

Building Custom Dashboards

Ep. 3 of a 3- part series

Turning Data into Actionable Insights

Clay Jackson Sr. Presales Engineer



Foglight 101 Series

Meet the Speaker

- Clay Jackson, Sr Pre-Sales Engineer
- Master's in Software Engineering
- 13 years at Quest (Foglight & SharePlex)
- 25+ years DBA / Manager
- Active Open Source Contributor
- in http://Linkedin.com/in/ClayJackson







Agenda

- Welcome & Introduction
- Why Custom Dashboards Matter
- Use Case Examples
- Demo: Building a Dashboard
- Key Tips & Resources
- Q&A

Use Case Examples

Custom Sensors

- Extend Foglight monitoring with custom metrics unique to your environment
- Capture application, OS, or service-specific data not included out-of-thebox
- Use these as the foundation for dashboards aligned to business and technical needs



Custom Dashboards – Why?

Dashboards succeed when they have balance:

- Big-picture visibility across systems, services, and KPIs
- Deep diagnostic insight to support troubleshooting and root cause analysis

Design Goals

- Add new views for evolving services
- Correlate across metrics and tiers
- Deliver executive-ready summaries

Consumption Goals

- Operations center dashboards with real-time metrics
- Service-based views aligned to business functions
- Drill-downs from top-level KPIs into detailed performance



Design Considerations

- 1. Add new views as your environment grows
- 2. Build correlations between applications, infrastructure, and services
- 3. Create high-level summaries for leadership and detailed ops views
- 4. Organize dashboards around services and dependencies
- 5. Provide drill-down navigation to diagnostic data
- 6. Focus on metrics that directly impact performance and availability

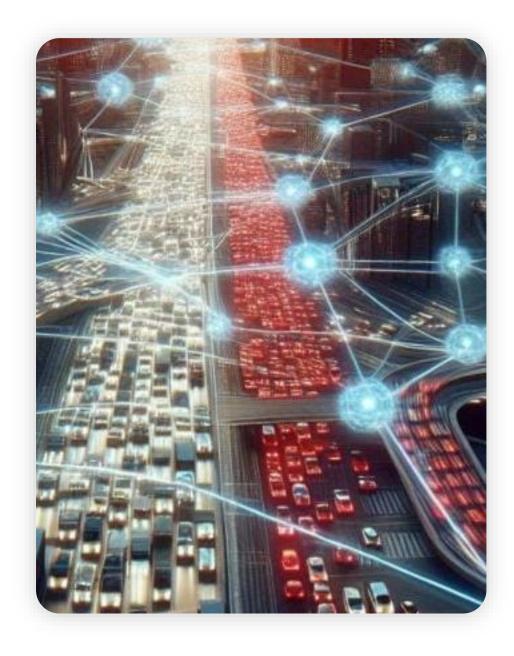












Segregate Data & Integration

- Tailor dashboards by audience (executives, operations, DBAs, app owners)
- Segment environments (production vs. nonproduction)
- Integrate Foglight dashboards into external portals and workflows via:
- ✓ Web applications
- ✓ APIs
- ✓ Reporting tools



Avoid...

1

Relying only on default Foglight UI without customization

2

Overloading dashboards with too many metrics

3

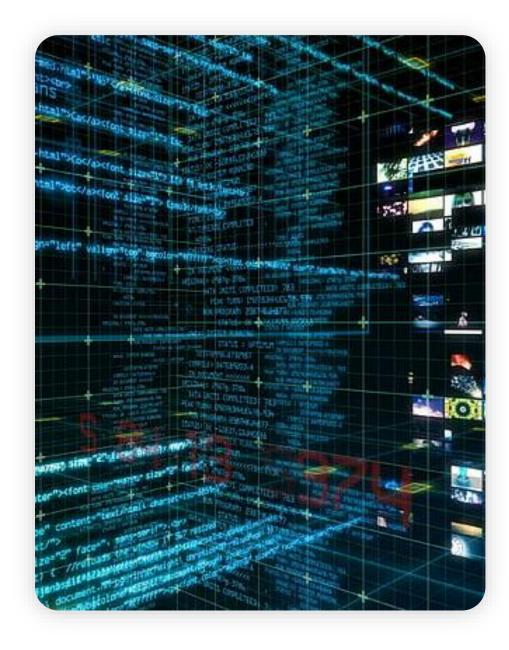
Publishing dashboards in SharePoint or kiosks without considering usability





Demonstration

Dashboards 101



Important Tips

- Stay focused dashboards should answer specific questions
- Simplicity drives adoption
- You won't "break" Foglight experiment freely
- Treat dashboards as living artifacts refine regularly
- Enjoy the process of building tools that help your team



Essential Resources & Links Click the links below and hit "Favorite" to save it for quick access!



Quest Foglight Home Page



Foglight Skills 101: Upcoming Webcasts



Foglight Skills 101: On Demand Webcasts



Questions



Don't Miss What's Next!

Utility Agents Unleashed



November 5th

Darren Mallette

