bluespring™

Visual Search for SharePoint

Provide an instant boost in find-ability, visual appeal and value to users of Microsoft SharePoint.

Organizations have spent millions of dollars making Microsoft SharePoint™ the de-facto standard platform for their associates to store, collaborate and share information. Sites, document libraries, lists, wiki's, discussion boards and blogs abound housing all types of corporate IP from HR frequently asked questions to new product development ideas. Gaining access to this semi-structured or unstructured data can be daunting for a casual user looking for information to better perform their job.

SharePoint has improved in each of its five major releases to provide IT with more tools to define an information architecture (IA) and indexing structure to make search results more relevant. However, with most organizations having multiple farms with varying degrees of IA maturity, making search more relevant often requires outside consulting assistance, a six-figure budget and many months of work redesigning and migrating data.

UNTIL NOW…..

Bluespring Software has created a powerful and easy to install product – Visual Search for SharePoint. Visual Search immediately improves the SharePoint search experience and what we call the "find-ability" of information by automatically categorizing the results returned to allow the user to refine their search based upon the topic they are searching.

Visual Search leverages the power of Zakta's Social Intelligence Platform™. This platform combines a rich semantic network, real-time content analysis for topic identification and organization, visualization, curation and collaboration to help simplify the clutter in finding information. The Zakta Platform provides Visual Search the ability to generate suggested topics for a result set or artifact and provide the real-time clustering to present in a heat map. Visual Search also relies on the Zakta Platform to house and report on the historical information regarding search history and the management of the semantic tagging of search experiences.

SharePoint Visual Search Key Components

Visually organizes search results

Visual Search provides an intuitive heat map that builds a list of semantic topics found within the returned rows from a search. Visual Search converts the returned rows into a logical grouping of topics where the user can easily navigate the results by clicking a topic and Visual Search will only show the rows related to the topic clicked.

Quickly hone in on the right word, sentence or phrase

Visual Search saves valuable time with every corporate SharePoint search by allowing the user to view the content and topics in a document as well as search for specific keywords and phrases without having to download and access the information in its native format (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Visio, PDF, etc.)

Improve relevance with crowd-sourced recommendation feature

Users of Visual Search can recommend a result based upon what they were searching (e.g. "HR Travel Policy") and the next associate that searches using that search phrase will see the result the previous user recommended first in the returned results.

Access to semantic analytics to improve information architecture

Visual Search stores historical information of search terms, semantic topics and what users clicked during their search experience. This information can be accessed and reviewed by the SharePoint Administrator to identify patterns, improve indexing and what meta data to define and capture to improve search overall.

You can do it... TODAY!

With Visual Search, your users search experience and productivity will be elevated and you will be eliminating one of the key factors that impedes collaboration, by providing innovative visual and social search to your SharePoint user. Visual Search is not a silver bullet, and can not fix all the potential issues users experience with search in SharePoint. There is ultimately no substitute for correctly architecting, managing and governing SharePoint. However, until then and well after, Visual Search provides an instant boost in find-ability, visual appeal and user value by providing automatic topic categorization of every search result to allow users to refine their search based upon these topics, while benefiting from the elegant social features that tap into the collective wisdom and make search continually better over time.

Compatibility

Microsoft Version	Supported by Visual Search
SharePoint 2010 Foundation	NO
SharePoint 2010 Standard	YES
SharePoint 2010 Enterprise	YES
SharePoint 2013 Foundation	YES
SharePoint 2013 Standard	YES
SharePoint 2013 Enterprise	YES
SharePoint O365	NO – Coming in Q1-2015

Hardware required

The Visual Search for SharePoint solution is installed directly onto the SharePoint farm in which the solution will run. However, it requires a server or virtual machine to house the Zakta Social Intelligence Platform™ that meets the following hardware and software requirements:

Hardware	Software
64-bit	Services require one of the following: Windows Server 2008 R2, 2012
CPU > 2.2 GHz (Dual or Quad Core recommended, depending upon volume projections)	.NET Framework 4.0*
8 GB RAM	
80 GB usable disk space (additional storage for databases required)	
100BaseTX Ethernet Network Adapter (Gigabit Ethernet recommended)	

Bluespring Software – We Make Work Flow.

Bluespring is a software development company with a singular focus on helping organizations make work flow in Microsoft SharePoint. We provide software and services that boost an organization's use of SharePoint to get critical business information to the right people at the right time to make them more effective, enhance decision making and reduce cost. Founded in 1998, Bluespring is part of the Vora Group, one of the fastest growing technology holding groups in the United States. The Vora Group consists of 15 companies in the software, services and infrastructure solutions industries with more than 2,100 employees worldwide. Visit www.bluespring.com to learn more.