

FAQ about Posity Neo and Posity Design Studio

The Posity Design Studio is used to develop Posity Neo apps. This document provides an overview of the integral capabilities and characteristics that each Posity Neo app built with the Posity Design Studio has.

Some of these questions are also technical, so don't worry if you don't understand a question, because these questions are also for developers who use Posity Design Studio to build applications!

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1. For whom does Posity develop which software

What software can be created by Posity Neo

Do you want to automate operational processes, manage or evaluate your company's data, use this data to control production machines? Then we are the right address for you. Thanks to our broad business and technical knowledge in industry and finance, we can solve your problems quickly and easily.

For which companies and company sizes is Posity Neo suitable?

Our software solutions are scalable as required. Due to the simple architecture, software can be created for individual users as well as for hundreds of users. This offers SMEs in particular the opportunity to differentiate themselves from the competition through truly individual software in international competition by means of specialization.

On which hardware and operating systems can Posity Neo software be used?

Posity Neo can be designed in two variants. As a so-called rich client app or as a web app (in the browser). In any case, they must have access to the Internet, and for the rich client application, their PCs must be equipped with Windows XP or higher. If possible, we recommend the more convenient rich client application. In principle, the web app can be run on all devices with a browser.

2. Usability

Dynamic arrangement of the GUI depending on the screen size

The arrangement and size of the elements on the GUI (User Interface = Graphical User Interface) dynamically adapts to the size of the screen and the fact that there is a touch-sensitive screen. This means that you always get the optimal display on your PC workstation, but also on your smartphone.

Automatic printing/export of all GUI data

All the data and lists you see on the GUI can be selected at any time and printed or exported to Excel.

Responsive, Convenient Rich Client

Our rich client variant (you can also use Posity Neo as a thin client in the browser) guarantees you optimal working conditions. The rich client can be run on all Windows PCs.

Automatic, central error logging

If, despite all precautions, errors occur, they are registered in a central error log and we will correct the error as quickly as possible.

Effective feedback and log in status bar

To keep you in control and overview at all times, your current and past activities are displayed in the status bar.

Smart Help

To ensure safe and smooth work, they also have the option (in addition to the usual tooltips) to consult detailed, context-sensitive information about the data and functions in the Smart Help area.

3. Multilingualism

Applications are multilingual

Applications created with Posity Design Studio are always multilingual. To create a new language, simply switch to the new language, specify which language you want to use and overwrite the text directly in the appropriate places. The texts are saved in Unicode format, so you can use any language in the world.

Application data can be managed in multiple languages

Not only the application, but also the data managed by the application can be automatically managed in multiple languages. For example, you can define (in the table) that the article title is multilingual. If the article title is accessed for the first time in another language, a corresponding entry is automatically generated according to the user's language preferences. They can now simply overwrite this entry.

Posity Design Studio is multilingual

The definition of the system itself can also be done in several languages, and all diagrams are multilingual. For example, you can create and maintain the process model and the data model in several languages in parallel.

Individual 'business languages' can be taken into account

In addition, it is also possible to define a separate language for individual companies. This allows each company to use its own system of terms.

4. Data Protection/Role Concept, Data Security

Professional Data Center

Posity Neo's infrastructure meets the highest professional requirements. Scalability and security are top priorities. Deviating requirements can also be met per application, per customer (e.g. mirroring of the infrastructure in a second data center).

Encrypted data transmission (SSL, certificate), data storage

All data communication is encrypted (SSL 128 bit). Critical data is also stored in the database in encrypted form and can only be read by the appropriate users.

Integrated role concept for rights control

By means of a role concept, it is possible to control which user is allowed to perform which functions and which individual components of the application he is allowed to see.

Integrated role concept for data access (visibility) and manipulation

Using a role concept, it is possible to define for tables (e.g. for the order table) whether users are allowed to view or edit data collected by other users. This makes it very easy, for example, to manage and evaluate databases of individual company divisions invisibly for each other in a single table.

Data storage in the company's own infrastructure

If your data has to meet the highest security requirements, it can also be kept in-house. You then decide for yourself who gets access to the database, whether and how the data is encrypted.

Encrypted, local data storage

Information that does not change is stored locally on the PC in the rich client app to optimize performance (e.g. the description of the processes, the business logic). As a result, the amount of data to be transferred can be significantly reduced. The locally stored data is stored in encrypted form to avoid the risk of any manipulation.

Backup Server and DB part of the service

The data and infrastructure are fully backed up on a daily basis, and changes are backed up continuously. As a result, even in the worst case, the last consistent state can always be restored by means of a log file. Whatever happens, you won't lose any data.

Servers are only accessible through stored procedures, no dynamic SQL

In order to provide the smallest possible attack surface for malicious attacks from outside, all access to the database (in addition to encryption) is only possible via predefined stored procedures. This means that dynamic SQL is not used at any point, which is the main point of attack for hackers in database systems.

Automatic, correct transaction logic

The Posity Design Studio uses integrated automatisms to ensure that all operations on the database are carried out in neatly structured transactions. As a result, and thanks to referential integrity, the data is always in a consistent state.

5. Workflow Control/Status Concept

Automated workflows

In the process diagram of Posity Neo, automatic workflows can be defined. Through so-called gateways, these workflows can also be made dependent on questions or certain framework conditions. This means that even relatively inexperienced users are able to configure the system at the workflow level.

Historization of data by means of a status concept

Which data is to be historized and when can be defined in the process diagram. This makes it possible to document how the data has been changed by the individual process steps. As a result, the obligation to document business-relevant data can be guaranteed.

To-do lists using a status concept

As a rule, the execution of processes is triggered by the user, the user selects his or her work (pull principle). In certain situations, however, it is desirable for the system to actively alert the user to work to be done (push principle). In the Posity Design Studio, it can be defined for a defined status of data (e.g. the status 'release' of orders) that this data is displayed to authorized users in the to-do list.

Event Control Processes (Timer and Expiration Event)

Asynchronous events may also be necessary in workflows. In the Posity Design Studio, there are two basic types of these, which are used in the process diagram. The timer event is always triggered at defined times (e.g. every 60 minutes, or always on the last working day of the month – taking into account time zones, of course) and activates a process. In the expiration event, data that has remained in a certain state for a predefined period of time is automatically transferred to another state. For example, requests that have not been answered for an hour can be raised to the next higher status (and then displayed in the to-do list, for example).

6. Number Ranges

Automatic numbering

Numbers and number ranges have a high priority in practice. Posity Neo supports all common methods to keep these number ranges (e.g. the integration of date information).

Automatic overflow warning

Number ranges have a start and end value. If the numbers of such a number range are almost used up (e.g. 90% of the numbers are taken), Posity Neo can automatically send a warning.

Automatic reset option (e.g. monthly)

If number ranges are formed in combination with date information, it makes sense to automatically number again from the beginning when periods change. If, for example, the year precedes the number (e.g. 2012-01331), Posity Neo can be instructed to automatically start again from the beginning when the year changes (i.e. with 2013-00001).

7. Currencies

Currencies/rates are supported as a data type

Currencies are commonplace in business applications and have a central character. Nevertheless, currencies are usually only rudimentarily supported. In Posity Neo, currencies and their associated rates are an integral part.

Support of conversion functions, any rate type supported (e.g. mid-market rates, ask price)

Posity Design Studio provides the basic operations for currencies (with validation of the correct currencies) and also supports currency conversion using exchange rates. The currency types managed in the system can be freely defined for this purpose. In the simple case, for example, an annual average rate is used, in complex cases, date- and time-compliant rate types can be managed (e.g. ask prices). When converting, common conversion rules are observed (e.g. division and rounding).

Support on screen masks/lists

Of course, currency fields are correctly displayed with currency code on the screen and on lists. Regardless of the amount, it can be defined whether the currency may be changed by the user.

General ledger currency (per organizational unit/client) and system currency

For each application, multiple general ledger currencies (one general ledger currency per organizational unit) and one system currency (used for cross-currency evaluations) can be defined.

ISO 4217 supported

The currencies in Posity Neo are presented in accordance with the ISO 4217 standard for currency abbreviations.

8. Time zones, daylight saving time

Data type Date supports time zones and daylight saving time

It is not only internationally active companies that are confronted with the problem of time zones and the change or resetting of daylight saving time. Posity Neo supports all rules and calculations that are needed in international traffic and when dealing with time zones.

Date-dependent definition of time zones by rules or fixed

A first challenge is the definition of the time zones and the daylight saving time period of this time zone. In Posity Neo, this definition can be set according to the existing rules (the usual time zones are predefined), or if this is not possible (because certain countries redefine it every year), by means of fixed dates. Rare time zones and daylight saving times are also supported (e.g. shift by 45 minutes).

Time zone per tenant

Each mandate/organizational unit of an application can be assigned its own time zone.

Display fixed (for time zone), according to time zone of the recorder or time zone of the user

When displaying and entering a date-time information, it can be specified whether this should be done in a fixed time zone, in the time zone of the person collecting the information, or in the time zone of the current user. This allows different points of view to be presented consistently.

Error-free computing across time zones possible

Of course, Posity Neo has mastered the correct billing of this information. For example, if the time difference between two second points in different time zones is to be calculated, taking into account any daylight saving time.

Correct display/processing of the change between summer and winter time (incl. double the hour when the clocks are reset)

When switching from summer to winter time and vice versa, there is a loss of an hour, or a double occurrence of the same hour. In Posity Neo, this circumstance is taken into account by not being able to record the missing hour, marking the first double hour with 'A' and the second double hour with 'B' (according to international practice).

9. Document Generation

Word and Excel Templates

In Posity Neo, templates for documents to be created can be easily created with Word and Excel (this is also easy for users themselves) and then automatically filled with data from the application. In this way, high-quality, high-quality documents can be created directly. Serial letters can also be created in this way. In addition, this is also possible if neither Word nor Excel is installed on the computer.

Template Management

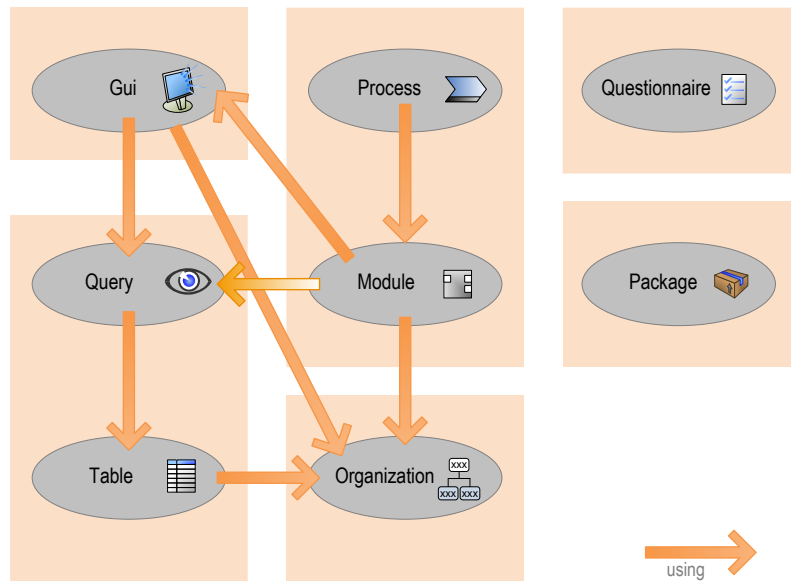
These Word and Excel templates themselves can be managed in Posity Neo and are therefore available at any time, regardless of the PC you are using.

10. Software Development and Distribution

Graphical Programming – Maximum Understanding

In Posity Neo, applications are defined exclusively by means of diagrams (e.g. process diagram). These are so easy to understand that even laymen can take a look at the programs and understand how the application works. The following graphic shows all of Posity Neo's chart types:

More experienced users (e.g. business analysts) can create their specifications of desired applications



directly in the diagrams of Posity Neo and then (without having to have them programmed by computer scientists) receive an executable application immediately after the specification. With a little support or training, it can be used to create applications of any complexity.

Debugging Diagrams

Of course, thanks to the convenient debugger, you can track step by step how your diagrams are performing and how which data and tables are being processed. This way, you can find any errors quickly and easily.

ClickOnce (via website):

Posity Neo can run in parallel as a rich client app or as a web app (in the browser). In both variants, the installation and update of Posity Neo is fully automated. To use the rich client app for the first time, all you need to do is click on our website. Installation or update activities are completely eliminated.

Automatic deployment of application changes

Changes and enhancements to the application itself are also distributed fully automatically (deployment). Installations and updates are also fully automated.

Package concept for managing multiple environments

If you need sophisticated, safety-critical applications, Posity Neo allows you to set up as many environments as you want. For example, you can create a test and training environment to test the programs in detail before they are put into operation and to train your users.

Business Wizard

In business applications, the same patterns are often found (e.g. order header and order lines, recipe and recipe lines). The development of the diagrams for these patterns is greatly simplified by the Business Wizard. After entering the most important information, it automatically creates the corresponding diagrams, which can then be refined if necessary.

11. Performance and Scalability

Virtual server on scalable, high-availability cluster

Posity Neo's database server runs on a scalable and highly available cluster. This means that the desired performance can be increased at the touch of a button and the safety and availability of the application is optimally ensured.

Support for parallel tasks (true multi-threading)

Posity Neo supports true parallel execution of multiple processes. In this way, an elaborate list can be prepared in the background and work can continue normally in the foreground. The workload is distributed among the available processor cores.

Support for parallel execution of code

For time-consuming work within a single process, Posity Neo can be programmed in parallel, so that modern multi-core processors can be used efficiently.

Executing diagrams

To speed up the execution of the diagrams, it does not run the diagrams themselves. The diagrams are converted into an intermediate code (fCode, assembly-like), which ensures fast and platform-independent execution.

Stored Procedures (SQL Server)

All access to the database (SQL server) is done using stored procedures, dynamic SQL is not used. These pre-compiled database accesses are extremely efficient and safe from hacker attacks.

Architecture concept supports distribution of data on SQL servers

The data can be managed by Posity Neo on independent, geographically distributed SQL servers. On the one hand, this ensures that you can grow as you like with Posity Neo, and on the other hand, it is also possible to store sensitive data within the companies themselves.

Rich Client - Reduction to Pure Data Transfer

The rich client app makes optimal use of the locally available computing capacity and transmits only the really necessary user data over the Internet. This combination ensures fast, error-free and user-friendly operation even in the event of low transmission rates or disruptions on the Internet.

12. Questionnaire

Massive reduction in services due to extensive end-user customizing

The Posity Design Studio offers the possibility to configure standard applications by means of a questionnaire. This allows the end user to configure the application completely independently by answering simple

questions (e.g. "Do you want to create invoices before placing an order?"). This allows the drastic reduction of services, costs and personnel costs in favor of massively improved scalability of even complex applications.

Integrated questionnaire in Posity Design Studio (as part of the development environment)

The questionnaire is fully integrated into the diagrams of the Posity Design Studio and activates or deactivates individual components of the diagrams. These settings can be viewed in the diagrams and can also be changed afterwards.

Fine-grained configuration of all diagrams

The questionnaire is able to influence the smallest details of the application (e.g. a certain amount, an arrangement of GUI elements). The user does not have to answer all the questions, but can only answer the most important questions and then test whether the system already satisfactorily meets his requirements.

Question grouping based on process structure (according to user know-how)

In the case of large-scale applications, the questions can be structured according to the process hierarchy (along with an assessment of importance), so that users only have to answer the area they know very well (e.g. the area of finance).

13. Architecture

KISS, Scalable Architecture

Posity Neo tries to keep it simple and stupid in the growing complexity of technology. In the basic version as a rich client app, the user only needs a Windows machine (.Net 3.5) and in the cloud there is an easily scalable, distributable MS-SQL server that responds to the requests.

Browser Solution

While the dominance of the Windows operating system continues unabated in the business world, a variety of ecosystems have emerged on the end consumer side (iOS, Android, Linux, OS X, Google Chrome OS, and many more). To support this growing number of operating systems, Posity Neo offers a browser solution called web apps. Solutions defined with Posity Neo can be run as web apps in the browser without any adjustments to the diagrams.

14. Further questions

Who do I contact if I have further questions?

Of course, we will be happy to answer any further questions you may have. You can reach us at +41 52 511 30 60 or info@posity.com.