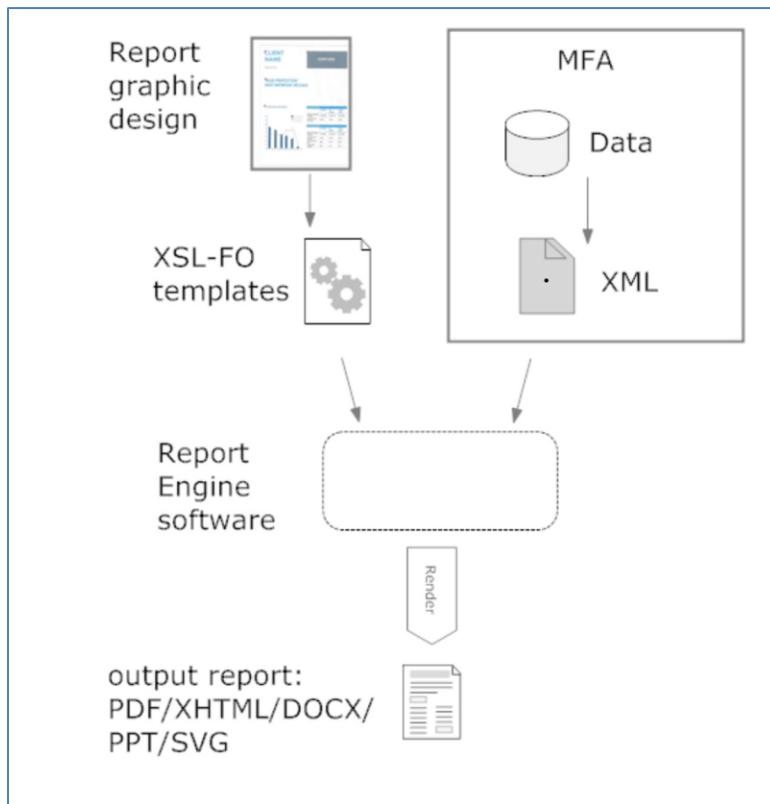


Figure 1 :: Data Flow Diagram

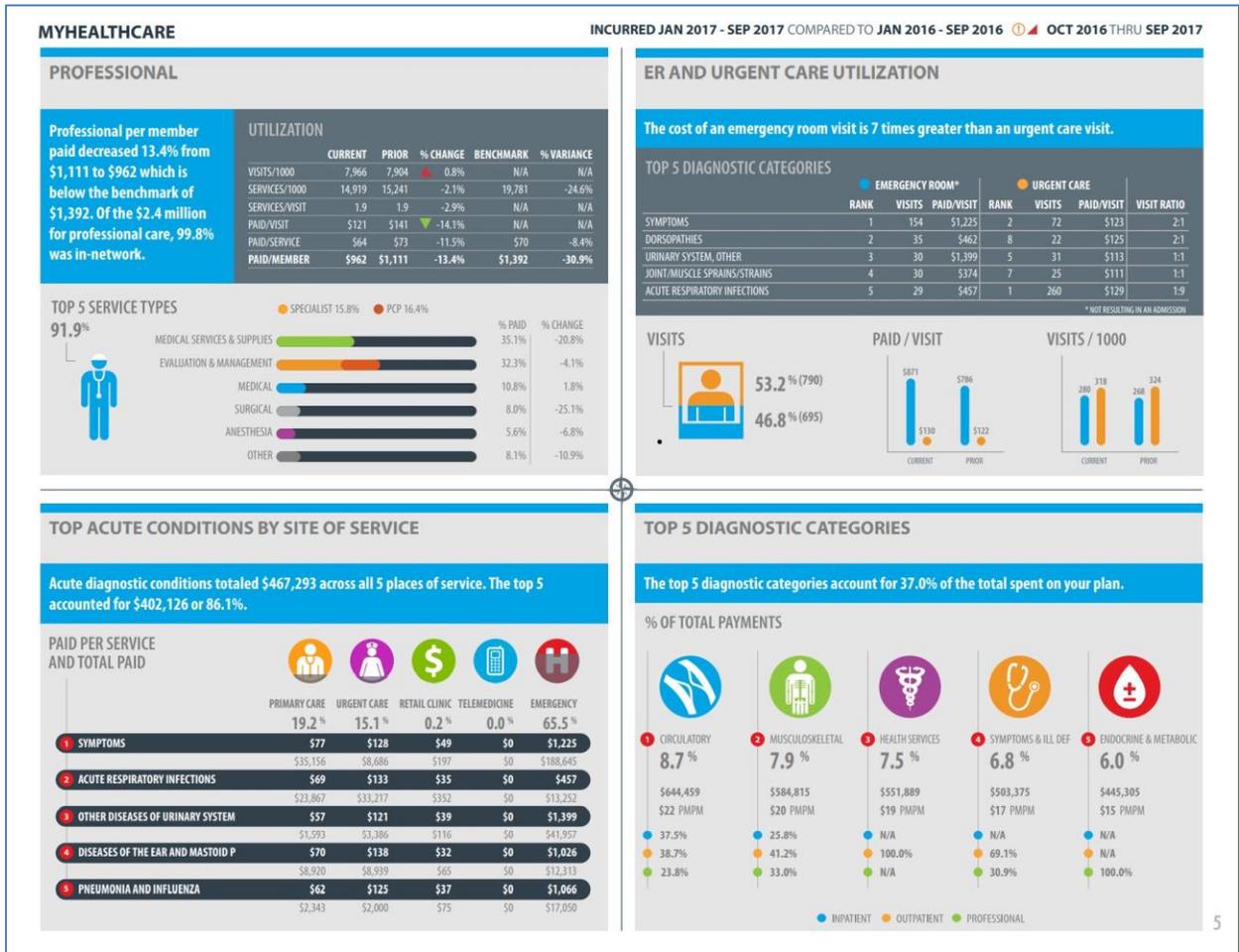


Figure 2: Example of data-driven slides.

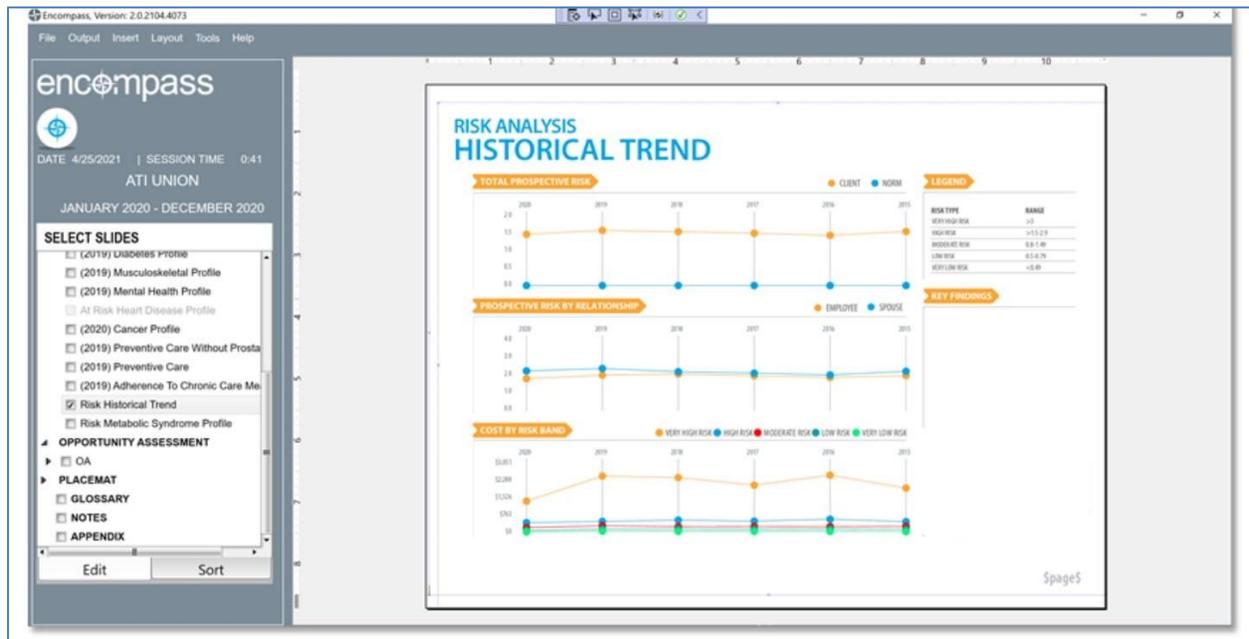


Figure 3 :: Screen shot of Encompass User Interface including WYSIWYG slide editor

Experience

Finding a solution: Did you look at other products? How did you find Aspose? Did you use a free trial to qualify our product against others? Did you use support?

We canvassed the internet looking for products that could give us the features that we require, as well as allowing us to augment the software in the future to meet the changing demands of our customers. We went through several "free trial" sessions, refactoring our code to use Aspose. We were impressed by the vast depth of the products & solutions, as well as the exceptional documentation.

Implementation: How long did the implementation of the solution take? What were the challenges? Did you use Aspose support and did you get the help you needed? How did other team members take to the Aspose product?

Implementation was accomplished in hours and days – not weeks! We truly had no challenges, and did not require support other than documentation. Everyone on our team has been exposed to Aspose and loves it.

Outcome: What was the outcome of your implementation? Did you meet your objectives? How did the implementation affect the work in the team, department or company?

We were very impressed with the results. For example, when converting from PDF to PPTX, the output was exceptional – surpassing our existing tools’ quality. Moreover, there were other pleasant surprises, such as the fact that text blocks were contiguous, and hence easily editable, unlike in our present solution, where text blocks are broken into lines, and are thus difficult to edit. The Aspose software was trivial to implement, and even our junior programmers were able to integrate with no issues.

Next Steps

Do you plan to take your solution further or to implement other Aspose products? What is your next focus, now that the initial problem has been solved?

Over time, I foresee our company transitioning entirely to Aspose products. For example, we are currently using a third-party SDK for reading, writing, and editing Excel spreadsheets. When time permits, we will “test drive” Aspose.Cells and then deprecate our current solution.

Summary

What was your overall experience of working with Aspose and Aspose’s products? How well did the product you chose meet your objectives? How has the solution affected how you work now? Would you recommend Aspose?

Our overall experience with Aspose’s products was extremely favorable, since the products not only met, but exceeded our expectations. We have demonstrated the new functionality to our clients (in beta form), and they are thrilled at the prospects of seeing the next production release. This will undoubtedly help us with client retention, as well as securing more programming opportunities. Furthermore, since Aspose is so easy to use, we can develop these new features with fewer programming hours – a big boon for a small company! We wholeheartedly recommend Aspose!