



Market

Reprographics Firms

Application

Digital Archiving

echive Highlight

Publishing Databases

Digital Archiving Expands Business Opportunities for Reprographics Firms

Challenge

As the digital revolution moves forward, reprographics firms realize the need to include digital services before losing business to more progressive companies. The benefits of searching for drawings electronically are well-known and many clients seek to have their design data on-line for quick and easy access and print requesting.

Solution

The echive[®] Series provides a digital archive solution for reprographics providers to deliver an indexed database on electronic media (CD or DVD) complete with a viewing tool. echive TIFIndexer prepares single and multi-page TIF files for incorporation into echive Organizer, the database component of echive. It supports most file formats and publishes the databases onto media, including CD's and DVD's. echive Media Explorer, the search, view and print component, is easily installed on the CD for each database. This is a complete and contained solution for digital archiving which can easily be integrated with large format printers such as XEROX and KIP.

echive databases can also be published to XML or ODBC for intranet applications. The entire database, or a portion of the database, can be published for intranet usage. echive JExplorer would then be used for search and view functions.

Process

Paper drawings need to be first scanned into a raster or TIFF file format. echive TIFIndexer would then be used for indexing. It applies property fields to each image, such as drawing number, author, and title, then indexes selected text using the built-in OCR engine. This prepares files for inputting to a database within echive Organizer. For importing electronic drawings, echive provides a tool called Foldexer[™]. Foldexer transfers files that are contained in an existing directory structure. It maintains this structure and indexes the directory names into the appropriate database field (property).

Now the electronic records can be published using the media publishing tools of echive Organizer. A storage planning tool will indicate the number of CD's or DVD's necessary for the job. Then the entire database, or a selection of the database, is exported to a new directory the desired media.

If you are publishing for intranet purposes, the publisher supports an XML exporting option that allows firms to select appropriate files and make them available to specific intranet configured users. Search, view and print capability is available using echive JExplorer and a standard web browser.

Clients printing requests are supported by the watermark and banner features of echive Explorer and JExplorer. A series of add-on utilities allow users to directly interface with higher speed and "printer Set" based systems like Xerox and Kip.

Results

Reprographics service providers can expand their business opportunities as well as stay on top of the technical curve by offering their clients digital archiving options using the echive Series. Service providers have cited ease of use and cost efficiency in their usage of echive solutions. Their clients report that data and drawing access using digital archiving technology significantly enhances their business process.