

Agility, Security, and Decentralized Document Management

Many organizations are recognizing the need for people throughout the enterprise to manage their own unstructured document. People need to get their data captured and distributed quickly in order to respond to time sensitive business opportunities. At the same time, security is becoming an increasing concern. Due to increasing privacy concerns, only the people who directly need to interact with information should have access to it. In addition, an increasing number of people within the enterprise and even those outside of it are requiring managed access to its unstructured content. Various stakeholders in the typical enterprise will require carefully managed access to a unique and increasingly broad set of documents. A new approach is required to provide this agility, security, and decentralization.

The document management industry, like most, has traditionally been highly centralized. Documents from throughout the enterprise are normally sent to a centralized scanning department. Retrieval and search has also often been highly centralized. Like centralized computers and printing in times past, this model provided a good enough implementation of the technology during its early days. Now, however, organizations need to drive much more efficiency from their operations. Even more importantly, the centralized approach to document management provides serious security and privacy risks. Individuals in the document management department have access and regular exposure to documents from throughout the enterprise. Decentralization of document management is increasingly important to the enterprise.

The traditional approach to managing enterprise application security is focused on supporting centralized applications. The simplest security approach is to simply give individuals a login name and password to allow them access to the entire application or a part of the application. This obviously becomes very difficult to manage as individuals throughout the enterprise must constantly be added to or removed from a wide range of applications. To address this, security roles groups or something similar were created. This helps to separate the changing rules regarding the types of users who may access a given application from the changes in the types of access individuals need. . However, as a rapidly increasing range of applications and unstructured content need to be made available to people throughout the enterprise, another approach is required.

A new, fine grained, automated, and scaleable approach is required to manage the access of each enterprise stakeholder to the exact documents and applications that they need at any given time. A wide range of issues can determine who may access what documents. These could range from an individual's relationship to the enterprise to their skills and certifications to the status of a product order or a project that the document is related to. An individual may be given a short term assignment to an organization and

need to access a large number of different documents that are managed by multiple line level organizations that are supported by this organization. They need to have the appropriate access immediately in order to support this task and move on. They cannot wait for access control lists to be defined correctly for each set of documents for each of the organizations they support. By then the business opportunity may well have passed.

Dynamic authorization filters provide powerful new support for agility, security & decentralized document management. As user's assignments change, organizational structure changes, project life cycles change, or many other changes occur, the authorization instantly responds to the change. Secure authorization can be provided down to a fine grained level with this model. All of this enables each user to contribute and manage their documents effectively. Those that need to access each document to support the goals of the enterprise will have access. This can easily scale to suppliers, customers, engineers, technical writers, and others. Each may need to have unique access to particular document for a specific period of time. Individuals may need to have access to a wide range of documents according to their multiple responsibilities. All of this can be effectively managed using dynamic filters.

Many medium to large businesses will eventually need to provide decentralized document management in order to remain competitive. Dynamic authorization filters provide the agility and security to support this decentralized document management. To learn more, contact info@Agilize.com .

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