

Overview

Forté CRM Database

Forté CRM works by keeping a local database (i.e. a database physically on your computer) in sync with a remote database. If the remote database is unavailable for reasons such as network down, laptop disconnected, server unavailable, etc. then the system will continue to operate and will synchronize any changes when the remote database becomes available.

The first time you logon the system will perform an initial synchronization. Depending on the amount of data, this process could take from a few minutes to a couple of hours.

CRM Browser

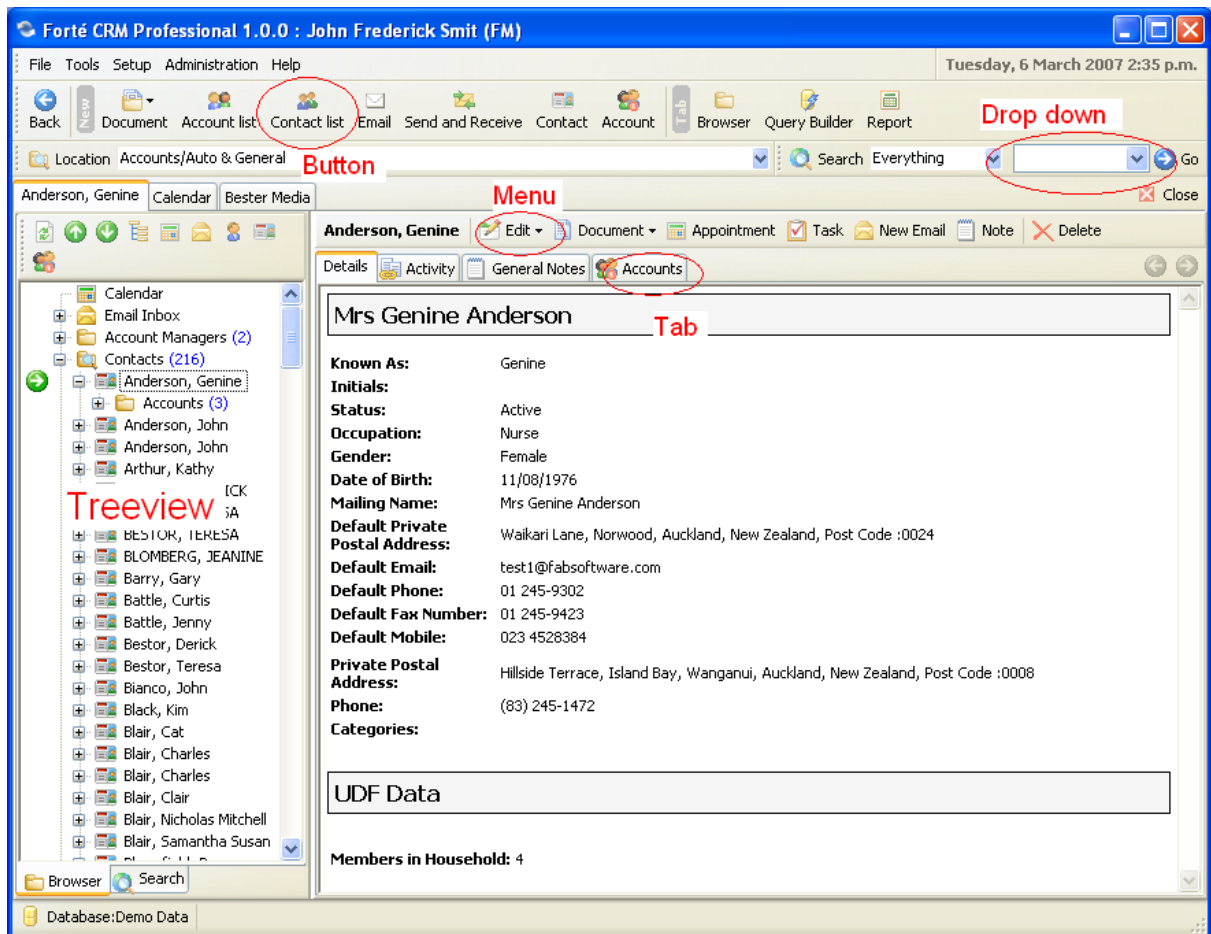
The Forté CRM system is based around the CRM Browser. The tree view on the left of the screen is used to navigate through your data. A tree view is a way of displaying hierarchical data and consists of nodes. Each node generally has an icon and a name. A node (group of data) can be expanded to show the next level (sub-nodes) by clicking on the '+' symbol, and contracted by clicking on the '-' symbol.

Clicking on a node will display relevant information in the right hand viewing pane. Right clicking on items in the tree view may pop up a menu of appropriate actions. For example, right clicking on a contact pops up a menu including options to create an appointment or a document. This can be used as a quick way to access commonly used functions. The tree view diagram may appear a little daunting at first, but its power and ease of use soon become apparent.

User Interface

Forté CRM has been designed with an intuitive user interface. It follows standard conventions such as right mouse click menus, double click to open or edit items and drag and drop operations.

The various screen components of Forté CRM are highlighted on the following sample screen image.



Button Positioning the cursor over the control displays the button outline. Click the button to use the features associated with it.

Menu Similar to a button, but also includes a small down arrow. Click the menu to display a list of options. Click on the required option.

Tab Each function (e.g. viewing contact details) exists in a tab. A feature of the system is that multiple tabs can be opened simultaneously allowing several items to be worked on at the same time. For example, one tab could contain a list of contacts, another tab could contain a list of accounts, and another could contain details of a contact. Tabs can also contain various screens of data for one contact or account. The current tab is highlighted in orange, and can be closed by clicking the Close button to the right of the tabs.

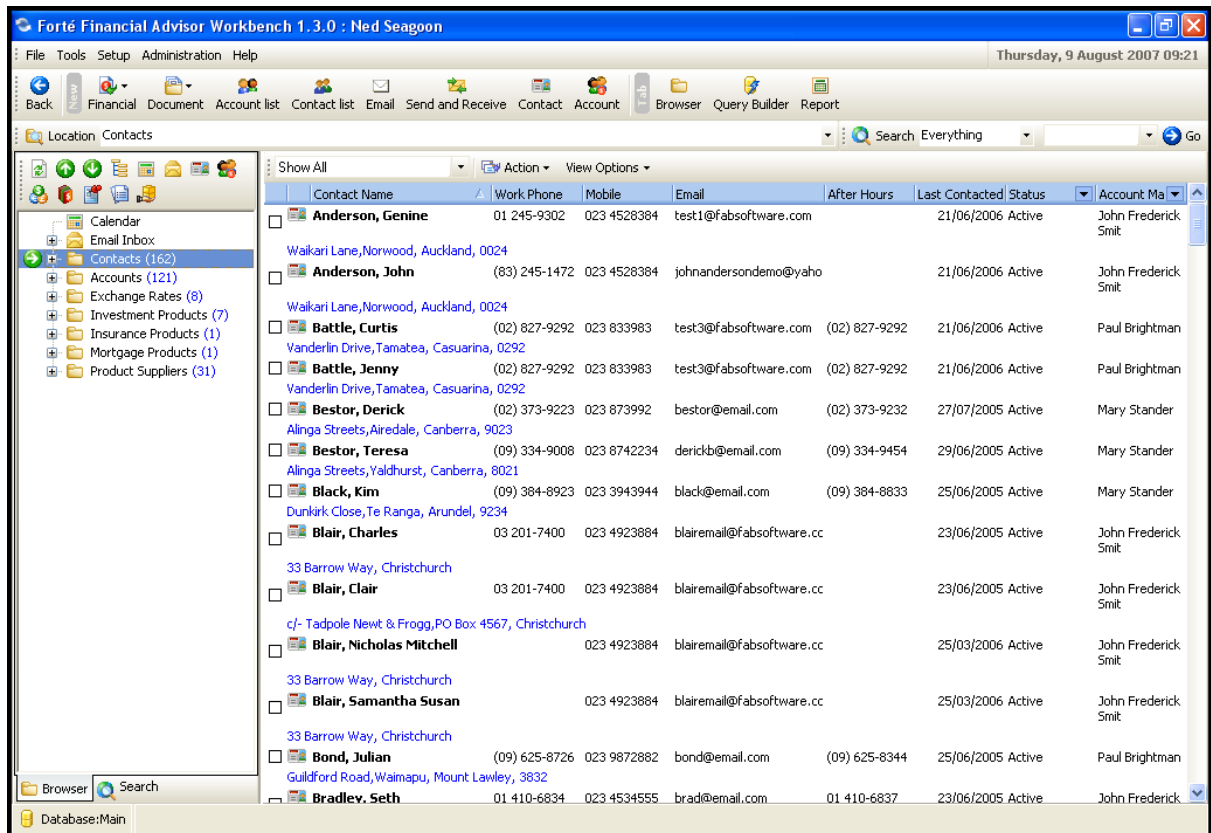
Drop down A rectangular box, similar to a menu, that allows a choice of options. Click the arrow to display the available options. Click an option to select it. It will then be displayed in the box. Some drop down boxes allow the user to type in the required details if the preferred option is unavailable.

Tree View

A way of displaying hierarchical data. A group of data can be expanded to show the next level by clicking on the '+' symbol, and contracted by clicking on the '-' symbol.

Grid Views

Grid views are interactive tables of information. These are mainly used for contacts and accounts to assist with filtering and selection for mail merges and other actions. Grid views can be sorted by any visible criteria.

**Creating New Items**

To create a new item such as an account or a contact, click the corresponding button at the top of the screen. For other items such as notes, you can generally right click on the element you wish to create the item for. For example, to create a new document for a contact, right click on the contact name in either the tree view or the grid and select 'Document' from the menu. Alternatively, if the contact is selected, click on the required button at the top of the contact's details.

Shortcut Keys

Forté CRM Shortcut Keys

Ctrl + N	New email	
Alt + S	Send/receive email	
Ctrl + Shift + P	New appointment	
Ctrl + Shift + K	New task	
Ctrl + Shift + C	New contact	
Ctrl + Shift + A	New account	
Ctrl + T	Open new tab (browser)	(In development)
Ctrl+ Tab	Change tab (browser)	(In development)
Ctrl + F	Search (open search tab)	
Ctrl + A	Search Accounts	
Ctrl + C	Search Contacts	
Ctrl + D	Search Documents	
Ctrl + Shift + D	Document menu	(In development)

Forté AWB Shortcut Keys

Alt + A	Asset schedule
Alt + D	Distribution
Alt + I	Investment
Alt + N	Investment product
Alt + T	Transaction
Alt + R	Regular transaction
Alt + U	Product supplier
Alt + L	Recommended asset allocation
Alt + B	Bulk dividend
Alt + E	Applied model portfolio
Alt + P	Policy
Alt + O	Policy product
Alt + M	Mortgage
Alt + G	Mortgage product

Glossary of Terms

Account	An entity with whom the user has a business relationship. An account may be a company, department, portfolio or an individual. A logical grouping of contacts administered by one or more account managers.
Account List	A set of accounts that can be worked with as a group.
Account manager	A person who controls, or may control, accounts and contacts.
Appointment	A fixed length meeting between two or more parties, recorded in the diary.
Contact	A person with whom communication may occur.
Contact List	A set of contacts that can be worked with as a group.
Document	End-result letter, report or paper.
Document template	A template, or model document, used to generate a document from information in the database.
Not	A record of an interaction with a contact or account.
Permissions	The authority a user has to view or change information in the database. Permissions are used to enable the sharing of information where appropriate, and to protect the integrity of the database. The system administrator can set different permissions for various users.
Query	An ad-hoc way to extract information from the database.
Report	Non-editable output document.
Task	A to-do item, recorded in the task list.
User	A person logged onto the Forté CRM system.
User Group	Users can belong to different user groups. Each group has a permission level appropriate to the tasks to be carried out.