

Content Management Solutions (CMS)



Looking at your information through new eyes

Since your documents and their content are among the most important tools you have to run your business, why would you embark on enterprise content management (ECM) without a clear blueprint and the resources necessary to succeed?

Enterprise content management, or ECM, helps your business manage its digital information. Since there are many types of digital content, there are many different types of tools. Core components of ECM are document, records and web content management. ECM will help to reduce costs and increase employee productivity with easy access to all content that is stored in several locations.

The outlay for ECM technology is typically insignificant compared to the human resources needed to succeed. If you expect results, you must budget adequately for planning, consulting, designing, testing, implementing, training, evaluating, and improvement. In addition to hardware, software, and consulting services, your total cost of ownership projections (TCO) should include: Infrastructure upgrades required for optimal performance; professional services fees for customisation and systems integration; staff resources to create configuration plans, indexing schemes, process designs, test plans, and anything specific to your implementation; temporary staffing for initial scanning, back-file conversion, and file indexing so employees can remain focused on customers; and ongoing training expenses.

In our view it's better to start with a small project and to do it correctly than to take on a larger project with inadequate funding or human resources.

ComMedia IT Solutions have developed a formal, repeatable and proven methodology tailored just for this solution space. This in itself has provided our clients with a valuable assistance before , during and after the initial implementation.

Areas where you would gain value in a CMS project

Corporate websites | Custom CMS implementations | eCommerce websites | Interactive web applications | Intranets and extranets | Social networking websites | Blog and forum websites | Directory services | Data collection and reporting |Personal websites and blogs |Community web portals | Resource directories | Collaborative authoring environments | P2P networking | Podcasting

Open source or commercial content management solutions

When it comes to selecting an enterprise content management (ECM) solution, it is important to choose a supplier who has implemented a number of different open source and commercial offerings.

As a proven Content Management Solutions development company this level of supplier solution independence gives ComMedia IT Solutions a clear edge when advising the best approach and solution for our clients.

Choose between a commercial, open source, or customised CMS

Web developers have always struggled with the buy vs. build dilemma when it comes to content management systems. Do you buy a commercial CMS or do you use an open source CMS? Or should you customise and build your own CMS based on an open source CMS framework? Let's run through some of the pros and cons to each approach.

Commercial CMS

A commercial CMS tool may already be ready-built for your needs and will likely be faster to implement than an open source CMS. Documentation and training for commercial CMS products are usually significantly stronger

than for an open source solution. Your average person also associates a certain degree of safety with commercial software as opposed to open source

Open source CMS

An open source CMS will be significantly cheaper than a commercial CMS. As with many open source programs, because the code is "open," the opportunities for customisation are also greater than they are for a commercial CMS. Depending on your CMS needs, there may very well be an existing open source CMS that will fulfil your requirements.

Custom CMS based on an open source framework

Customizing a "new" CMS based on an open source CMS framework can bridge the gap between a pure open source CMS product and a commercial CMS.

The choices

Issue	Commercial	Open source	OS framework
Do all the features required exist in the product?	Yes; if no ->	Yes; if no->	Build it yourself
Do you have the developers/support on staff necessary to support the product?	Just pay for support	<- If no	<- if no
Will the requirements change over the next six to 18 months of usage?	Going to cost you money	May be customisable	Have fun and customise away
Will the number of users increase over the next six to 18 months?	Going to cost you money	Bring 'em on	The more the merrier

Deciding which way to go on your CMS deployment depends on a number of factors. But ultimately, you want the best ROI possible on the deployment. It really comes down to your requirements, your resources, and the demands of your particular situation. Some of the high-priced CMS solutions really look fantastic, but the bottom line is the bottom line; just do what's right for your situation.

ComMedia IT Solutions have been implementing CMS across a wide range of options and here are a few of the choices we would recommend



Commedia Solutions is a leading player in the world of Outsourced Software Development. Founded in 2003 and based in UK | USA | India. We provide high quality custom software solutions covering Smartphone and Tablet applications | Content Management Solutions Embedded Solutions | Outsourced Product Development | Legacy Application Modernisation | Mobilising the Enterprise

If you would like more information about this particular subject and the services we provide please contact us at info@commediait.com. We will get back to you immediately.