



Enterprise content management

Connecting information with people and processes

Columbus DW is an enterprise content management system for compliant storage, transformation and presentment of your documents and data

Fast, multi-channel access to accurate business information is essential for digital communications and processes, but managing the vast range of documents and data involved can be a challenge. Columbus DW makes it easy for you to pool content from across the enterprise and share it through multiple channels with your customers, colleagues and business partners to raise service levels, drive up efficiency and accelerate digital transformation:

- Improve service by creating a '360 degree' customer view, including all transactional documents and personal correspondence
- Make financial savings and productivity gains by switching from paper to digital processes
- Dynamically transform your existing documents and data output into new formats for digital and print delivery, with no programming effort
- Share any enterprise content through your preferred communication channels, including the web, email, social media and messaging
- Meet your legal and regulatory archiving obligations by employing encryption, access controls, versioning and data retention rules
- Reduce storage and retrieval costs by storing massive volumes of information on low-cost media, including cloud object storage

A digital content hub

Columbus DW is a high performance system for storing, transforming, presenting and analyzing huge volumes of business documents and data.

Columbus DW brings together digital content from any source, in any format, in one convenient, easily accessible location. Examples include text and office documents, emails, graphics files, audio and video recordings, legacy data, XML, high volume print formats such as AFP, Metacode, PCL and PostScript, and scanned images.

Content is compressed in order to minimize storage, and held in its original format in a secure, legal archive.

Storing an exact copy of the original document supports regulatory compliance and swift resolution of customer enquiries. Additional compliance features include document redaction; granular access controls; and tamper-evident audit logging, both locally and on the blockchain, to provide a trusted record of all document-related activity.

Columbus DW accelerates digital transformation by digitally enabling existing business content, without the need for changes to your core applications. Any information stored in Columbus DW can be transformed instantly into suitable formats for viewing on digital channels such as the web, email, social media and instant messaging.

The Columbus suite, for enterprise information management:

Columbus Central
Multi-channel delivery and document workflow

Columbus DoXite
Intelligent document composition

Columbus DW
Format transformation, presentment and compliant storage

Columbus OM
Assured open systems output management

Columbus Z
Assured mainframe output management

Columbus Accounting
Embedded business intelligence

Information lifecycle management and security

The Columbus DW Document Lifecycle Manager (DLM) enables rules to be configured for content classification, retention, and timely deletion at end of life. Document revision histories are maintained, with full version control. A tamper-evident audit log records events such as document updates and deletions. Events can also be published to blockchain networks. Granular security rules govern user access rights and can link to external authentication systems. Page content can be redacted, for example by replacing selected text with black boxes. In-built encryption adds further protection; AES-256 encryption is also supported.

Flexibility and ease of use

Intuitive interfaces provide flexible access to documents stored in Columbus DW. These include a browser interface and mobile app, a powerful administrator interface, and viewers that allow document searching and access to be integrated within a website or external application. Interfaces are tailorable to match your target audience and corporate branding. Users can annotate, email, print and export documents and data, and use workflow indexes to process and approve documents.

Delivering business insights

Information is quick to locate using index searches and free text searches. Enterprise content histories can be queried and analyzed using an in-built Dynamic Indexing capability; data can also be exported to third party business intelligence systems and to analytics engines such as IBM Watson.

Stress-free storage

A file-based, segmented storage architecture is storage efficient and straightforward to back up. Columbus DW can also make use of cloud object storage, hierarchical storage management systems and third party enterprise disk storage technologies.

Dynamic transformation

Stored content is automatically converted into industry standard formats for online viewing, such as PDF, PDF/a, TIFF and HTML. XML transformation enables content to be exchanged directly with other business applications, while print transformations such as AFP to PCL or PostScript allow documents originally formatted for production printers to be printed locally, and vice versa.

Application integration

Columbus DW integrates with your existing business applications without costly changes, downtime or risk, using published integration APIs, web service interfaces, and web portal extensions. Columbus DW also has SAP-certified interfaces for archiving (BC-AL) and information lifecycle management (BC-ILM).

Enterprise architecture

Columbus DW is designed to store billions of documents, and service millions of users. You can easily 'scale up' with high-end hardware, and 'scale out' with multiple, distributed servers. Columbus DW is also available as software as a service (SaaS).

The software is low maintenance and quick to install, with minimal third party installation pre-requisites. Columbus DW runs on Linux (including Linux on IBM Z), UNIX, IBM i and Windows.

Integrated information management

Columbus DW interfaces with the wider Columbus suite to provide a single, integrated enterprise information management system.

Columbus Accounting, an embedded business intelligence framework, works with Columbus DW to provide detailed statistics on every aspect of your enterprise content management environment, to support service level reporting, capacity planning and usage-based billing.

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Please contact us for more information:

USA Tel: +1 973 526 3900 Email: market.usa@macro4.com
Europe Tel: +44 1293 872000 Email: market@macro4.com

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