

# Content Management Interoperability Services

## The Big Picture

- Standard developed and proposed by EMC, IBM, and Microsoft revolutionizes enterprise content management interoperability and addresses challenge of incompatible repositories
- Proposed standard consists of a set of web services for sharing information among disparate content repositories
- Standard provides maximum investment protection for customers' existing enterprise content management assets and the ability to freely adopt third-party applications that leverage the standard.

## New standard brings exceptional flexibility to enterprise content management

Today's businesses can no longer afford to lock essential business content into separate, incompatible repositories. To revolutionize enterprise content management interoperability and address this major business challenge, EMC, IBM, and Microsoft are leading the charge together on developing Content Management Interoperability Services.

Content Management Interoperability Services is a proposed standard consisting of a set of web services for sharing information among disparate content repositories that seeks to ensure interoperability for people and applications using multiple content repositories. Working together since late 2006, the three companies were joined in the creation of the Content Management Interoperability Services draft specification by other leading enterprise content management providers, including: Alfresco Software, OpenText, Oracle, and SAP®. The three companies have jointly submitted the standard to the Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS) to initiate the technical development process that leads to standardization.

### The challenge of disparate content repositories

Whether the result of merger and acquisitions, the specific needs of discrete business unit applications are due to the desire for application-specific enterprise content management solutions. Much of today's valuable business content is siloed among disparate content repositories. This interoperability challenge not only impedes significant advancement of content-enabled applications, but it reduces business flexibility and increases cost.

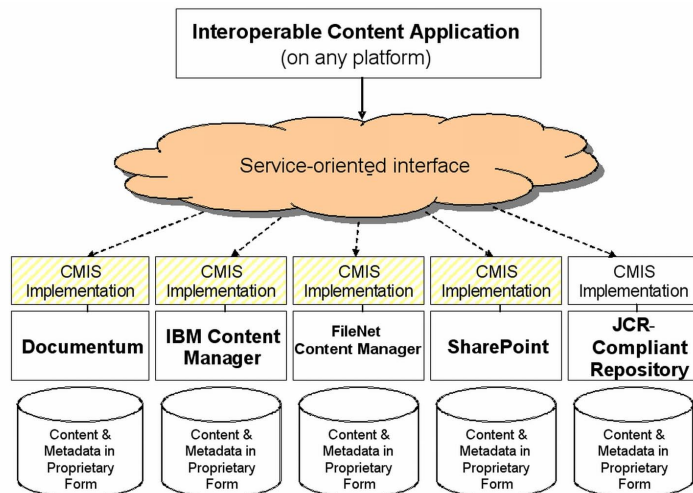
### The value of Content Management Interoperability Services

The Content Management Interoperability Services standard is designed to augment existing enterprise content management systems and their current application interfaces. The result is maximum investment protection for customers' existing enterprise content management assets and the ability to freely adopt third-party applications that leverage the standard. The standard focuses on the basic content capabilities of an enterprise content management system—the create, read, write, delete, and query functions. When applied, Content Management Interoperability Services ensures interoperability by defining how these core content management capabilities function in a uniform manner over a variety of enterprise content management systems.

## Web services for enterprise content management

Content Management Interoperability Services defines the core capabilities for implementing interoperable enterprise content management repositories. These capabilities are designed as simple, generic functions for managing content regardless of the underlying platform or storage mechanism.

The standard connects disparate repositories through a service-oriented interface, as shown in the illustration below. Content Management Interoperability Services is implemented by each enterprise content management system to work with the content and metadata within its repository in a standardized fashion.



*Content Management Interoperability Services relies on a service-oriented interface to provide connections to disparate content repositories.*

Content Management Interoperability Services exposes services for:

- Discovering object type definitions and other repository information (including the optional capabilities that are supported by a particular repository)
- Creating, reading, updating, relating, and deleting objects
- Filing documents into one or more folders (if the repository supports the optional multi-filing capability)
- Navigating and traversing the hierarchy of folders in a repository
- Creating and accessing versions of documents
- Querying a repository to retrieve one or more objects matching user-specified search criteria, including full-text search

Content Management Interoperability Services defines functions as language-independent services that are not limited to a single programming language or a fixed transport protocol. The standard currently specifies two separate protocol bindings, including one that is based on Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) and another based on Representational State Transfer (REST). It provides a lightweight, loosely coupled interface to a repository, independent of the underlying platform and transport protocol.

Content Management Interoperability Services comprises an elegant yet simple approach to content interoperability, one that operates within an existing heterogeneous enterprise infrastructure. The standard is a limited yet complete interface. It does not seek to standardize all of the functions available within an enterprise content management system and is not designed to be a substitute for a repository's native APIs. Nor does it require organizations to make modifications to their existing enterprise content management solutions, applications, or platforms.

## Content Management Interoperability Services and EMC Documentum

The joint efforts of EMC, IBM, and Microsoft are based on the recognition that the Internet and the Web now provide mainstream technology for information delivery. An enterprise content management platform, such as EMC® Documentum®, needs to leverage this technology to its full capabilities and do more than simply use the Internet as a wire between a client and a repository. Rather, an enterprise content management platform needs to exploit web-based capabilities—such as dynamic and scalable connections, firewall tunneling, enterprise metadata management, and loose couplings—to enhance users' experiences, simplify application development, and support large-scale deployment. As a result, Content Management Interoperability Services becomes a stimulus to guide the industry towards a flexible application development paradigm.



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### Take the next step

To learn more about Content Management Interoperability Services, visit [www.EMC.com](http://www.EMC.com) or call 800.607.9546 (outside the U.S.: +1.925.600.5802).