



document management solutions

Document management systems are designed to help individuals, workgroups and large enterprises organise their documents for maximum value, efficiency and accessibility.



Didier Cueille
Program Products (France)
Paris

PrintSoft provides a range of customised document management solutions based on your particular on-going needs. In this article we explore two different solutions.

A completely custom built system was developed for Sofinco in France, while in Germany, a document management product from TDS AG was integrated with a printing system from PrintSoft to produce a total solution.



Sofinco is the major personal credit finance arm of banking heavyweight Credit Agricole. Having a presence in France, Morocco, Netherlands, Italy, Portugal, Germany, Spain and Hungary, Sofinco has 9.5 million customers and manages more than 12 billion Euros.



TDS AG is an international IT provider which supplies consulting and application integration services and is also an application service provider (ASP). TDS manages standard business and e-commerce applications such as SAP R/3. TDS Internet-enables these systems to create state-of-the-art business-to-business solutions, portals and online shops.

the problem...

A centralised printing facility had been set up in France but it was becoming more difficult to handle the ever-increasing volume of documents. Therefore, Sofinco was looking for a solution that would reduce creation, printing and postage costs, enable the fast creation of letter templates, easily integrate data (primarily ASCII files) and resources (signatures, logos etc), allow accurate restarts and reprints, facilitate archiving, and divert mail intended for countries other than France.

the solution...

After a careful analysis of the situation and Sofinco's future requirements, PrintSoft proposed a complete mail handling solution that included:

- A database of 1700 letter templates created with a Word interface
- A Data Management Module that associates the customer data with a letter template to compose a document so that it can be previewed
- A process that enables the documents to be reviewed and approved, then forwarded to a production system for printing and archiving
- A postage management system that involves splitting the output into temporary files according to postage state, sorting these temporary files and then grouping the sorted files. This process ensures that postage costs are minimised, and mail intended for countries other than France is separated and diverted
- A Print Queue Management System for controlling the print jobs and device scheduling.

This solution has now been successfully implemented. Other recent document management systems developed by PrintSoft include solutions developed for: • BSKyB • Lombards • Comdirect.

TDS' solutions can be found in a range of industries including: banking, insurance, automotive, construction, pharmaceutical, chemical, life science and telecommunications. Its flagship document management product is called MoDuS.

MoDuS is a client/server document management system that supports the effective management of all types of documents (e.g. quotations, policies, invoices, customer orders, letters and official forms) via a highly intuitive, user-friendly interface. The system fully supports standard corporate designs, and is seamlessly integrated, importing data to generate documents.

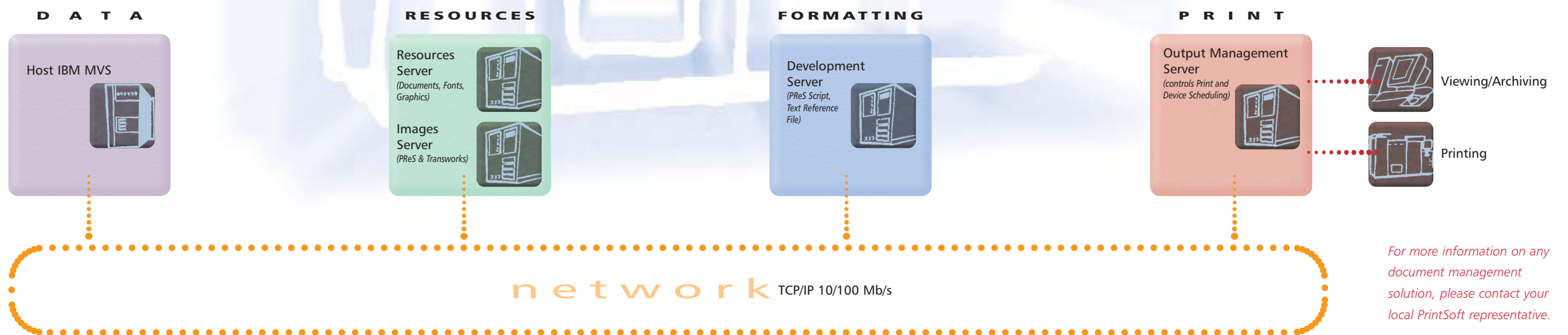
MoDuS is extremely flexible: it can support several languages within a single installation, and is suitable for cross-industry applications. Document security is ensured by integrated user-management capabilities, including the definition of user-specific access rights.

MoDuS stores predefined text elements (autotext) in a database. Users can then select text by drag-and-drop to create entire documents. Documents can also be generated automatically by means of easy-to-define rules. MoDuS supports Microsoft Word, as well as vendor-independent formats, such as rich text (RTF).

The definition of autotext elements, variables and scripts is carried out at the administrative level. Administrators may define documents and document bundles of any complexity. MoDuS has open interfaces that allow it to access data from practically any database or other IT system, e.g. Oracle, SAP or DB2. MoDuS can also channel print jobs directly through existing IT environments. The integrated print-manager "ODIN" controls complex print-jobs. Batch-processed documents as well as the online-documents originated in the individual business-processes can be prepared for postal optimisation and OMR/Barcodes.

GDS PrintSoft has integrated a text format conversion and PReS print control solution into the MoDuS system, enabling an interface to the unlimited, high volume data streams that are the core competence of PrintSoft's PReS production systems. Documents and autotexts are automatically stored in a DMF (Document Media Format) and can be processed either for proof printing or for production purposes. The complete range of PrintSoft's print outputs can be used (e.g. AFPDS, IPDS, PCL etc.) and electronic document output (for distribution or archiving purposes) is also possible.

the Sofinco solution...



For more information on any document management solution, please contact your local PrintSoft representative.