



### Extranet File Sharing

#### **The Old Way: Email, FTP and Overnight Shipping Services**

The new business landscape has companies working more closely with their business partners through extensions of their enterprise networks. Across industries, a trend toward increased collaboration and co-development with partners and customers has fueled the need for a more secure and easy way to share information through the corporate firewall and across the Internet in an ever broadening virtual extranet.

Many organizations are struggling to find better ways to safely share documents and files instead of sending email attachments, uploading documents to an FTP server, or mailing documents via overnight shipping services. Each of these methods have significant functional drawbacks, including:

- Email is not secure and large attachments are often not accepted at recipient's mailboxes;
- FTP is difficult to use and weakens the effectiveness of firewalls; and
- Overnight shipping services are costly and not time-efficient.

Beyond these critical issues, increased government and industry regulation have also impacted how organizations must manage and store their information and how they share documents over the Internet. While the new business landscape offers unparalleled opportunity for organizations, more efficient, secure content infrastructure solutions are needed.

#### **The New Way: Secure Content Sharing With Xythos**

The Xythos platform was built from the ground up to help organizations capture, store, manage and share documents securely over intranets and the Internet. It is designed to help people securely share information with others—both inside and outside of their own organization by:

- **Eliminating File Attachments and Ensuring Safe File Sharing:** Xythos eliminates problems and risks created by email file attachments. It replaces attachments with secure file links (URLs) that can be password protected and safely exchanged with users outside an organization via SSL connections.

#### **Select Customers Using Xythos for Extranet Content Sharing:**

- Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Cadence Design Systems
- Chubb Corporation
- Daniels Law Offices
- General Dynamics
- Georgetown University
- Loyola Marymount University
- Northeastern University
- Pepperdine University
- Stone & Youngberg
- University of Calgary's MedIT Lab
- University of Memphis
- University of San Francisco
- Veteran's Administration



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- **Providing an Ad Hoc Collaborative Environment:**

Employees can securely share data, assign tasks, review documents, view changes and establish project areas with partners and customers—all through an intuitive interface that can be accessed from any web browser, anywhere.

- **Providing An Easy-To-Use Interface:** Xythos was designed to work together with the applications that users already know, saving them the time required to learn new applications. Typical deployments require minimal training because the interface is so simple and intuitive.

- **Seamlessly Fits Into Existing Infrastructure:** The Xythos platform is designed to leverage existing standards for system authentication and security—and more importantly a customer's best practices for security—simplifying the integration of Xythos into an organization's current applications and infrastructure. Xythos maintains firewall integrity while it shares files through the extranet, requiring only a single open port to support many file sharing sessions; FTP, in comparison, requires an open port for each session.

### Customer Case Study

A large Electronic Design Automation company previously used email file attachments and file transfer protocol (FTP) to exchange files, such as CAD drawings, design data and software code. The problem was that neither email nor FTP provided a secure means to transfer files that could support detailed auditing. Their customers, however, were demanding an easy and secure method for transferring their large design files.

As the IT team searched for a solution, they discovered Xythos and found that Xythos satisfied all of the company's requirements; Xythos provided a comprehensive, intuitive Basic Content Services solution that allowed password protected folder and file links to be securely shared across the Internet. Additionally the Xythos solution provided collaboration features that helped the company's engineering, legal and marketing departments be more productive in a variety of tasks related to preparing content for their customers.

Xythos' easy-to-use web interface also allowed employees to control advanced security options such as file-level access control, versioning and usage logging. Employees can also create unique passwords for each file link, securing it even further. With Xythos' logging capabilities, details of all extranet transactions are recorded.

For developers who preferred using the UNIX command line type interface, Xythos provided open source software components that allowed them to take full advantage of the Xythos solution, while staying with a familiar "look and feel".

In addition to being initially deployed as an extranet file sharing application, the company has since realized many other uses for Xythos. Xythos is now being used in a variety of other business processes within the company, including:

- Distributing classroom training materials;
- Sharing brochures and presentations with sales people around the world; and
- Publishing quarterly financial performance results for industry analysts.

**For more information please  
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