July 2018

What's new with CONTENTdm

The latest CONTENTdm release was on April 12. This release brought several frequently requested improvements to the CONTENTdm responsive website, including options to display more than 10 collection cards on the homepage and more than 10 items on the search results page. There were also some corrections to the color of hyperlinks in the responsive site header and footer along with other fixes.

Here is an overview of the features and enhancements.

- Show more of your collections at once on your homepage.
- Display more search results per page to improve the browsing experience.
- Hide "current focus" indicator until keyboard use to improve aesthetics and accessibility.
- Simplify color customization by aligning Advanced Search link color with other header colors.
- Secure your custom domain name with HTTPS support for non-oclc.org domains.
- Use the advanced customization support portal for developing new features or specific branding for your website.

For more details about this release, see the release notes and the April 2018 release webinar recording that are posted on the CONTENTdm Support and Training site.
More enhancements are on the way! The upcoming CONTENTdm release will contain significant updates for the display of documents, including monograph capabilities and a smoother process for navigating compound objects. Look for the upcoming release announcement with expanded details and information available in the next release overview webinar.

Upcoming events

CONTENTdm Users Group: August 1 – 2, 2018

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, August 1 and Thursday, August 2, 2018, and join us in Columbus, Ohio, where the annual CONTENTdm Users Group will meet at the newly renovated Columbus Metropolitan Library main branch. Teams of technologists and librarians are invited to participate in presentations and workshops covering a broad spectrum of digital library topics.

Plan to start early on Wednesday, August 1, for a full two days of programming, including workshops on the International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF), CONTENTdm’s support for it, and how these advances promote access to your digital materials for all library types. Karen Estlund, Associate Dean for Technology and Digital Strategies, Penn State University Libraries, will provide our keynote address on digital library service innovations.

Visit the event site for additional information and to register.

CONTENTdm collections featured in the news

Tyrrell Historical Library continues access to collections with CONTENTdm after Hurricane Harvey
In 2011, staff at the Tyrrell Historical Library in Beaumont, Texas, began managing their digital collections with the hosted version of CONTENTdm because they liked the technical support offered by OCLC. The staff started by digitizing two large collections: the General Photographic Archives, which consist of 3,677 photographs that pertain to the history of the greater Beaumont area, and the John H. Walker Papers, which focus on the history and people of Beaumont and the outlying rural area situated in Jefferson and Orange counties. The library currently has 80 digitized collections with more than 49,000 items.

In 2014, the library was awarded a TexTreasures grant, which allowed the staff to digitize and provide historical background information related to the Melody Maids Collection. The group was a girls choir that traveled to perform for military personnel from 1942 to 1972.

Read this OCLC news item

Frontier Nursing University uses CONTENTdm to support online students

Frontier Nursing University began using CONTENTdm in 2013 when the school needed an archive for its Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Projects, which is the library's largest and most popular digital collection. Library staff have continued to add collections for learning objects, mainly videos, and to create an institutional repository with citations for staff and faculty presentations and publications.

Jennifer Howard, Digital Resources Coordinator, explained that the library moved to the responsive CONTENTdm site last fall, so students can easily watch videos from the collections on their mobile devices.
Have you joined the CONTENTdm community on the OCLC Community Center?


The active CONTENTdm user community 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 Community Center (log-in required). The Community Center also provides information about releases, updates, news, and other events related to CONTENTdm.

To get started with the OCLC Community Center, please request a Service Account and use the OCLC symbol for the organization that owns the CONTENTdm license. Within a few days your 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 August and September.

The fundamentals of using CONTENTdm to manage your digital collections are covered in upcoming webinars.

1. Getting started with CONTENTdm
2. Working with text in CONTENTdm
3. Maintaining collections in CONTENTdm

Learn more

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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 Julie Seward 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 or +1-800-848-5800 (US).