



LYPANOSYS

“Overall, our experience with M-Files has been quite good. The system is fast, and the searching and retrieving features are great. The way you can sort documents into different classes and groups of classes with metadata is fantastic.”

-Blaine Ah Yuk-Winters
Project Manager,
Lypanosys

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Success Story

Pharmaceutical Startup Spans the Globe with Cloud Vault

M-Files CloudVault on Windows Azure delivers the speed and control for ‘office-less’ operations

Blaine Ah Yuk-Winters describes Lypanosys as a *virtual company*.

As project manager, he is the only full-time employee of the small pharmaceutical startup, where three directors oversee the development and approval of a new dermatology product.

It’s *virtual* in the sense that its operations are not fixed to any one geographic location. Manufacturing, preclinical, and clinical development activities are spread across the US, Asia, and Australasia.

Lypanosys seems like the sort of international venture that cloud computing was invented for. And so far, the company has been able to make the cloud work: all of the company’s documents reside on a hosted server and can be easily shared among the project participants. As a result, Lypanosys can operate virtually -- or one could say, “office-lessly.”

“We needed a solution that would allow us to get all of our files in a cloud-based document management system to access wherever we are.” He explains the company tried out two cloud-based systems. One was problematic and was abandoned after two weeks due to issues with speed and an inefficient user interface. The second, M-Files Cloud Vault, was a success.

“One of the directors needed a report to provide to a potential investor. He was actually in an airport in transit in Asia and was able to quickly locate and pull down the file and send it off. He was impressed on how easily that went. We are very happy with the system’s responsiveness.”

Clearing the Speed Hurdle

There are two big differences between a web-based file sharing tools and more robust cloud platforms, according to Ah Yuk-Winters.

But he says that the few extra seconds it takes loading file data is not too much of an inconvenience. Even with larger files, like submission documents for the FDA, uploading occurs briefly in the background, while he moves on to other tasks.

“With the other system we tried, it was not so much the time it took uploading and downloading documents, it was the time it took maneuvering inside the interface. It was quite sluggish. When you click a folder, it would often take 15 seconds to open.”

The initial cloud system structured files in multiple levels of traditional folders and subfolders. To get to a file they wanted, users could have to wait 3 minutes for the interface to reach the final folder location, not including the time to download the



“For downloading, M-Files Cloud Vault is really quite fast. We’re finding it quite satisfactory in that respect.”

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document. “The system wasn’t anything that we would want to employ for daily use.”

M-Files Cloud Vault, on the other hand, delivered the needed speed at both ends of the file transaction, the desktop interface as well as its remote servers.

The M-Files interface has matured from a ground-based document management system that has proven itself in the market for more than a decade. M-Files integrates its file handling controls in Windows Explorer and Microsoft Office as well as other applications, so saving and retrieving actions are familiar to most PC users. And because the M-Files search capability is based on SQL-queried metadata -- rather than traditional folder structures -- users can sort through content and find the files they need in seconds.

On the server side, M-Files Cloud Vault is the first document management software to run on the high-powered cloud platform, Windows Azure, which operates on Microsoft data centers around the globe. With Windows Azure as its platform, M-Files Cloud Vault delivers even more flexibility and reliability to users, whether they’re in Auckland or Ankara.

Keeping Order on the Cloud

The other big difference in cloud systems lies in their suitability and scalability to keep a business running smoothly in the long run. Raw storage without other file management functionality can quickly turn into disorderly mess of folders, just as it does on ground-based servers.

M-Files brings order to document disarray by giving every item in the cloud repository a unique file identity, programmable permission controls, and a complete version history.

“M-Files saved us a lot of time over what we had going on with just a folder structure. Back then, when we had to submit a filing to the FDA it was difficult finding the relevant documentation we needed. There were duplicates everywhere. Trying to find a document and not knowing which version was the latest was pretty much a nightmare. Automatic file versioning is essential when you have five people in different locations revising the same work.”

Flexible permission controls on certain classes of documents also enables third party consultants and advisors to login into the company’s system and access a select set of material and save their own revisions of documents, without the risk of upsetting the organizational scheme.

What’s the advice for other start-ups wanting to get off the ground and into the cloud? Find a system that provides efficient and intuitive user interface, along with the flexible file organization and robust search capabilities which can be tailored to your specific needs. After all, you’re going to use it everyday.

About M-Files Cloud Vault

M-Files Cloud Vault is a unique service based on M-files, a proven and widely-used document management solution that enables businesses to easily and affordably organize, manage and track their important documents in the cloud. M-Files Cloud Vault is the first professional document management solution running on Azure, providing businesses an immediate opportunity to take advantage of Microsoft’s highly scalable and reliable cloud-based operating system and geographically distributed data centers to rapidly deploy solutions in a variety of vertical markets. For more about M-Files Cloud Vault, visit: www.m-files.com/cloudvault.



About Lypanosys

Lypanosys is an early stage pharmaceutical company developing a clinically differentiated drug for dermatological applications. Lypanosys' initial drug compound, LYP-010 is formulated as an oral systemic drug for the treatment of atopic dermatitis. For more information, visit: www.lypanosys.com. ■

"The ability to share files with consultants overseas has proved very handy. They can pull files whenever they want at any time they want."

-Blaine Ah Yuk-Winters

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