Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. A method for formatting a chart, the method comprising:

receiving ~~(310)~~, by a computing device comprising a memory storage and a processing unit, a standard chart;

providing ~~(315)~~, by the computing device, a plurality of chart elements pictorially, wherein each of the plurality of chart elements represents a chart modification for use in changing the standard chart;

modifying ~~(325)~~, by the computing device, the standard chart with one or more of the plurality of chart elements~~; and~~, wherein modifying the standard chart comprises:

presenting, by the computing device, a first gallery representing a feature of the standard chart for possible modification, wherein the feature of the standard chart for possible modification comprises a horizontal axis title, a vertical axis title, and a depth axis title;

receiving, by the computing device, a user selection of the horizontal axis title for possible modification from the first gallery;

in response to receiving the use selection of the horizontal axis title, presenting, by the computing device, a second gallery comprising a set of options as to how the selected horizontal axis title could be modified, the set of options comprising a first option to not display an axis title, a second option to display the axis title below a horizontal axis and to resize the standard chart, and a third option to overlap the horizontal axis title on the standard chart without resizing the standard chart; and

receiving, by the computing device, a user selection of one of the options from the second gallery to modify the standard chart; and

displaying ~~(330)~~, by the computing device, the modified chart.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving an input for selecting the plurality of chart elements.

~~3. The method of claim 1 further comprising querying the standard chart to determine a current state of the chart.~~

~~4. The method of claim 1 further comprising querying the modified chart to determine a current state of the chart.~~

3~~5~~. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of chart elements reside in a chart ribbon.

4. The method of claim 3 further comprising providing a plurality of art objects in the chart ribbon for modifying the standard chart by adding and editing drawing elements, text and pictures.

5~~6~~. A system for modifying a chart, the system comprising:

a memory storage ~~(204, 209, 210)~~;

a processing unit ~~(202)~~ coupled to the memory storage, wherein the processing unit is operative to:

receive ~~(310)~~ a standard chart;

provide ~~(315)~~ a plurality of chart elements pictorially;

receive ~~(320)~~ input for selecting chart elements;

modify ~~(325)~~ the standard chart based on the received input~~; and~~, wherein the processing unit in modifying the standard chart is operative to:

present a first gallery representing a feature of the standard chart for possible modification, wherein the feature of the standard chart for possible modification comprises a horizontal axis title, a vertical axis title, and a depth axis title;

receive a selection of the horizontal axis title for possible modification from the first gallery;

in response to receiving the selection, present a second gallery comprising a set of options as to how the selected horizontal axis title could be modified, the set of options comprising a first option to not display an axis title, a second option to display the axis title below a horizontal axis and to resize the standard chart, and a third option to overlay the horizontal axis title on the standard chart without resizing the standard chart; and

receive a selection of one of the options from the second gallery to modify the standard chart; and

display ~~(330)~~ the modified chart; and

a display device ~~(112, 114)~~ for displaying the modified chart.

6~~7~~. The system of claim 5~~6~~, wherein the processing unit is associated with a server.

7~~8~~. The system of claim 5~~6~~, wherein the processing unit is associated with a client-side device.

8. The system of claim 5, wherein the processing unit is further operative to provide a plurality of art objects in a chart ribbon comprising the plurality of chart

elements for modifying the standard chart by adding and editing drawing elements, text and pictures.

~~9. A computer-readable medium which stores a set of instructions (219, 220) which when executed performs a method for modifying a chart, the method executed by the set of instructions comprising:~~

~~receiving (310) a standard chart;~~

~~providing (315) a plurality of chart elements pictorially;~~

~~modifying (325) the standard chart based on a selection of one or more of the plurality of chart elements; and~~

~~displaying (330) the modified chart.~~

~~10. The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein after the modified chart is created, further modifying the modified chart using the plurality of chart elements.~~

~~11. The computer-readable medium of claim 9 further comprising receiving input for selecting chart elements.~~

~~12. The computer-readable medium of claim 9 further comprising querying the standard chart to determine the current state of the standard chart.~~

~~13. The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the plurality of chart elements reside in a chart ribbon.~~

~~14. The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the chart ribbon displays a gallery of chart elements upon selection of one or more chart gallery commands.~~

~~15. The computer-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the gallery provides chart elements pictorially for chart modification.~~

~~16. The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the chart ribbon is user controlled.~~

~~17. The computer-readable medium of claim 16 further comprising disabling the chart ribbon.~~

~~18. The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the plurality of chart elements pictorially displays a current state of the standard chart.~~

~~19. The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the plurality of chart elements pictorially displays a current state of the modified chart.~~

~~20. The computer-readable medium of claim 9 further comprising providing art objects for modifying the standard chart.~~