



Forecast Pro Unlimited Version 9: What's New

Forecasting Improvements:

- The new “Custom Components Model” that allows you either to let Forecast Pro estimate the level, trend, seasonal and event patterns from the data, or to set them yourself. Custom components models are useful in a variety of situations including:
 - (1) customizing the trend for longer-term forecasts;
 - (2) customizing the seasonal pattern for short data sets; and
 - (3) defining the impact of future events that have not occurred historically.
- A new form of exponential smoothing (NA-constant level) that will improve forecast accuracy for data sets that exhibit a “selling season” wherein the majority of the demand occurs at specific times of the year (e.g., snow shovels, flu vaccines, etc.).
- The new “Custom Allocation Reconciliation” technique that allows you to dictate how a group-level forecast is allocated to its component series. This is useful when the breakdown among the levels is known.
- Improvements to the Forecast by Analogy model including options to automatically extend the analogy series, align seasonality, switch to Expert Selection after a specified time and to create the analogy series directly in Forecast Pro.
- Improvements to the Expert Selection algorithm.

Data Manager:

- Forecast Pro’s new data manager centralizes and simplifies all inputs into Forecast Pro including historic demand, helpers, imported overrides and imported modifiers.

Interactive Helper Variable Creation:

- A new Create Helper Variable routine allows you to specify an item on the Navigator and automatically create helper variables to use in conjunction with custom components models, forecast by analogy models and weighting transformations.