

Alfresco Transformation Server

Background

Love it or hate it, there is no getting away from the fact that Microsoft Office is the predominant office software tool. Used by most businesses, Gartner estimates Microsoft's market share being as high as 94%. So the ability to support the complete range of Microsoft Office formats (Word, PowerPoint and Excel) is important for any ECM solution.

Challenges

But users do not want to have to download documents and then wait for the right Microsoft application to load just to be able to read a document. They want to be able to view these documents online instantly. Converting these documents to another format for online viewing has multiple advantages, and in most cases the quality is 'good enough' to read the document.

But lost headers and footers, missing fonts or formatting errors may cause a problem when the document is critical. Imagine what would happen if a formatting error changed a subscript value on a formula, or if a torque setting is missing in a maintenance document. For some applications page fidelity is a must so another solution is required.

Our Solution

The Alfresco Transformation Server is an additional transformation engine that uses Microsoft Office to convert office files. The Transformation Server provides significant benefits over traditional approaches, including:

- ⊕ Improved Quality – Automated processes use Microsoft Office to render the documents into formats suitable for viewing. Page fidelity is increased by leveraging the same page layout engine that created the document
- ⊕ Greater Performance – Using a separate, dedicated, Transformation Server to process the files off-loads work from the Alfresco server
- ⊕ Increased Scale – Companies can add additional Transformation Servers to meet the transformation demands of the organizations
- ⊕ Easier Administration – With a dedicated management console admin staff can identify problematic files and fix issues before they cause serious problems

The Alfresco Transformation Server can transform Microsoft Office files (MS Word, PowerPoint and Excel) to other formats for thumbnail access and online previewing. Output formats supported include plain text, PDF (and PDF/A-1B) and Adobe Flash (SWF).

Additional questions?

Contact your Alfresco account representative or email us at info@alfresco.com

Alfresco helps teams share, manage and retain content across the extended enterprise with simplicity that end users love and smarts that IT can endorse. Alfresco enables organizations in more than 180 countries to collaborate more effectively, improve business process efficiency and ensure information governance. Across cloud, mobile, hybrid and on-premise environments, Alfresco is smart enterprise content made easy.

Benefits include:

- Improve page fidelity
- Greater scale and performance
- Easier administration