

Introducing the First Release of the ebrary ISIS Toolkit for Creating and Extending Repository Functionality



One e-content platform.
Many ways to use it.

The same technology that has been trusted by publishers since 2001 to deliver e-books and other high-value digital content to thousands of libraries and corporations throughout the world is now available as a licensed software toolkit.

The ebrary ISIS (Integrated Scalable Information System) Toolkit is a modular, flexible, and scalable JAVA-based system with APIs (application programming interfaces) for extending the functionalities of existing repositories of PDF files.

With ISIS, organizations can easily submit content that has been scanned or born digital, whether it is books, journals, reports, handbooks, annual reports, legal documents, or any content in PDF, and instantly create a highly interactive database that integrates with other online resources. ISIS runs on the customers' servers, behind their own firewall, giving them complete control and ownership.

ISIS also features compelling tools to enhance the end-user's experience and improves information accessibility.

WHY ISIS?

As the demand for digital information is increasing exponentially, organizations may choose among a growing number of products on the market today, from multiple vendors. At the same time, organizations are increasingly undertaking digitization projects for their own materials to keep pace with the digital revolution while ensuring longevity of important information.

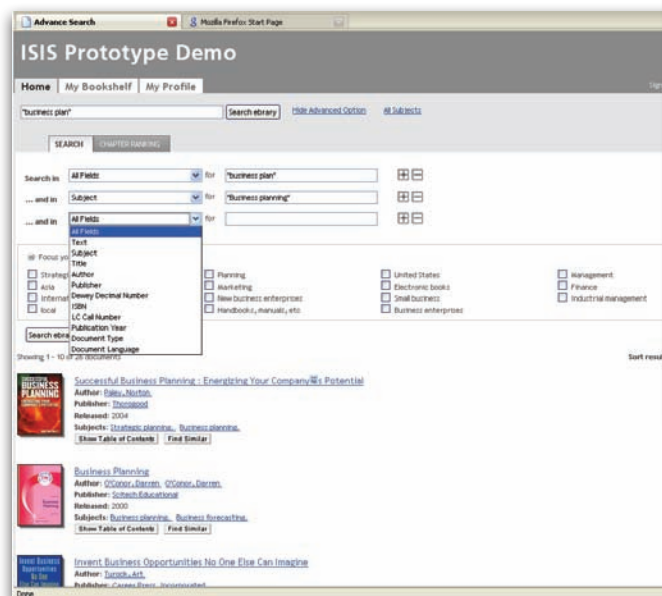
As a result, organizations are facing a number of challenges such as:

- Managing multiple sources, platforms, and interfaces and training the end-user on how to use each one
- Integrating multiple document types such as books, journals, photographs, maps, theses, etc.
- Dealing with multiple metadata standards (or lack thereof)
- Integrating multiple business models
- Supporting multiple workflows
- Handling multiple delivery formats
- Finding an e-publishing system that is affordable and easy to implement

The ISIS Toolkit enables organizations to easily submit large amounts of data from books, journals, reports, maps, images, or any content in PDF, and instantly create interactive databases that integrate multiple online resources such as the library's OPAC, databases from other vendors, institutional repository, and content management system. Additionally, the ISIS Toolkit provides the flexibility to support multiple business models, metadata types, and delivery formats.

With the ISIS Toolkit, organizations can affordably create an integrated virtual library leveraging their existing workflows and investments.

For the end-user, ISIS offers the most compelling experience available today for finding, using, and managing digital information.



KEY FEATURES AND BENEFITS

Among other key features and benefits, the ISIS Toolkit includes the following:

- Local Content and DRM Control – Customers completely control the process of submitting new documents into the system, managing content and metadata, and establishing DRM rules.
- Local User Management – ISIS can be integrated into the customer's own pre-existing local user management system. The customer completely controls user access.
- Collection Management – ISIS offers a highly flexible collection management system. Collections can be hierarchical and changes can be made nearly instantaneously.
- User Interface Customization – Customers can seamlessly integrate ISIS with their existing website and business model.
- Automated Maintenance and Monitoring – Search index updates and other ISIS maintenance updates occur automatically when documents are added, removed, or updated.
- Local Logging – All actions in the system are recorded in standard Java logs, including user actions, document submission, searches, etc.
- Remote Collections – ISIS technology enables organizations to share collections of documents among each other, completely transparent to the end-user.
- Customized metadata – ISIS provides the ability to create and customize metadata for different document types.

Notable features for enhancing the end-user experience include the following:

- ebrary InfoTools® provides contextual linking to multiple online resources
- Multiple options for searching and navigating
- Personal bookshelves that automatically store links to bookmarks, highlights, and notes

- Automatic citations when text is printed or copied and pasted with URL hyperlinks back to the source
- Highlighting and annotating
- Ability to transform text into a hyperlink to a URL of the end-user's choice
- Text to speech
- Chapter ranking at the document level and across all documents in ISIS

ISIS ARCHITECTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

ISIS is essentially an array of software services, each of which performs a different function in the overall system. There are four categories of services:

1. Document Services – View document pages, print pages, copy/paste text
2. Bookshelf/Annotation Services – Save user-created notes and highlights
3. Search Services – Search across all documents for keywords/phrases
4. Submission Services – Add new documents into the system

Each of the above services can run separately, or they can all run on the same machine. It is also possible to run multiple instances of these services in parallel (for instance many submission services to submit documents faster, or multiple search services to give faster search performance).

ISIS can be configured in single server, small, medium and large clustered configurations, as well as site licenses.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

The ISIS Toolkit code is based on Java 1.6. The ISIS server itself can run on most platforms that support Java 1.6, including Sun servers. The ISIS Java client APIs also requires Java 1.6. This means that Java Development Kit 1.6 is required in order to create any code that uses these APIs to send requests to ISIS.

Some of the ISIS code runs within a Java appserver. ebrary currently support both the Apache Tomcat and Glassfish Java appservers for this purpose. However, most other Java appservers should be compatible with ISIS as long as they support Java 1.6.

ISIS also requires a relational database for storing document metadata and other system information. Both Oracle and PostgreSQL databases are currently supported, and support for MySQL is planned in the near future.

AVAILABILITY

The first release of the ISIS Toolkit is available today to select pilot customers.

For more information, please contact Monica Nogueira, ebrary's Global Director of Business Development at monica@ebrary.com or +1 412-251-5164.

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