

Web Part from KWizCom

When I first envisaged writing Hour 24, I wanted to have examples of a free web part, a web part from a company that produced only a few web parts, and an example of a web part from one of the larger producers of web parts.

When I then started writing Hour 24, I couldn't make my mind up and decided to include how to install and use one web part from KWizCom and one web part from Bamboo Solutions. This of course meant that the chapter became rather too long and I had to remove one of them, so I decided to move the KWizCom web part section to this web site.

I hope you agree that that was a better alternative than just deleting it!

We'll start here with a KWizCom web part:

1. I downloaded (to the server) the SharePoint Survey Web Part - Survey Plus web part (www.kwizcom.com/ProductPage.asp?ProductID=333&ProductSubNodeID=338).

In the case of KWizCom, the download is the same for the trial version and the pay version, and you register either by buying a key. The price of a key is per server, so clients are free. See the above web page for the latest price.

You'll immediately see one of the main differences between a commercial web part and a free web part, the web part is delivered as an MSI file, and when you open it on the server there is an installation routine (see Figure 1).

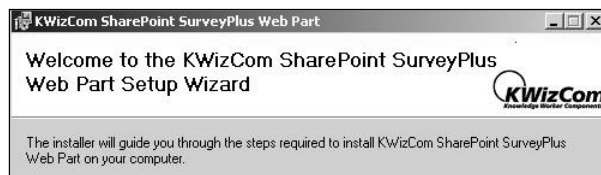


FIGURE 1
The KWizCom web part installation routine is a wizard.

2. Click OK here and answer Yes to the license in the next screen, select the defaults (and click Next) in the following couple of screens (and note the off-side opening and closing of a command prompt window). Then click Close to finish.

That's it. In a couple of minutes (plus the minute download time), the trial web part is installed.

Now let's go to the client to try it out:

1. Go again to <http://wss3> and access Site Actions > Edit Page. Click Add a Web Part in the rightmost column. Select the new KWizCom web part, and it will appear at the top of the rightmost column.
2. Click Open the Tool Pane. Scroll to the right (or look to the right if in full-screen mode) and you'll see the list shown in Figure 2, where you can set your survey settings.

FIGURE 2
The list of available web parts.



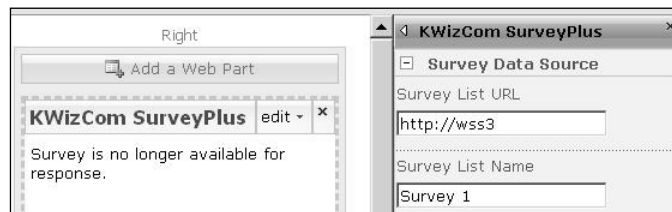
Note

As you can see, I've already added the RSS Reader to the web part list. I've also created a new Free Web Parts.

I won't do too much here. The idea is just to show you the kind of thing this web part offers. So, let's just specify the name of a survey in the first field and call it Survey 1, leaving everything else at the default values.

3. Currently, there is no survey called Survey 1. Therefore, if you click Apply, you will see a Survey Is No Longer Available message, as at the left of Figure 3.

FIGURE 3
Specifying which survey list to be used.



4. The next step is to create Survey 1. For this, we use the standard Survey List template, located via Site Actions > Create and click Survey (see Figure 4).

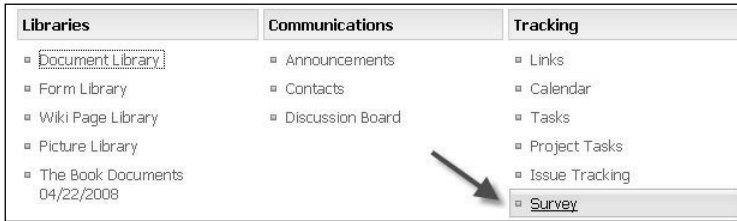


FIGURE 4
Starting to create a survey.

5. You've created a survey called Survey 1. Specify your location and your area of business. Then choose End This Survey.
6. Try logging in as different users (Administrator, MyAdmin, MyDesign, MyContrib) and populate the survey with four answers. (There is a setting for Surveys that allows multiple entries, but we didn't use it, and so there's only one answer per user.)
7. Now, go back to the default web page and look again at the KWizCom web part there.

You'll see, in Figure 5, a better-looking set of graphs than the set you would see if you clicked Survey 1 in the Quick Launch section and selected Show a Graphical Summary of Responses (see Figure 6), which is the standard look provided by the included Survey web part.

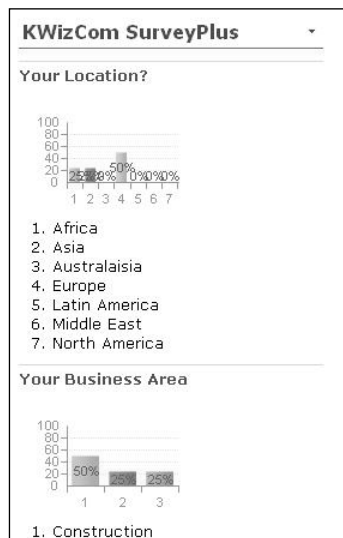
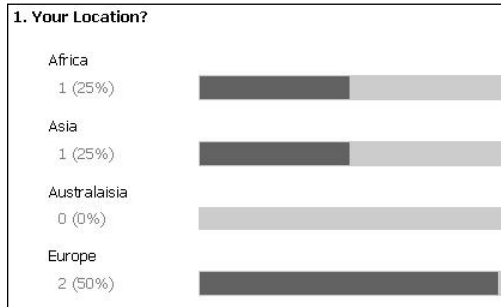


FIGURE 5
A KWizCom version of a survey graph.

FIGURE 6
A standard version of a survey graph.



Of course, you do have other options in the web part, so I'll just refer you to Figure 7, which is a list (taken, with permission, from their website) comparing the key features of the KWizCom web part with the standard web part.

FIGURE 7
KWizCom's comparison of their Survey web part with the standard one.

Feature	Survey Web Part - Survey Plus	SharePoint Survey Web Part
Supports both WSS 3.0 and MOSS 2007	✓	✓
Support for multiple question surveys	✓	✓
Anonymous user support	✓	
Cookie checks for unique anonymous user submissions	✓	
Clean and sleek survey presentation	✓	
Resizable web part	✓	
Colorful survey results display	✓	
Graph types	Horizontal and Vertical	Horizontal only
Fully customizable field captions	✓	
Fully customizable interface via CSS and XSL	✓	
Survey scope	Organization	Single site
Multi-lingual	✓	✓

To investigate it further, create a new web part page and use the web part many times on that page using different parameters. Don't just use different graphs, but also parameters that allow for survey entry.

Tip