September 2017

What's new with CONTENTdm?

The latest CONTENTdm release was on September 14. This release brought the International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF) Presentation API to CONTENTdm. Coupled with previous support for the IIIF Image API, CONTENTdm sites now serve as a platform for IIIF-compliant image viewers, such as Mirador and the Universal Viewer. For more information about IIIF, see http://iiif.io/.

This release also included some significant improvements to the management of advanced website customizations. We have greatly increased the power of the graphic web editors in the responsive Website Configuration Tool so that CONTENTdm users can do more using the UI of the editor. We have also standardized the class names in the HTML to make managing custom CSS significantly easier and future-proof.

The responsive website adapts to any screen size and has significant usability, performance, and accessibility improvements. The responsive website is production-ready and is now the default end-user website for more than 50 active CONTENTdm users.

This release contained several additional improvements:

- IIIF Presentation API support, which allows CONTENTdm users to leverage the work of the IIIF community
- More HTML and CSS options in the graphic web editors, so users can create more sophisticated customizations without being a web developer
- Friendlier HTML class names that make it easier for users to use custom CSS to match the style of a library’s site or other sites a library manages
• Accessibility improvements to increase WCAG 2.0 compliance

For more details about this release, see the CONTENTdm Release Notes page.

Here’s what one CONTENTdm user has to say about the new interface:

"All of the feedback that I've heard regarding the switchover to the responsive template has been very positive. It's been a great refresh to the look and feel of the collections."

Jason Samuels, IT Operations Manager
American Craft Council

View a video about CONTENTdm and IIIF.
Explore the CONTENTdm and IIIF page.

Note: The responsive website exists alongside current 6.x CONTENTdm websites. Public URLs will default to version 6.x websites until you request to make the switch. Nothing in 6.x is changing in this release. When you are ready for your end users to start using the new responsive website, you will need to contact OCLC Support to schedule the upgrade.

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**Upcoming Events**

📅 26 October 2017

**CONTENTdm community insight series: Leveraging the benefits of IIIF in CONTENTdm**

2:00 pm Eastern Daylight Time, North America (UTC -4)

This webinar will show you the benefits of using CONTENTdm and the IIIF Presentation API.

[Register now]
CONTENTdm collections featured in the news

Marin County Free Library uses CONTENTdm to connect its patrons with history
OCLC News Item (August 2017)

In 2005, staff at Marin County Free Library’s Anne T. Kent California Room selected CONTENTdm to manage their digital collections. They made this choice because CONTENTdm offers the flexibility to manage many different types of digital items, including their oral histories, images, and compound objects. Earlier this year, the California Room switched from locally hosting CONTENTdm to CONTENTdm hosted by OCLC.

Read this OCLC news item

SMU presents rare special collections with CONTENTdm

Palacio Municipal - costado - (City Hall - side view), ca. 1885–1890, by A. Lagrange y Hermano, DeGolyer Library, SMU.

OCLC News Item (July 2017)

Southern Methodist University (SMU) has been showcasing its digital collections using
CONTENTdm since 2008. SMU presents more than 50,000 image, text, and audio/video files in 56 digital collections on SMU Central University Libraries' CUL Digital Collections website. The collections include strong concentrations in railroads, Mexico, and the US West, with special emphasis on Texas history and art.

Read this OCLC news item

Have you joined the CONTENTdm Community on the OCLC Community Center?


The CONTENTdm Community Center is an active user community that shares best practices, locally developed extensions, and product recommendations through user group meetings, virtual community insight webinars, an online discussion group, and enhancement requests on the OCLC CONTENTdm Community Center (log-in required). The Community Center also provides information about quarterly releases, updates, news, and other events related to CONTENTdm.

To get started with the OCLC Community Center, you will need to request a Service Account. Please use the OCLC symbol for the organization that owns the CONTENTdm license. Within a few days your CONTENTdm Community Center username will be emailed to you, along with instructions for setting your password.

CONTENTdm training resources

Register now for CONTENTdm training webinars in October and November

The fundamentals of using CONTENTdm to manage your digital collections are covered in three upcoming webinars:
1. Getting started with CONTENTdm
2. Working with text in CONTENTdm
3. Maintaining collections in CONTENTdm

Meet the CONTENTdm team

Taylor Surface, Senior Product Manager, Digital Collection Services at OCLC
Taylor’s experience in information technology for libraries ranges from information retrieval research to digital preservation. He is the product lead for OCLC’s digital collection services, including CONTENTdm, its preservation archive, and the WorldCat Digital Collection Gateway.

Taylor is currently leading an exploration of the range of services needed by libraries using linked data to create a positive impact on user research. Previously, he led the initial development of OCLC’s Digital Archive Service, which has provided digital preservation capacity for libraries since 2001, and the WorldCat Digital Collection Gateway, which has increased the visibility of the unique digital collections of more than 2,500 organizations worldwide since 2009.

Taylor has been active in creating standards and best practices in digital libraries. His activity includes participation in activities such as the METS Editorial Board and the development of the initial public draft of the RLG/NARA Checklist for the Certification of Trusted Digital Repositories. More recently, he joined the IIIF community to help with development and promotion the use of IIIF’s common APIs for discovery, access, and manipulation of digital objects across all types of repositories.

One of Taylor’s hobbies is skiing. He loves sharing his passion for skiing with his family, friends, and new friends.

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**Have your CONTENTdm collections featured on the CONTENTdm website**

Interested in highlighting your unique CONTENTdm collections and sharing them with your fellow CONTENTdm users and the library community? Send a message to [Courtney Myers](mailto:courtney.myers@ohiomemory.org) with the link to your collection to have it considered for inclusion with our featured collections in the coming months. Selected collections will also be highlighted on the OCLC Facebook and Twitter pages.

Submit your collection

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**Need help with CONTENTdm?**

Are you a CONTENTdm user who needs assistance? Contact OCLC Support at [support@oclc.org](mailto:support@oclc.org) or +1-800-848-5800 (US).