



FREE
WEBINAR



HANDS-ON WITH FME SERVER APPS



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MEET LOCUS



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- Australia + New Zealand
- **10 Years** on the FME journey solving data challenges
- 350+ organisations' trusting us in New Zealand, Australia and worldwide
- Safe Software Partner and **Platinum** Value-Added Reseller of FME
- **9+ experts** with FME Technical Certifications
- FME Certified Professional, FME Certified Server, FME Certified Trainer
(professional certifications awarded by Safe Software)

Agenda



1. What are FME Server Apps
2. Considerations for building Server Apps
3. Working Example: Creating an FME Workspace Server App
4. Creating FME Server Gallery Apps
5. Sharing with FME Server Apps
6. Summary



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What are FME Server Apps?



Workspace Apps

An interactive way for users to run an FME Workspace, without having to login to the FME Server Web Interface.

Gallery Apps

A customisable landing page for groupings of workspace apps and other relevant links.



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Why use FME Server Apps?



Interactive solution where the customer performs the task rather than a technician or analyst.

Customers have the power to perform a task as and when required, with whichever variables they need modified through effective use of user parameters



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Why use FME Server Apps?



Feedback loop where the customer can see what worked, and what didn't, giving them the power to rectify any issues immediately

Connection between the customer and the process, giving a broader understanding of how the technology works



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When to make your workspace an app?



Interaction is the key difference.

When your workspace just needs to run, and deliver a result without any interaction from a user, this is best left as a workspace.

If your workspace has some **variables that can be modified**, this is the best time to make your workspace into an app.



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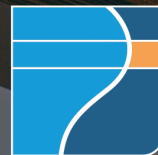
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Considerations for FME Server Apps

with Gary Nicholson



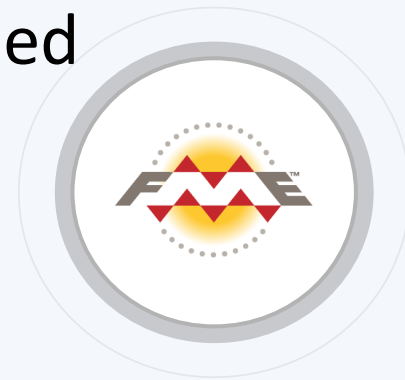
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Collect Information from the User via Published Parameters

Most Parameter Types are supported in FME
Server Apps



Attribute List (comma delimited)

Attribute List (ordered)

Attribute List (space delimited)

Attribute Name

Coordinate System Name

Filename (Existing)

Password

Text

Text (Multiline)

URL

Date

Date/Time - app does not support setting “seconds & milliseconds” yet

Filename (Multiple)

Choice (Multiple)

Choice with Alias (Multiple)

Web Connection

Number

Choice

Choice or Text

Choice with Alias



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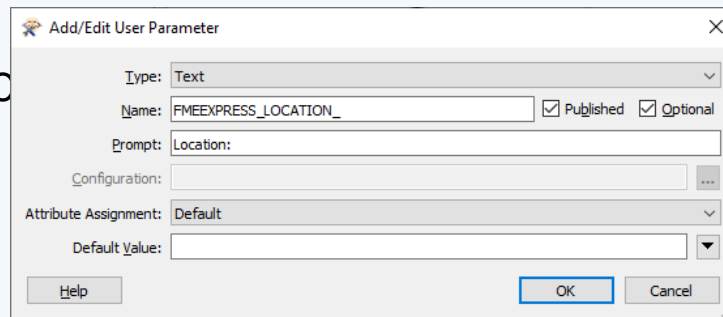
Special Parameter Types



Locations

FME Data Express can access phone GPS.

Use a Text parameter called FMEEXPRESS_LO



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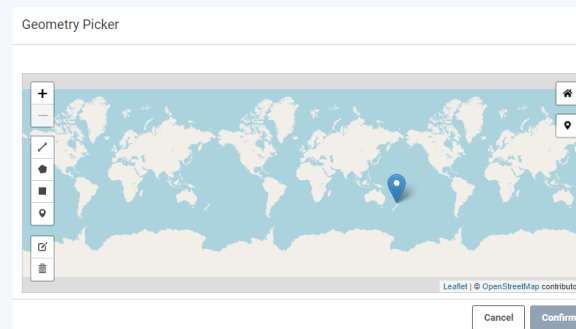


Special Parameter Types



Locations

For Browsers use the GEOMETRY type to display a Geometry Picker

The 'Add/Edit User Parameter' dialog box is shown. It has a title bar with a close button. The 'Type' is set to 'Geometry'. The 'Name' field contains 'location'. There are checkboxes for 'Published' and 'Optional', both of which are checked. The 'Prompt' field contains 'Location:'. The 'Configuration' field contains 'GEOM_TYPE:POLYGON,BOX,LINE,POINT%INITIAL_BOUNDS:90.0,-180.0,-90.0,180.0'. The 'Attribute Assignment' is set to 'Default'. The 'Default Value' field is empty. There are 'Help', 'OK', and 'Cancel' buttons at the bottom.

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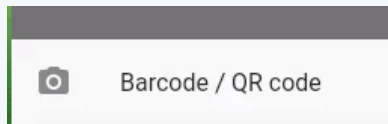
Special Parameter Types



Bar codes and QR codes

FME Data Express can access phone camera to scan codes.

Simply use a Text parameter.



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Special Parameter Types



Photos

FME Data Express can access phone camera to take and upload.

Simply use a JPEG Reader.



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Working Example: Creating an FME Server Workspace App



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Why use FME Server Gallery Apps?



Gallery Apps are a customisable landing page for groupings of workspace apps and other relevant links.

Using Gallery Apps can give your customer a feeling of professionalism from your work by seeing a landing page for all of your services, rather than be provided direct links.

They can also help to promote all of the services you offer and stimulate additional work or projects when people see the capabilities you have



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Creating FME Server Gallery Apps



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Sharing FME Server Apps



New in 2020 is the ability to leverage all of FME Server's sharing options within FME Server Apps.

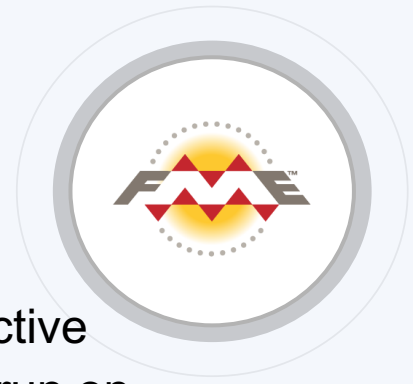
This means you have ability to share apps with individual users, groups, or roles – which is great to open your apps up to many different users, but still have the option to restrict apps with sensitive information.



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Summary



Workspace Server Apps are a great way to provide an interactive experience to your customers where FME workspaces can be run on demand.

User Parameters allow interaction, but can ensure appropriate restriction in order for your apps to work well. Invest time into designing these well.

Gallery Apps effectively manage the presentation of your apps to customers



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Q&A (during the live webinar)



(Q) Once published, what is an easy way to maintain/update the key?

Use the 'manage tokens' menu on the top right hand side of FME Server to manage permissions of the FME Server App. If there's API Tokens inside your workspace though (like this one), I recommend creating a Private Parameter, and updating it via republishing the workspace when required.

(Q) Is it possible to take the application code as it is, integrate it with other JS libraries (bootstrap, organisation libraries) and redeploy it?

Not to my knowledge. For things like this you could probably leverage some of the calls being made using the App, but would need to develop it custom. Check out the FME Server Playground for some great examples. <https://playground.fmeserver.com/demos/>

(Q) Is there the ability to create Logo, header and footer as a template or do you have to edit every server app individually.

I haven't come across a way to use a template yet. If this is something you're interested in, I would suggest creating a Server App which you name 'template' that has the configuration you would want to repeat. Then you could duplicate that app as a start point, and just point to the different workspaces as required.

Q&A (during the live webinar)



(Q) Do the uploaded images get saved somewhere on server? Does it default to the temp directory?

Any file, including images that are uploaded to FME Server are saved in a private location that the workspace has access to. By default they are deleted after 24 hrs. This can be increased but you are better off having the workspace save the file or image to the desired location.

(Q) Can you use FME Data Express to capture assets in the field using your phone which will cloud into the server databases ?

FME Data Express, with the right workspace can be used as a field data capture application, however it does rely on the device having internet connectivity.

(Q) What happens if the device doesn't have network connectivity?

FME Server Apps do not (currently) have an offline mode. If network connectivity is an issue you could develop an app to record the data and save it locally and then upload to FME Server when the device reacquires a connection.

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Thank You!



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