Kx for Monitoring
Product Overview
Kx for Monitoring – Visibility, Insight and Control

Prevention is better than cure, almost everyone would agree. Where it’s not possible, however, early detection must at minimum be achieved to minimize the damage. And in the middle should be early warning – knowing from past experience that a set of events or indicators suggests a failure is imminent and that taking action now will forestall its negative impact. All three come into play in the best monitoring practices: regular maintenance to avoid errors, visibility to detect them and early intervention to minimize them. Kx for Monitoring helps in each of these areas.

**Visibility:** Dashboards enable users to see instantly what is running, not running or running at sub-optimal levels. Alerts and notifications ensure that the right people know *where, why and when something is wrong.*

**Insight:** A complete database of results, alerts and processing statistics enable analysis into the causes, frequency and precedents of system failures. Historical data provides insight into what regular maintenance should be performed to avoid errors. Analysis of past performance helps identify thresholds and warning levels that *indicate where failure may be imminent.*

**Control:** Drilldown to detailed information on the causes and location of errors to enable swift remediation. Support staff can see instantly what process is in error, what server, what network card etc. requires attention in order to *restore service quickly and effectively.*

Kx for Monitoring helps clients ensure their day-to-day operations run smoothly and to schedule. It provides a set of monitoring dashboards that display high-level information on the current status of primary indicators with accompanying drilldown to underlying details. It provides *real-time* alerts and notifications to those who need to know immediately what is wrong and where and, almost as importantly, it retains historical data for follow-up investigation and subsequent analysis to *ensure it is not repeated.*

Kx provide an accompanying range of services and support for all its products. We provide a pool of talented and experienced developers with deep domain knowledge to assist clients in developing customised solutions that distinguish them in the market place. We provide services for defining, designing, testing and rolling out new functionality with supporting project management services to ensure control, quality and on-budget delivery. Kx also offers both public and private training services customised to client needs ranging from new system design and implementation guidelines to code optimization and architectural reviews.

Kx has operational bases in Europe, North America, Asia and Australia to service its global client base both locally and on a near-shore basis.
Introduction

**Kx for Monitoring** is an enterprise solution for real-time monitoring, investigation and analysis of system stability and performance. It is specifically designed for platforms where system performance and efficiency is critical to provide real-time visibility into the performance and stability of servers, applications, processes and infrastructure.

**Control** – Centralized environment for monitoring infrastructure, applications, and processes.

**Visibility** – Dashboard summary with drilldown functionality to view detailed results.

**Real-time** display of performance data and processing status.

**Alerts** – Detection and notification of errors, threshold breeches and bottlenecks.

**Speed of deployment** – End-to-end solution that can be swiftly deployed to monitor enterprise applications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reactive</th>
<th>Proactive</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quickly identify performance bottlenecks and avoid backlogs</td>
<td>Investigate and pinpoint latency points across systems, messages &amp; order types</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latency Signals: internal, point to point and roundtrip latencies</td>
<td>Identify server memory usage/workload patterns per daily/weekly/monthly basis</td>
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<td>Collate data from multiple servers into one central location for investigation, analysis and warehousing</td>
<td>Customize key performance indicators (KPIs) used to provide assurance and visibility of activity and performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stabilize poorly performing applications</td>
<td>Improve and streamline capacity planning and maximize uptime of key applications</td>
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**Flexible and Extendible**

Kx for Monitoring can be extended and customized as required to areas ranging from scheduling and distribution of management reports to scraping important log files for configured messages and implementing log growth detection.

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Rich Visualization – graphical display enabling users to slice- and-dice information and providing drilldown to explore trends and identify root causes.

Real-time Customizable Alerts – allowing the user to customize the built in alerts via parameters or define custom alerts and notifications with built in sound alerts and/or email notification.

Cross-Enterprise visibility

Collates data from multiple servers to provide a complete picture of network communications, interfaces and applications processes.

Process and Server Level Signals – Monitor CPU and memory usage, disk and network I/O to proactively identify where problems may reside.

Data can be analyzed in real time to trigger alerts and display critical information via powerful dashboards in a versatile and meaningful way. An **Integration API** provides an interface for publishing signals from in-house systems and applications into Kx for Monitoring enabling cross-enterprise visibility and analysis of processing status. Using the power of Kx, it can incorporate previously stored data, results and signal information to further enrich its analysis and monitoring capabilities. The storage of large amounts of historical data allows the user to analyze different time periods and trends in order to make future predictions.
Why Kx for Monitoring

Kx for Monitoring helps address the question and practical challenges organizations face on a daily basis:

- Are all your systems currently running? Show me.
- Are you confident they will continue to run efficiently? On what basis?
- Can I look at the status of individual applications as well? How?
- Is there a history of performance data I can compare this against and do some analysis on?
- Is there a pattern to the peak and troughs we have been seeing?
- Can we justify to procurement why we need this additional hardware? Do we have supporting stats?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Feature</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Real-time Customizable Alerts</td>
<td>High-performance analysis of monitoring data allowing the user to customize the built-in alerts via parameters or define custom alerts using a built-in Alerts Framework. <strong>Multiple alert notification options</strong> including UI notifications with built-in sound alerts and/or email notification which can be targeted at different users/user groups based on the underlying data. <strong>Users can also extend the notification framework to push alerts to other applications.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rich Visualization</td>
<td>Interactive analysis capabilities on <strong>aggregated monitoring data</strong> and rich graphical display enabling users to <strong>drill down</strong> to explore trends. The varying priorities of different user groups can be met through a single solution with a completely customizable user perspective - interactive analysis capabilities enabling users to slice and dice the signal information to identify root causes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration API</td>
<td>Includes an interface for publishing signals from other in-house systems and applications into Kx for Monitoring enabling cross-enterprise visibility and analysis of processing status. <strong>External applications can interface using java, c, c++, or c#.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Warehousing</td>
<td>Storage of monitoring data using the power of <strong>Kx technology</strong> augments real-time data and enables comparison of current signal information against <strong>historical data</strong> and performance metrics. The storage of large amounts of historical data allows the user to analyze different time periods and trends in order to make future predictions. Since users can quickly access critical data from a number of sources—all in one place—they can rapidly make informed decisions on key initiatives.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kx Platform</td>
<td><strong>Entitlements</strong>, access control, monitoring, audit and failover capabilities. <strong>Connectivity framework</strong> that greatly simplifies interfaces to read data from market feeds and internal systems and publish them to internal consumers. <strong>Workflow framework</strong> for assigning trading alerts to surveillance analysts, and to manage alerts through analysis, investigation and case creation.</td>
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Kx for Monitoring can be extended and customized as required. Customization can be done by the customer directly or with help from Kx. Examples include the ability to scrape important log files for configured messages, implementing log growth detection and scheduling and distributing management reports. The high-performance data processing architecture, built on Kx, ensures that from day one no compromises have to be made on what signals to capture.
Solution Overview

The diagram below illustrates how Kx for Monitoring operates. It ingests system data from servers, server farms and applications via its data capture layer, stores the data in a Kx database, calculates system level and application level statistics and communicates results and overall status via dashboards, reports and alerts.

- A **collection agent** runs on each machine
- Statistics are periodically published back to central database. Statistics collected include:
  - Server memory, CPU, swap, load, file system and NIC usage
  - Per process memory, CPU, TCP/IP queue sizes
- Standard alerts based on thresholds provided on
  - Server availability, CPU, load, file system usage
  - Process availability and memory usage
- A generic alert framework is provided – any statistic within the system can easily be converted into an alert

Monitoring can also extend to other telemetry measures including: temperature at server & card level and network device & interface level; Power analysis including load available & used, input voltage, number of power supplies in active / passive mode etc.; and Cooling statistics covering number of total fans, active vs passive, current loading

Kx for Monitoring includes enterprise features for application development, system management, access control, audit, logging and failover
Kx for Monitoring provides support teams with metrics and statistics on individual servers at an infrastructure level and offers configurable alerts to highlight when key indicators have been breached. Early detection in this manner enables swift, targeted remedial action by support teams armed with the knowledge of what is wrong, where and why.

Dashboards provide summary status views on servers, processes and engines with drilldown to view errors and their causes and enable managers and support staff to view machine status, processing bottlenecks and overdue tasks. Kx for Monitoring provides the tools necessary for the investigation of a problem with system resources in areas such as CPU usage, memory usage or network connection issues. Screens do not provide just static data – they also provide an interaction that enables users view a wide range of data but with the ability to focus in on specific areas that need investigation.

Additional information includes:

- A graphical of view process details – a historical, time-bucketed view of the process memory and CPU usage;
- Network connection details – a historic, time-bucketed view of the number and aggregate queue size of the network connection details over time;
- Server details – a historical, time-bucketed view of the total CPU, memory, load and individual CPU usage figures for the given server;
- NIC details – a historical, time-bucketed view of the sent and received data for each network card on the given server; and
- Connection details – for each open connection the process has, the total send and receive queue sizes, the duration the connection has been open, and the end points of the connection (if available).

**Now and Then:** While real-time updates are critical for early detection and minimizing disruption of processing errors it is sometime almost as important to be able to view historical data, reviewing a previous incident for comparison with a recent one, identifying trends, looking for factors that may have been overlooked or not previously considered. Kx for Monitoring maintains a full historical database of results that can be quickly and flexibly investigated.
All Kx processes publish application monitoring information. This includes log messages, queries being run, access requests and latency measurements. Dashboards to view and analyze these are provided. Other applications can similarly publish data to existing schemas. Alternatively schemas and analysis can be extended as required. Alerts can be derived from any and all application data. Application can interface using Java, C, C++, or C#.

**Sample Use Cases**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kx Applications</th>
<th>Non-Kx Applications</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In the Kx’sFX trading platform, Kx for Monitoring is used for analysis such as</td>
<td>In Calypso environments, Kx for Monitoring can be used to monitor the processing time of messages within the Calypso engines to pinpoint bottlenecks</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Latency measurements within and between processes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Measuring and quote ack/nack trends and ratios</td>
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Multi System Monitoring

Applications and servers may individually provide information on their status but what support teams need is a consolidated view across multiple systems – a dashboard that summarizes the overall enterprise-wide status. To do this Kx for Monitoring does the following:

- Collects data from multiple servers to gather a complete picture of network communications and interfaces.
- Collates data from multiple servers into one central location for investigation, analysis and warehousing.
- Provide an Integration API to simplify data collection
- Enables servers to be grouped into different logical environments such as Production, UAT and analyzed at that level.

It then presents the results in a consolidated dashboard that instantly gives users a “Top” overview.

Alternative graphical displays can be easily created.

Drilldown information enables users to view underlying data on selected servers and across selected days and dates. In this example, the alert history is displayed to view causes, recurring trends and individual occurrences. This information enables users to not only identify where remedial action is required (for example there is a recurring instance of queue depth build on a particular server) but also to verify if the remedial action taken actually addressed the problem (for example, did the added memory and disk space address the high memory utilization rates experienced over the last week?).
The Monitoring Dashboard provides the tools necessary for the investigation of server problems specifically with regard to statistics like CPU usage, memory usage and network cards or physical measures like temperature or power usage. Statistics which make up the graphs can be displayed by holding the mouse over the graphs at different time periods and more details and descriptive statistics can be found by drilldown and charting capabilities.

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The dashboard on the right queries entries in an audit table. From this information a user can determine if there were any configuration or analytic updates over a specific time frame, view previous amend dates and compare the changes from one version to the next. Double clicking on an audit event, the app to the top right-hand side will show the versions and dates of alterations.

Dashboards can monitor data from multiple sources and of multiple types - the dashboard below summarizes queries on the Latency, Log, Query Log and CPU processes tables.

**Performance Monitoring and Stress Testing**

Kx for Monitoring can also be used to track key performance metrics that give developers, testers, technical analysts and system administrators insight into system dynamics and enables them to test how coding and configuration changes may affect performance.

- Waiting and Consumed processes.
- Totals, averages, spike and drop statistics
- Incoming database figure and throughput processing statistics.

It also provides a real-time engine monitoring component to monitor live queues and provide alerts.
Process Statistics

Dashboards can be created to focus on specific process information and statistics as illustrated below:

- Investigate and pinpoint latency points across systems, messages & order types
- Stabilize poorly performing applications
- Improve and streamline capacity planning
- Customize key performance indicators (KPIs) used to provide assurance and visibility of activity and performance
- Proactively identify where the problems reside
- Maximize uptime of key applications

Data captured can be used to assessing application performance, analyzing the effect of coding and configuration changes as well as identifying degradation levels, pin-pointing throughput peaks and troughs and investigating performance bottlenecks.
Visualization Capabilities

Kx for Monitoring includes Dashboard functionality for highly customizable displays where even most complex views on data can be configured in just a number of clicks. Once created they enable further user interaction including:

- Drilldown into results by double clicking in a row of data
- Slice and dice the underlying data by dragging the column names across the breadcrumb trail and pivoting on key dimensions
- Support for complex parameterized queries making it easier to explore and analyze data sets
- Quick access to aggregated and summary information for strategic analysis

Visualization features include:

- **Overlaid Charts** Line, Area, Plot, Column, Candle and Bubble charts can be overlaid to view different chart types along the x-axis and up to two y-axis ranges.
- **Display Options** Various label, legend and axis rendering options allow the graph display to be customized in a large amount of ways.
- **Clickable data points** Data points can be selected and used to populate parameters on other applications much in the same manner as clicking on row/rows in a data grid.
- **Zooming** is available in charts when increased resolution is required on the data.
- **Parameterization** Charts can be parameter-driven to give extra flexibility and ease of user to users.
FD Corporate

FD is a leading provider of software solutions and consulting services to the capital markets industry. Founded in 1996, it occupies a niche market position in terms of deep domain knowledge and technical expertise. Headquartered in Ireland, FD has a global presence with offices across EMEA, the Americas and Asia Pacific.

- Publically held company on London Stock Exchange (LSE FDP.L)
- Headquartered in Newry, Co. Down, N Ireland
- 2400+ employees worldwide

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