



Hosting RecFind 6

A better way to manage your applications

Designed for the SaaS model

SaaS is the acronym for 'Software as a Service' and it is usually used to describe a 'hosted' software application. In previous times we also described this model as ASP or 'Application Service Provider'. By 'hosted' we mean that some organization other than the customer installs and manages all the resources (servers etc) to run the application. The customer usually connects to the application with a web services enabled client (i.e., over the Internet) and performs all end-user functions as if the server were installed on its premises.

Depending upon security and bandwidth requirements, the customer may also connect via a private and secure line with bandwidth appropriate to the application's needs. There are lots of different options for secure and high speed connections other than the Internet although they will usually be more expensive than the Internet connection. However, the usual connection would be a secure (e.g., HTTPS) connection via the Internet with the application client software utilizing the web services protocol. As well as being secure, it is 'standard' and easy to set up and roll out and manage.

Before an application can work well in this hosted environment however it has to be designed for it. It has to have the most appropriate architecture and it has to have been specifically designed to operate in what we call a 'thin' environment. Because it needs to operate in a limited bandwidth, it also has to be designed to minimize network traffic. This is particularly true with any document-centric application like RecFind 6 or any EDRMS or Enterprise Content Management solution.

RecFind 6 is an application designed specifically to work in a hosted environment. You also have a choice of clients depending upon end-user preferences. The standard RecFind 6 smart-client can be deployed to connect using Web Services (it usually connects via ADO across the LAN) and the architecture was specifically designed to both optimize the download/upload speed for electronic documents and to minimize network traffic and therefore bandwidth requirements. Alternatively you can also deploy the new RecFind 6 web client, specifically designed to run in a browser and to optimize performance over the Internet.

Benefits

As IT infrastructure becomes more and more complex so does the task of managing it. Complexity also means greater cost and the cost factor is further exacerbated by the scarcity of people with the required skills sets and experience. Managing a complex IT infrastructure is also not the core business of 99.9% of the organizations charged with doing it; it is just a means to doing business, it is not their business.

The above basically explains why more and more organizations are looking for a way to relieve themselves of the pain and cost of managing IT infrastructure and why hosting is once again a relevant and appropriate solution for many organizations. They want to enjoy the benefits of the application without having to endure the pain and cost of managing the necessary IT resources.

Hosting companies are specialists in managing and maintaining a stable and secure server environment; this is their core business. They have the specialized infrastructure (secure buildings, diesel power backups, firewalls, etc, etc), knowledge, experience and skilled people because this is all they do. They are able to provide a secure, stable and secure environment within which any organization can 'run' core business applications and they do this far better than any client organization can do and at far less cost. Hosting reduces both cost and risk

Pricing

For an application to be successful in a hosted environment it also needs to be priced appropriately. With RecFind 6 we offer a Subscription pricing option specifically designed for a hosted environment. This is a single monthly charge that includes software, maintenance and all updates. It is scalable and flexible, the customer is not locked in for many years and there is no requirement for a large initial capital expenditure.

The pricing for the hosted infrastructure and services will also be a monthly fee and it depends upon the selection of features the customer requires, usually to do with bandwidth and redundancy. This aspect is also flexible and scalable.

Interested in Hosting?

We are obviously able to provide RecFind 6 and any technical, consultancy or training services required. We can also organize the hosting with one of our specialized partners. Alternatively, we can work with your chosen hosting partner.

If you would like to know more about application hosting of RecFind 6 please contact us with the words "RecFind 6 Hosting" in the subject line of your email.

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