



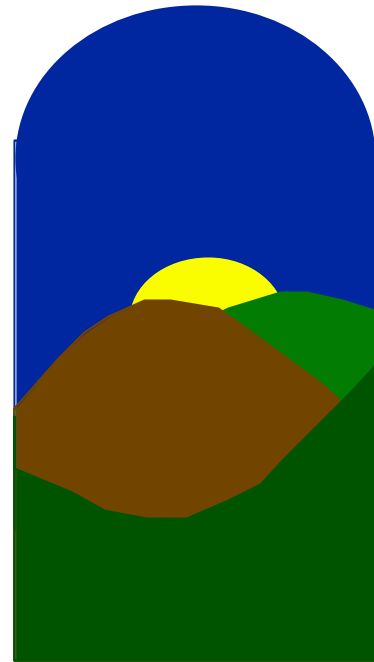
**User interface authoring
tool for Vensim**

Ventana Systems UK Ltd, 2003

Sable

Enhancing the capabilities of Vensim

Sable is our premier software tool allowing Vensim developers to create and distribute professional Graphical User Interfaces (GUI) for their models. The GUI's created contain enhanced graphics, animation and access to standard Venapp and Vensim menu commands.



A Family of Products

Sable Developer allows Vensim users to create interfaces for their models and distribute them to their colleagues and customers as user-friendly *Windows* applications. Sable Runtime allows recipients of Sable/Vensim solutions to view them and SableNet enables access to the solution over a company intranet/extranet or the Web.

Sable Helps Creativity

Sable provides a flexible approach to creating interfaces for Vensim models by allowing you to include objects such as edit boxes, check boxes, graphics and animation, and to modify the appearance of the interface through simple drag & drop. The interface automatically links to the model, leaving you free to create the visual impression and functionality you need.

Sable is easy to use

Sable makes it effortless and fun to design and build *Windows* applications from Vensim models. Venapp commands are accessible through simple drop-down menus and Vensim tools such as model views, graphs, tables and causes trees can be added with the click of a button.



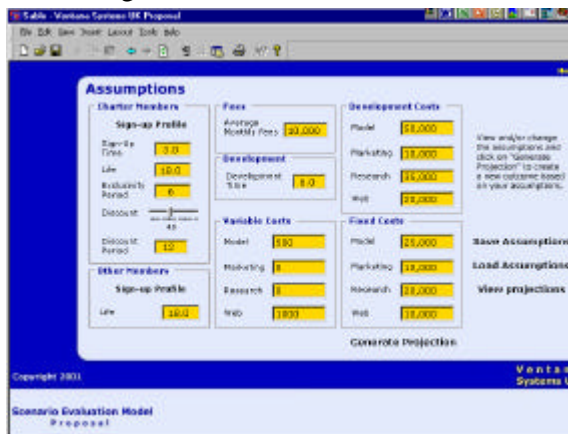
Sable was initially developed for internal use in the support of Vensim developed products. By making the use of the Vensim DLL, model builders are able to use any developer's package, such as C++, Visual Basic, and Delphi etc. to create bespoke GUI's for Vensim Models.

Features and Benefits

Sable Developer has the following features and benefits:

Run-time development

Developers using Sable can modify the design of the interface even if the interface is in use running a model. Many Sable objects can allow user configuration at run time.



A Sable screen.

Drag, drop and align

A drag and drop environment that allows you to customise the GUI in front of clients thus speeding up the development process and reducing cost. Add a button, a drop-down box, and radio or check button and drag it to the desired location on the screen.

Re-usable components

Develop Sable interfaces by creating 'screens'. Work with re-usable user interface components, the development of a Sable interface is project based and supported by creation of linked screens, which are saved as separate components. Screens can also be embedded within other screens.

Enhanced graphics using Tchart

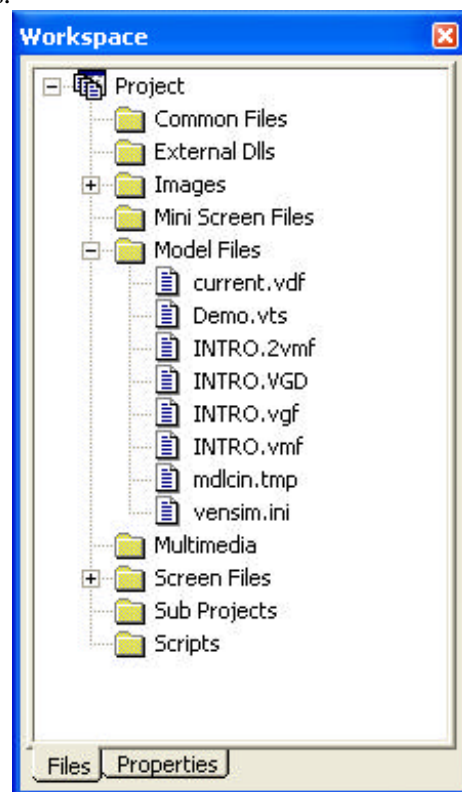
TChart, from TMach, has been chosen as Sables graphics engine. Using this feature,

The ultimate tool for designing & developing Vensim applications

create attractive line charts, pie charts and bar graphs all with Work In Progress capability. That is, they dynamically update as the simulation progresses.

Extended functionality using ActiveX

Sable can display ActiveX controls in main or mini screens. This is useful for advanced functionality that is not normally available within Sable (for example, a map displaying simulation results). Sable is supplied with an example ActiveX control that demonstrates this.



Sable Project View

Message Display

In Sable you can display output messages from Vensim either as Standard Vensim dialogs or within a specified scrolling window on the interface. Sound and Video can be activated by conditions in the simulation, allowing a packaged solution to communicate with the user.

Animation

Animation using bars and dials can help the user understand the dynamics of a particular run. Represent balanced scorecard measures using traffic lights and colour effects.

Share Price	Market Share	Revenue/Employee
£ 11	19	£ 1508
£ 16	17	£ 1941
£ 9	16	£ 1741
£ 26	16	£ 1931
£ 13	6	£ 1182
£ 9	9	£ 1977
£ 0	8	£ 14,886
£ 0	9	£ 1241

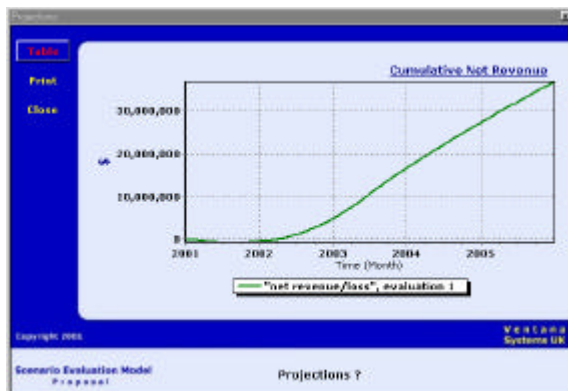
Animation

Compatible with online help systems

Create context-sensitive help systems for your simulation. Every object in the Sable interface can have a help ID linking the object to a specific location on the help system. Tool tips can also be created for screen objects.

Customised Menus

Sable menus can be customised to execute a number of actions; link to screen, print graph, run a simulation etc.



Sable Graph using TChart

Fast Gaming

For large simulations, running in gaming mode can be slow as Vensim saves the results at the end of each period. Sable can give the user control over when the results are saved, speeding up large games.

Vensim tools and custom graphs

Most of the Vensim tools created by the developer and stored as a tool set can be accessed and displayed by Sable.

Microsoft Windows script enabled

Sable has a API allowing advanced features in the user interface (such as, conditional branching). Sable can also use any scripting language compatible with Microsoft Windows Scripting engine; these include VBScript, Jscript, Python and Perl. Sable ships with the

Microsoft Windows Scripting host, and includes VBScript, Jscript (subsets of Visual Basic for Applications and Java respectively) and a script debugger. Ventana UK developers have used this feature to control access to areas of an interface, to create intelligent links between screens, based on log-on privileges and on completion of input stages. Sable comes with it's own text editor to compose and edit scripts.

Access to Vensim model parameters

Redistribution Kit

Sable and Vensim provide the tools you need to distribute your own models and user interfaces. These tools will allow your models to install and work as stand alone applications.

We also provide training courses. Please e-mail training@ventanasystems.co.uk for further details or visit our website.

Sable Properties Dialog

Requirements

To run Sable you require Vensim DSS.

In order to distribute Sable interfaces, you will need a copy of the Sable Redistribution License (for unlimited distribution), or copies of Sable Runtime.



Sable developed solutions can be made Internet enabled to allow clients to have access to a simulation over the Web or the company intranet.

The Vensim model resides on a server computer and access to the model is controlled via the Sable interface, which is distributed to the client computers and viewed through a web browser.

Features and Benefits

SableNet has the following features and benefits:

Web-enabled

SableNet allows a Vensim/Sable solution to reside on one computer and be accessed by other *simultaneous* users remotely. Using the Internet, users of a model can view/input assumptions, run, interact (game) and evaluate outcomes from wherever they may be in the world.

Configuration control

As the Vensim model resides on a central server, the upkeep of the model is made simpler and less costly than the distribution of upgrades to users.

Unlimited Simultaneous Use

Any number of simultaneous users can access copies of the model so long as the server and network can handle the demand.

Multi-player interactive simulations

Any one Vensim/Sable solution can be controlled by multiple users, allowing students to interact with their tutor of a simulation, or multiple players to command their departments or companies from their computers in cooperation or competition with other players and/or the computer.

E-Learning

SableNet solutions make E-Learning applications easy to develop and maintain with

the minimum of cost.

Contents

SableNet is supplied with one copy of Developer, and has all the tools to host a website that will run models over Internet or company intranet/extranet. SableNet comes with an OCX and Netscape Navigator plug-in that allows Sable models to be used within web browsers.

Redistribution Kit

Redistribution Kit allows unlimited distribution of Sable interfaces. Please note that a Vensim redistribution kit is also required. Redistribution kits for Sable and Vensim are mandatory for SableNet solutions.

Technical Support

Sable and SableNet come with a comprehensive on-line help system.

Support is provided via e-mail to Maintenance Contract holders. All other users will be able to access information on our website at www.ventanasystems.co.uk through use of our Sable discussion forum.

Ordering

Order by telephone on +44 (0) 23 8090 9838, or fax on +44 (0) 7092 024736 or via email at orders@ventanasystems.co.uk

Licensing

Sable is licensed on a per user basis. Site license discounts are available for multiple copies used internally in an organisation.

SableNet is licensed per server. Site license discounts are available for multiple copies used internally in an organisation.

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