Experience on Usage of Alfresco Software Package as an Archiving System at the NUACA

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ABSTRACT

Available archiving systems are investigated for the purpose of organizing archive documents digitization at the National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia (NUACA) taking into account wide usage and implementation of these systems.

There was a single purpose: to digitize archive documents already occupying huge territories.

Keywords

Alfresco, document management, circulation of electronic documents

1. INTRODUCTION

Automation of electronic documents circulation is a very complicated and wide-scale mechanism. Elaboration and investment of such a system will be one of the optimistic solutions of that problem.

Based on features they provide, currently archive systems are quite important and have different fields of application.

Electronic archive systems provide the following capabilities:

- Creation of an electronic document archive,
- Reduce paper flow,
- · Access to data exchange,
- Increasing labor productivity,
- Increasing of enforcement of discipline,
- Coordinated supervision.

2. ELECTRONIC ARCHIVE AUTOMATED SYSTEM: ALFRESCO

For digitization of documents it was necessary to choose a system (Alfresco[1], DSpace[2], Greenstone[3], EPrints[4]) that would allow the switchover digitization process.

As an outcome of analysis and discussions at the National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia (NUACA) Alfresco [1] software package was chosen for digitization of documents. This software greatly facilitates work with documents, creates, develops and maintains documents in terms of the user convenience.

3. CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS IN THE ALFRESCO SYSTEM

The system works with different formats of documents: Microsoft Office, Open Office, .pdf, etc.

Alfresco is a soft platform which is designed for data management.

In the electronic documents circulation performing systems, documents management is carried out step by step, as well as it is impossible to automate the whole business process.

Processing and storage of user data types is the first step for creation of a data model (Fig.1) in the frame of organization.

The work with the system is carried out with the web-based interface. The presence of a web interface provides the system flexibility from the point of its usage. Based on the features of the Alfresco we can work with a local system (within organization) as well as globally (anywhere in the world).

Implementation of a system may be determined by the organization, and an embedded system with work authorization may also be severely restricted being permitted for several users only (Fig.2).

The functional abilities of users having access to a system may also be different after entering (Fig. 3). It is regulated by the system administrator based on security and data privacy protection point of view.

We can refer to the embedded software system by using the link: https://alfresco.nuaca.am/share/page.



Figure 2. Users' entry in the Alfresco is controlled and may granted by administrator.

User' rights	Consumer	Editor	Contributor	Collaborator	Coordinator
View space and content	X	X	X	X	X
Refreshment /editing/	-	X	-	X	X
Add content	-		X	X	X
Change properties /metadata/	-	Х		х	X
Rights Management	-			-	X
Change of ownership		1	1	-	X

Figure 3. The figure demonstrates providing features in the system due to available roles.

The first step on development and storage of data types is the reflection of the established model in the system (Fig.4).

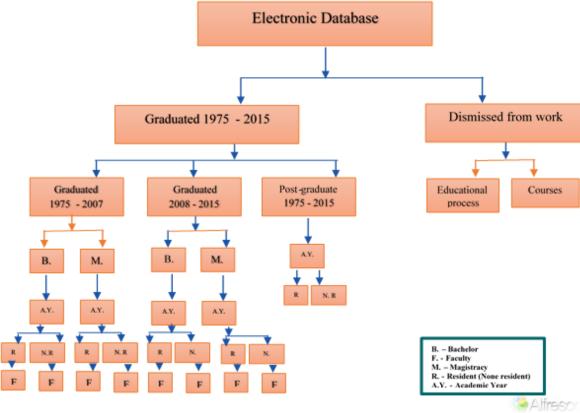


Figure 1. The figure demonstrates a model of storage of data in the Alfresco system.

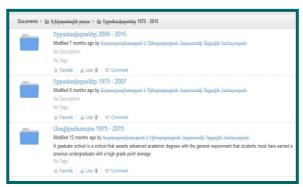


Figure 4. The figure demonstrates reflection of a piece of elaborated model in the Alfresco system.

We have an opportunity to see the entire construction of a model in the form of a tree (Fig.5). The investment objective of such systems is to reduce the documentation process in various organizations. But the process has its own place to quickly find any requested document, which is available to all archive systems.

This module also has its own place in the Alfresco system and allows to implement in advance the criteria in the appropriate database (Fig.6).

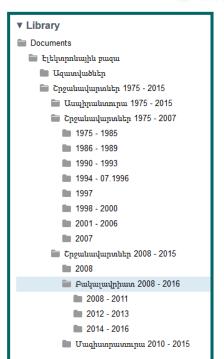


Figure 5. Reflection of elaborated model in the Alfresco system in form of a tree.

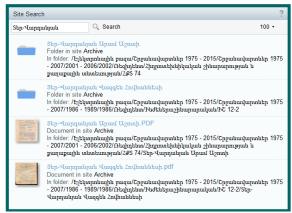


Figure 6. The figure demonstrates search process in the Alfresco system.

4. CONCLUSION

Data management is a part of each organization and educational institution. Data processing and preservation play an important and unique role in the current information technology era. From this point the Alfresco is one of the systems, which allows you to work with any data type.

Taking this opportunity the National University of Architecture and Construction invested it in one of its construction branches. This branch took responsibility for digitization of archival materials using an appropriate software system.

REFERENCES

- [1] http://docs.alfresco.com/
- [2] http://www.dspace.org/
- [3] http://www.greenstone.org/
- [4] http://www.eprints.org/uk/index.php/eprints-software/