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The Chart Tool



Client: U.S. Department of Treasury Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC)

Automating and Standardizing Chart Creation Process

Challenge: To create a tool to centrally validate charts and data and to eliminate time-consuming manual and inconsistent processes. In order to meet its goal of publishing timely commentary on financial stability, the FSOC needs to minimize the time required by its chart production process. The charts produced by the FSOC need to utilize approved chart types and follow predetermined formatting guidelines to maintain consistency in FSOC publications.

FI Solution: FI gathered requirements from users and combined that information with its knowledge of the FSOC's processes to design, build, and implement a solution with an Excel user interface and an Access database that manages the FSOC's charts. The Chart Tool allows users to specify parameters such as titles, variables, date ranges, labels, colors, and chart types through a single, centralized summary console. All charts created and stored in the Chart Tool can be updated with the click of a single button.

FI Impact: The Chart Tool reduced update times for the data in their financial report from hours to minutes. Data validation costs were reduced by 25% and the data quality, traceability, and professional consistency of the FSOC's charts was significantly improved.

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