

## The e-Con Smart Client

### a To-Increase Fact Sheet

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## Introduction

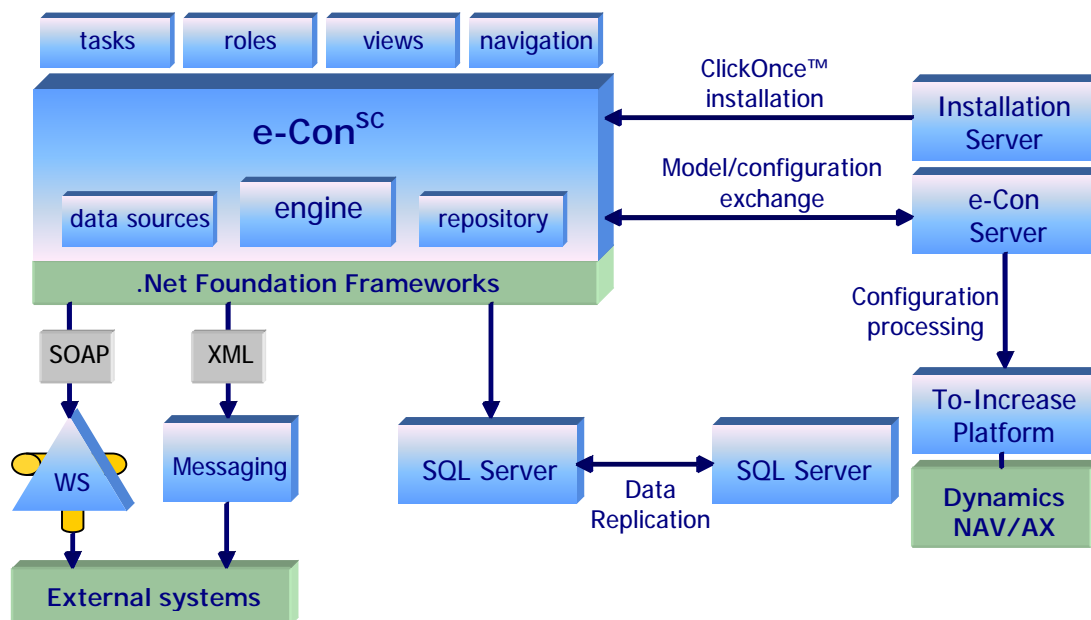
The e-Con Smart Client is an application that redefines the rules of configuration processes like guided selling and product configuration. It has a slick user interface, which uses the advanced features of Windows, .Net and Windows Presentation Foundation. It has intelligent connection management, which automatically recognizes the availability of data sources and synchronizes with them. It is installed using Microsoft ClickOnce technology. It integrates with other applications using a variety of technologies, including Windows Communication Foundation, web services and message oriented middleware. e-Con<sup>SC</sup> is advanced, adaptive, user-oriented, state-of-the-art.

e-Con Smart Client is smart in

- § The user experience it offers. The application must take advantage of the power of the local machine and use advanced UI controls, advanced graphics and advanced personalization.
- § The integrations that it provides. The application must integrate with all kinds of other applications, either locally or over the internet. It must use the latest communication technology for that purpose.
- § The mobility that it gives. It must intelligently replicate information when being online and use the local data stores when being offline.
- § The way it is accessed. It must be easily installed and updated on the local machine, but equally as easy run from a central server.

## Overview

The diagram below shows the product architecture of the e-Con Smart Client.



## Key features

- § *Sophisticated user interface technology.* The e-Con Smart Client implements a role-oriented and task-oriented framework, in which advanced smart views are presented to the user and the appropriate actions are shown. e-Con<sup>SC</sup> utilizes the Microsoft.Net Smart Client technology, combined with custom developed views, including tree views, grid views and property views.
- § *Model driven application.* The e-Con Smart Client uses a model-driven approach. The representation and behavior of the configurator is driven by e-Con models. The e-Con<sup>SC</sup> integrations with external systems are also modeled.
- § *Advanced application integration.* The e-Con Smart Client seamlessly integrates with the Dynamics NAV and Dynamics AX enterprise applications. e-Con<sup>SC</sup> uses the enterprise application as repository and data source. It utilizes the To-Increase *Platforms* for these integrations.
- § *Advanced interoperability.* The e-Con Smart Client uses the latest advances in integration technology to interact with external systems, including web services and message oriented middleware.

## Features at a glance

### e-Con Smart Client Shell

The e-Con Smart Client Shell is the Windows application that hosts all features of e-Con. It applies the familiar navigation controls, action controls and multi-document interface to the area of sales and product configuration and local data management. Shell features include

- § Group bar with groups of functionally related tasks and entities, such as the repository management group, the data management group and the application management group.
- § Model driven repository navigation using a tree control with standard and custom (virtual) elements.
- § User/role based action controls, such as menus and toolbars.

Note: The e-Con repository is the database where the e-Con configuration models, configurations, reports and templates are stored.

### Windows Sales/Product Configurator

The configurator module provides the Windows user interface to the e-Con configuration engine. Configurator features include

- § Multiple configuration views, including a property grid view, a navigation view, an image view and an output view.
- § Automatic generation of the configuration user interface, using either the e-Con product model or a separate user interface model.
- § Automatic integration of model tasks in the menus and toolbars.

The Windows Sales and Product configurator is fully compatible with the e-Con Web Configurator.

## Data Management and replication

The data management module provides functionality to maintain and synchronize master data, which is used in the configuration process. Features include

- § Model based grid and detail views, including filtering, sorting and editing logic.
- § Automatic switch between local and central data sources.
- § Intelligent replication of master data between the local and central database, dependent on connection availability and quality. The replication schema is driven by metadata and application settings.
- § Support for Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft Dynamics NAV, Microsoft Dynamics AX and XML data sources.

## Integration with Enterprise Applications

The integration with Enterprise Applications is dealing with the generation and consumption of master data and configuration data. The Smart Client utilizes the To-Increase Platforms for Microsoft Dynamics and SQL Server to exchange, to generate and to consume XML documents. It uses Message Oriented Middleware and XML Web Services to transfer the XML documents. Features include

- § Support for SQL Server XML document generation and processing
- § Support for Dynamics NAV and Dynamics AX document generation and processing

## Deployment and installation

The Smart Client application uses Microsoft ClickOnce<sup>®</sup> technology to install and update the application. The application can either be run from a web server, be installed from a web server or be installed from another medium. Installation includes the underlying technologies, the application itself and the e-Con model assemblies. The Smart Client application can check regularly for updates.