Search this site



Home News In-depth Blogs Audio/Video Reviews White papers Downloads Forums App Store Jobs Analysis | Comment | Features | Special Reports | Polls | In Pictures | Top 10s



Manage your resources and customers more effectively with mobile applications from Vodafone



Find out more

Where am I? > Home > In-depth > Features > Legal

## E-record gets back on track

The arrival of the MoReq2 standard is expected to rejuvenate RM

Martin Veitch

Information World Review, 06 Feb 2008

Like other forms of content handling, records management (RM) lost some of its lustre in the post-Enron explosion of corporate governance rules and regulations. Now it would appear that the MoReq2 framework for RM — aided perhaps by amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (FRCP) in the US and a recent spate of data-loss cases — could reinvigorate the sector.

MoReq2 is the latest version of the Model Requirements for Electronic Records Management specification, the de facto standard in electronic content management (ECM). MoReq2 is expected to change functionality, certification, procurement, auditing and education in the sector. Marc Fresko, consulting services director at Serco, a company that led the work to define the specification, sent the final MoReq2 draft specification for approval in late January and expects to have it rubber-stamped this month.

## Put your money where your moreq2 mouth is

"We're pleased with how it has turned out," Fresko says. "[Enterprise] content management giant] Open Text publicly announcing support came as a complete shock as we never lobbied the company. The rest of the leading software companies have supported us through this process, so now it's time for them to put their money where their mouth is [by actively supporting MoReq2]. We have two ex-Soviet bloc countries adopting it as a national standard. It's an international phenomenon and it's already influential in other countries."



MoReq2 will be supported later this year by an XML (Extensible Markup Language) schema that should boost interoperability between RM systems.

"If you need to change suppliers, merge with another company or demerge, you will be able to import or export [MoReq2] data," Fresko says. "These are projects for which today you can be quoted millions of pounds."

Mike Davis, an analyst at research firm Ovum agrees that MoReq2 will be highly significant and adds that FRCP changes could generate fresh interest. Introduced a year ago, the FRCP amendments bring new rules for the discovery and preservation of electronic records in the US.

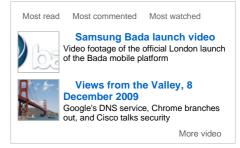
"There may be a second blip for RM [after the post-Enron corporate governance rules] through the data losses news, but the big push I see happening in the next two years is FRCP," Davis says.

Davis believes that in the same way as the US Sarbanes-Oxley corporate governance law was felt in other countries, FRCP changes could affect other jurisdictions.

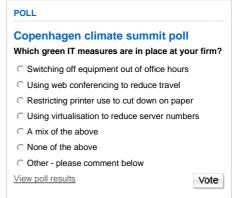
However, Alan Pelz-Sharpe of analyst CMS Watch is not so sure: "It would be nice to think that [news of] data losses will boost enterprise content management, but backup, archiving and discovery are the biggest winners. RM has become trapped in a bit of a ghetto. The principles of declaring and managing a record through its lifecycle remain, but the sheer volume of information that needs to be sorted through to do that means that the technology has been left a little behind.

"It made sense to ask a worker to declare a record when they were maybe dealing with five or 10 a day, but when they are dealing with literally hundreds of messages, it no longer does."

## **Bucket category**









White paper library Latest white papers

Virtualised network security

How cloud computing is creating a brighter future for enterprise systems

Job of the week Companies hitierungsletter istusnup



Despite new figures from Optimizer Engineer weak privacy policy
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Consortium showing Intervalue chain: cg | Speaking Ustomer |
Retail Con blogs, wikis and other social media can be included, as can voice communications or older, more traditional forms of record such as paper documents, spreadsheets and text files. It all leads to a requirement to save and catalogue far more forms of information.

#### Format-indifferent

"If you have a legal discovery process against you, the investigators won't say they only want your email," Fresko notes. "It could be written on the back of a fag packet for all they care." He adds that while the emphasis on records management may go away, the underlying requirements don't change.

However, Oyum's Davis believes RM retains a distinct fiefdom.

"It's under the ECM umbrella but it's still managing content in a very specific way," he says. "RM is not the same thing as archiving. It's all very well checking your stuff into an archive but if you don't hold the tools to purge records or keep them, then you don't have enough."

Pelz-Sharpe believes that RM is moving closer to other areas.

"As a distinct entity, RM is shrinking but only partially into the world of ECM," he says. "It is popping up in e-discovery and archiving and more general compliance areas. RM focuses on documents but, for most firms, email is the priority these days. ECM vendors don't do email well, or in most cases at all."

Such is the demand for various approaches to controlling data that the competitive landscape is changing at a rapid rate through mergers and acquisitions.

Late last year Autonomy acquired both e-discovery firm Zantaz and RM firm Meridio, for example.

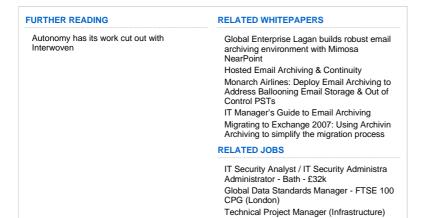
The frenzied deal-making of the last five years is likely to see giants emerge with a cocktail of search, content management, and discovery capabilities to answer the increasingly stringent requirements of lawmakers and regulators. n

Print Reddit Have your say Send to a friend Diaa Share

### Tags:

< Previous article | Next article >

# DO YOU AGREE? Have your say on this article





Dealing with accuracy, storage and privacy issues?

Information overload

Home News In-depth Blogs Audio/Video Reviews White papers Downloads Forums Shop Jobs

High street and e-retailers gear und P

howdown<sub>consolidation</sub>

incisivemedia	© Incisive Media Ltd. 2009 Incisive Media Limited, Haymarket House, 28-29 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4RX, is a company registered in England and Wales with company registration number 04038503	Search this site  opfine.com - financial sentiment analysis
About us:	About V3.co.uk   About Incisive Media   Privacy policy   Terms and conditions   Advertise   Contact us   RSS feeds Site map   Legal   Accessibility	
Business & technology websites:	Technology news   Computer reseller news   IT news   Information science news   Electronics news   Search engine news Online marketing news	
Blogs & community:	Labs blog   IT Sneak   Silicon Valley   Apple watch   Security blog   Software downloads   News blog   All blogs   Forums	
Software downloads:	Antivirus & Firewalls   Audio & Video Players   Backup Tools   Browsers & Browser Companions   Desktop Tools   Developer Internet Tools   Office Applications   Plugins & Tools   Privacy Tools   opfine.com - financial sentiment analysis	
Hardware reviews:	Back-up Storage   CPUs   Desktops   Firewalls   Hard Drive   Hubs and Switches   MP3 Players   Memory   Motherboards Network Cards   Network Tools   Notebooks & Tablet PCs   Overclocking   Routers   Servers   VoIP   Wireless	
Tools & resources:	Downloads   Recruitment agency directory   IT salary calculator   Web seminars   Whitepapers	