



The Inmagic® Textbase Engine: Saving IT Time and Resources

Inmagic® *Content Server* includes its own Textbase Engine as a middleware layer that sits between the RDBMS and the user interface. Much of the database management functionality that makes *Content Server* unique resides in this Textbase Engine and greatly enhances the functional capabilities of Microsoft SQL Server 2000, which is used as the data store.

The key benefits of the Inmagic Textbase Engine are:

- The database design is simplified so that end-users can create new databases easily and quickly.
- Adaptive field technology allows a database to conform to the length and shape of the information. With a standard DBMS, the field length is preset and data are often truncated or a DBA must make continual changes to accommodate differences in data. With Inmagic, ALL fields and records have no size limitations. An entire document can be stored in a field without utilizing large objects.
- Inmagic databases are term and keyword indexed, providing a high degree of precision in searching. All fields can be indexed for fast retrieval. Retrieval methods include keyword, truncated keyword, phrase, term, or proximity expression. Word and term searching can be done across fields as well. Inmagic *Content Server* provides a significantly higher level of access to records than is provided by SQL Server.
- Inmagic's databases are also much easier for an end-user to search because of the "word wheel" that presents the index to the user for browsing as a part of searching.
- Databases can be designed in ways that are specific to the content itself. Some examples are:
 - Repeating fields are supported without the user having to design additional tables. Examples: multiple authors of a document, subject terms describing a web page, notes about a presentation, etc. There is no limit to the number of repetitions per record, and any field other than an automatic or computed field can repeat.
 - Date information is recognized in a wide variety of text formats that occur naturally, including partial dates ("March 2003"), alphabetic or numeric representations ("March 31, 2003", "3/31/03"), and copyright dates ("C1998"). These dates sort chronologically and can be used in calculations.
 - There are a number of sorting patterns supported, especially useful for text and seldom found in a standard database system, including:
 - ability to ignore leading articles ("The Hague" files under H)
 - ability to file numbers numerically even when they are embedded in text ("volume 10" files after "volume 9")
 - ability to ignore punctuation
 - correct filing of Library of Congress classification numbers, often used in corporate library and information centers
 - correct filing of Universal Decimal Classification numbers, used in many countries to organize document collections.

Because end-users can design their own databases and maintain them using the Inmagic Textbase Engine, the standard requirement for a DBA to learn the software in order to support it is removed. This results in tremendous savings over the life of the typical application. End-users benefit from the most elegant solution, while minimizing the ongoing support requirements from their systems staff. The IT group can focus on maximizing system resources rather than on supporting database design and maintenance. The Textbase Engine is truly the "secret sauce" of *Content Server*.