CUSTOMER STORY

ALTAIR VISUAL ANALYTICS IS CORE ELEMENT IN FLEXTRADE SECURITIES TRADING PLATFORM

About the Customer
FlexTrade provides sophisticated securities trading software to global buy-side and sell-side firms. Their tools handle order management and executions for equities, foreign exchange, options, futures, and fixed income securities and enable their clients to control and customize their execution workflows, search for liquidity, and maintain the confidentiality of their trading strategies. Banks, hedge funds, asset managers, and other financial firms use FlexTrade software to reduce their trading costs, increase their trading velocity, and increase the profitability of their trading operations while maintaining compliance with all applicable banking laws and regulations.

We love the Altair team. They have been extremely helpful every step of the way and we are getting the maximum value out of the system as a result. Altair has the best-of-breed solution for data visualization. The ROI we receive from this partnership is phenomenal and our clients are seeing a demonstrable ROI on FlexTrade because these capabilities.

Paul Clarke, SVP Global Strategy, FlexTrade
Their Challenge
FlexTrade has worked with the largest investment managers in the world over the past 25 years to develop its software. During that time, trading volume and the number of execution venues has exploded. Traditional blotters — essentially columnar displays of pricing data — are no longer a good way for traders to understand market and trading activity. The risk of missing out on profitable trading opportunities, failing to see compliance threats, and/or misunderstanding moves by the competition became too great. FlexTrade realized that their clients needed a much more interactive and visual user interface.

Our Solution
FlexTrade’s development team wanted to build a new trade management system that would enable their clients to identify trends in millions of daily trades — trends that are impossible to spot without high quality data visualizations. In addition, they wanted their new systems to allow traders to interact with the data through that visual interface; once a trader had identified an opportunity or a threat, the trader had to be able to take immediate action without leaving the visual display.

After a careful study of their operations, they selected Altair Panopticon. Panopticon’s ability to connect directly to virtually any data source, including was crucial, but the software’s no-code approach to dashboard and event processing application development was also a major factor in their selection. The ability to add Panopticon’s capabilities to FlexTrade platform with a seamless integration made it the best choice.

FlexTrade worked directly with the Altair team to implement a proof of concept. The team found that embedding Panopticon required no significant changes to the FlexTrade software. The teams worked together to build a set of analytical user interfaces that enable traders to identify trends, outliers, and anomalies quickly in massive volumes of market and trading activity.

Results
FlexTrade made Panopticon dashboards the primary user interface for the platform, which contributed to the company being named 2020’s Best Sell-Side Execution Management System by Trading Tech Insight. Sales of the FlexTrade product continue to grow and the company now has over 200 investment banks, hedge funds, asset managers, commodity trading advisors, and institutional brokers using its products.

To learn more, please visit altair.com/financial-services