



# Strategy Blocks

Training Guides

## 3.0

StrategyBlocks Author Role  
Working with Metrics

# 3.0 | StrategyBlocks Author Role Working with Metrics

3.1

The metrics concept

3.2

Metric properties

2.3

Metric creation

# 3.1

## The metrics concept

### Metrics Scorecard

The metrics scorecard is where quantitative data is loaded, entered and/or viewed, to monitor the organizations business outcomes. For example, this is where you can enter your actual financial performance, as compared to target, and then analyse the information graphically or textually.

All the Metrics (KPIs) are visible (given security access) on the metrics scorecard. The scorecard can be configured specifically to the requirements of each user (x26 columns, sort, order by and column widths).

★ As is the case with blocks, the Owner is responsible for updating actuals (only), and the Manager for the targets and all other properties.

Columns can be sorted based on value or text. Quick Find provides a rapid method of finding metrics.

★ The scorecard can be download directly to the desktop as a CSV.

Type	Strategic	Status	Metric Title	Owner	Focus Area	Actual	Target	Blocks
Project expenditure	★	✖	Project expenditure	Craig Catley	Finance	\$ 635,687	\$ 429,490	17
Projected resources	★	✖	Projected resources	Craig Catley	HR	144.00 FTE's	149.00 FTE's	9
Phases delivered	★	✔	Phases delivered	Craig Catley	Innovation	--	--	0
project team	★	✔	project team	Craig Catley	All	--	--	0
Earnings in (USD)	★	✔	Earnings in (USD)	Craig Catley	Finance	\$59.02	--	0
Marketing Campaign Expenses	★	✔	Marketing Campaign Expenses	Craig Catley	Marketing	\$ 4,990	\$ 7,926	8
Orders filled (rate)	★	✖	Orders filled (rate)	Craig Catley	All	24.33 %	27.41 %	1
Employees per location (calc)	☆	✖	Employees per location (calc)	Craig Catley	Finance	20 staff	10 staff	0
Sales less labour cost (calc)	★	⊖	Sales less labour cost (calc)	Caroline Purre	Excellence	\$ 84,977	\$ 84,972	1
Sale Value   Unit Sold (calc)	☆	✖	Sale Value   Unit Sold (calc)	Craig Catley	Excellence	\$ 25.02	\$ 28.33	0

# 3.1

## The Metrics Concept

### Metric Types

---

There are 3 different types of metrics available within StrategyBlocks:

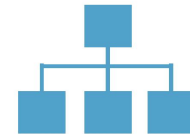
#### 1. Regular (standalone)

A regular metric is the simplest type of metric. There is no value in aggregating it, it is completely standalone. Examples include; survey results, site traffic, percentages, or counts.



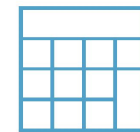
#### 2. Cascading (self aggregating)

Each cascading metric is associated with every block. Each block can contribute its own actual and target values to the parent block. Values are, therefore, “rolled up” up the blocks tree hierarchy to a set level. Examples include: revenue, FTE’s, costs, customer count.



#### 3. Calculated

A calculated metric is derived from 1 or more other metrics either Regular or Cascading and other variables. Examples include: financial ratios, operational ratios, averages.






# 3.1

## The Metrics Concept












### Metric Types













---

Metric Type	Standard	Calculated	Cascading
Icon			
<b>Features:</b>			
Secure Access	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interpolated Values (best fit)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cumulative Values	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Annotations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Link to Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Manual Entry	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Arithmetic Calculations		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spreadsheet integration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Automatic Upload	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Automatic Roll-Up			<input type="checkbox"/>

# 3.1

## The Metrics Concept

- 1  Overview
- 2  Details
- 3  Actuals
- 4  Targets
- 5  Attached Blocks
- 6  People
- 7  Comments
- 8  Documents
- 9  Groups
- 10  Clone
- 11  Delete

Metric Title	Type	Strategic	Status
Training Days / Employee (AVG)			
Total Students			
Total International Students			
Total Domestic Students			
Total Current Assets			
Surplus after tax			
Staff Turnover			
Scholarships won			
Return on Marketing Investment (ROMI)			
Return on Investment (ROI)			

## Navigation

Here you can manage all the different attributes surrounding/within that specific Metric. Double clicking a metric takes you to the menu options of that metric.

# 3.2

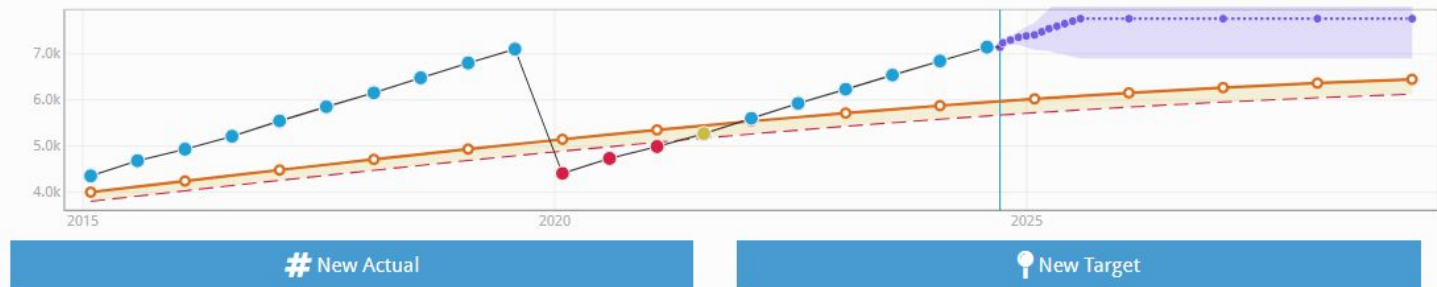
## Metric Properties

### Overview (1)

The overview shows a complete history of actual versus target over the life of the metric in the form of a line chart and table.

- Trend Forecast
- Chart History
- Progress History
- Actual and Target updates
- Activity

#### Chart History



- ★ From the Overview metric owners can post a new actual, and managers may post a new or revised target.

#### Update Actuals

Enter a new **Actual** value. If you use an existing date, that actual will be replaced with the new value.

**Actual Date**

**Actual Value**

**Comment on this Value**

# 3.2

## Metric Properties

### Details (2)

---

Details gives the **Manager** (or the Owner with rights) the ability to edit the metrics properties, including:

- Title and Description
- Dates (auto-extend)
- Ownership
- Focus Area (and overwrite)
- Strategic flag
- Auto forecasting
- Interpolation (estimating values, smoothing)
- Cumulative (addition of past values)
- Precision (decimal points)
- Units (unit of measure) and Prefix
- Tolerance Start and End (describes when the metric is in a warning state) and % or integer
- Invert tolerance



## Add Actuals and Targets (3,4)

There are a number of ways to add values:

### 1. From the Overview screen (individual values)

Update Actuals

Enter a new Actual value. If you use an existing date, that actual will be replaced with the new value.

Actual Date  
28/07/2020

Actual Value  
0

Comment on this Value  
Describe this update

Cancel Update

### 2. Manual Actuals and Targets table (multiple values)

#### Manual Actuals

Add your actuals to the list.

+ Row Edit as CSV Reset Save

Date	Value	Comment	
01/11/2019	7000000	Going great	🗑️
17/10/2019	6500000	Comment...	🗑️
02/10/2019	6500000	Comment...	🗑️

### 3. Edit as CSV (bulk upload)

#### CSV Actuals

```
31/07/2024,7142,""
31/01/2024,6840,""
31/07/2023,6537,""
31/01/2023,6230,""
31/07/2022,5923,""
31/01/2022,5599,""
31/07/2021,5267,""
31/01/2021,4988,""
31/07/2020,4731,""
31/01/2020,4405,""
```

### 4. Automated through Metrics Zone daily upload

# 3.2

## Metric Properties

### Attached Blocks (5)

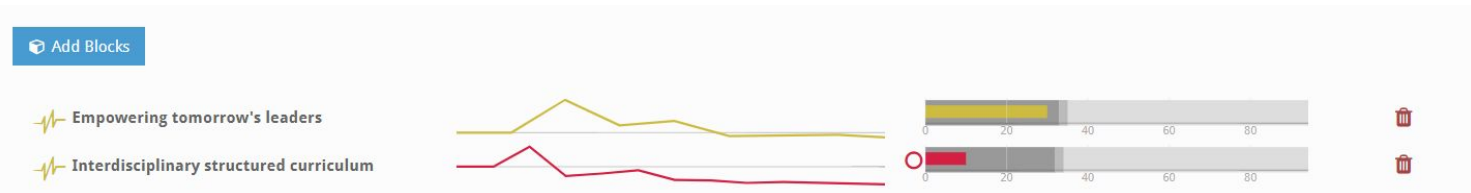
---

Shows all the blocks this metric is attached to.

Path: [METRICS](#) > [ATTACHED BLOCKS](#) > [ADD BLOCKS](#)



Consider what is the outcome of the attached blocks



# 3.2

## Metric Properties

### Attached Blocks (5)

---

Attaching a metric to a block affects the block's health and allows you see the metric in the context of your strategy. It is the process that links the output of the organization described in the context of a block, with the outcome described in the metric.

Option 1 - from the metric

Path: [METRICS](#) > [select metric](#) > [ATTACH BLOCKS](#) > [ADD BLOCKS](#)

Option 2 - from the block

Path: [BLOCKS TREE](#) > [select metric](#) > [select block properties](#) > [METRICS](#)

The Block Metrics table allows the user to order the metrics for viewing from the block. The metrics in position 1 and 2 are used as the primary metrics to be displayed on the Overview block face.

1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Capital Expenditure (000's):</b> Total expenditure (CAPEX)	▲	▼
2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Net Contribution   Net Sales</b>	▲	▼
3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Net Contribution:</b> Net contribution (Finance)	▲	▼
4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Project expenditure:</b> This metric will roll up the investment made in each strategic initiative.	▲	▼
5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>% of Budget Cuts Achieved:</b> Percentage of budget cuts achieved (measured in money) versus budget cuts planned (measured in money).	▲	▼
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Earnings in (USD)</b>		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Marketing Campaign Expenses:</b> An aggregation of all expenses relating to all marketing campaigns		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Phases delivered:</b> Total aggregated count of all sprints delivered over all EPICs.		

# 3.2

## Metric Properties

### People (6)

---

Select other users to **watch** the selected metric. It will be added to their watchlist, and they will receive an email notification. When you are a watcher, you will get status updates.

Drag users from left to right to add.



NB: Administrators can see into all Metrics

The screenshot shows a user selection interface with two panels. The left panel has a 'Filter' box and a list of users: Lawrence, Simon; Keyte, Allen; Hutchinson, Ashlee; Wall, Caroline; Everitt, Tim; and Parveen, Sajitha. The right panel has a 'Filter' box and a list with one selected user: Catley, Craig. Between the panels are four navigation buttons: a double right arrow (»), a single right arrow (>), a single left arrow (<), and a double left arrow («).

# 3.2

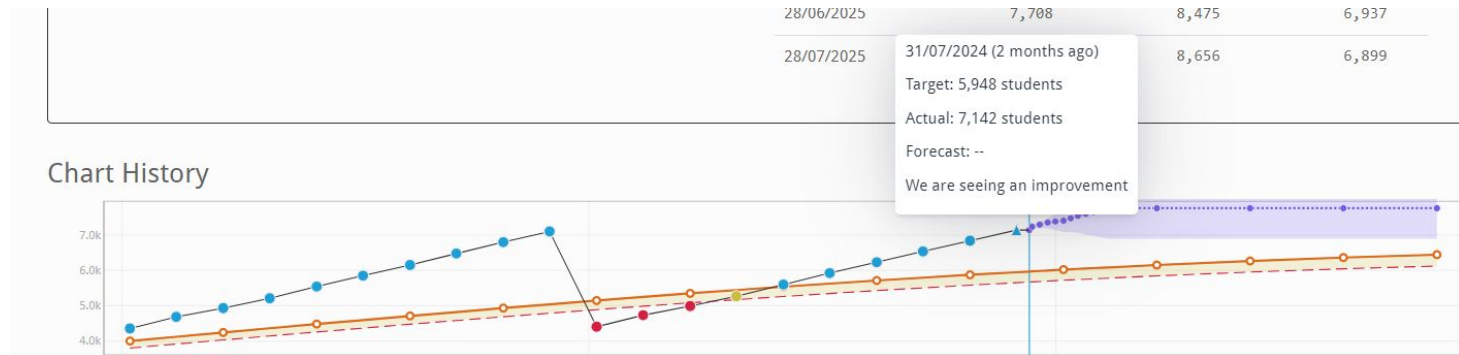
## Metric Properties

### Comments (7)

View / delete / add comments on the metric.



Comments can be added to the metric and/or specific data points which the metric own



## Documents (8)

---

This feature allows for external documents and links to be uploaded, creating additional support for your company's strategy.

### Upload a File

---

**Title****Description**

Normal  **B** *I* U     **A**    *Ix*

# 3.2

## Metric Properties

### Groups (9)

---

This feature gives your company the option of making a specific Metrics (blocks or risks) visible to only a certain Group or can be made public to all those involved within the strategy.

Steering Committe	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
-------------------	-------------------------------------	---------------------------

Group may also include other Groups.

- ★ This option will be available once an Administrator has created the Group under the Company Settings.

# 3.2

## Metric Properties

### Clone (10)

---

Often metrics can be very similar, with the same period, same unit of measure etc

Path: METRIC > CLONE

Attributes can include:

- Title and Description
- Owner and Manager
- Focus Area
- Strategic flag
- Keep current Actuals and/or Targets



# 3.2

## Metric Properties

### Delete (11)

---

Delete a metric from the Scorecard.

# 3.3

## Metric Creation

### Create a Metric

---

This allows the configuration of all aspects of the metric:

Path: [MONITOR](#) > [METRICS](#) > [+ NEW](#)

Title	- text
Description	- text
Manager	- user responsible for Targets
Owner	- user responsible for Actuals
Focus Area	- category
Strategic	- yes/no switch (lead v lag)
Interpolate	- line of best fit between data points
Cumulative	- values are summed until the end of the fiscal period
Precision	- number of decimal points
Units	- text
Strategic	- yes/no (unit before or after)
Custom Fields	- text, date or drop-down selection list
Tolerance Start	- set the warning region
Tolerance End	- set the warning region
% Tolerance Range	- yes/no (real or a percentage)
Invert Tolerance	- yes/no (bad is bad above)

# 3.3

## Metric Creation

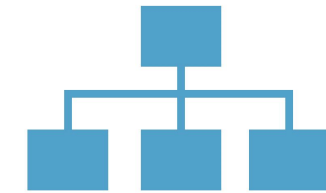
### Cascading Metrics

---

Path: + NEW > Select YES for CASCADING METRIC

Adding Actuals and Targets can be done from the **metric** by selecting the contributing block or from the **block** itself.

A cascading metric roll-up can be 'interrupted' as the values rollup. Therefore additional values can be added as the metric aggregates up the hierarchy.



Cascading Metric (Block Rollup)

No  Yes

### Displaying Cascading Metrics

---

The left thumb menu allows you to select which metric you would like displayed on the blocks tree. All of the blocks that have had cascading metrics data added will appear on tree, showing on the 'face' of the metrics block.

# 3.3

## Metric Creation

### Calculated Metrics

---

Path: METRICS > Select metric > ACTUALS or TARGETS > CALCULATION

The calculation control offers the facility to create new metrics based on other metrics currently available in the scorecard, it allows the user to build a calculation expression in function-first order.

- ★ When building your calculations, the Function (or operator) is added first, and its parameters are nested below.

There is a wide range of functions available:

- arithmetic
- prior period actuals & targets
- minimum and maximum ranges
- variance
- scores
- sums and averages

### Sharing a Calculation

---

When the calculation is shared (using the Shared Toggle), both Actuals and Targets will use the same calculation to generate their values. As it may be that the calculation only applies to a single range of data.



Get in touch  
with us



[info@strategyblocks.com](mailto:info@strategyblocks.com)



[www.strategyblocks.com](http://www.strategyblocks.com)



[facebook.com/StrategyBlocks](https://facebook.com/StrategyBlocks)



[linkedin.com/company/strategyblocks-ltd](https://linkedin.com/company/strategyblocks-ltd)



[@StrategyBlocks](https://twitter.com/StrategyBlocks)



[youtube.com/user/strategyblocks](https://youtube.com/user/strategyblocks)