EMC² where information lives®



The Power of ISIS®

The scanning interface that unites a universe of scanners and applications, supporting EVERY feature of leading document scanners.

A Basic Requirement for the Paperless Office – Compatibility!

For over twenty years businesses of all sizes have worked to automate and digitize their paper flow. The same problem repeatedly gets in the way: scanners and scanning applications don't always communicate very well. Pairing a new scanner to an existing scanning application could mean long hours, reams of code, and endless complications. Then came ISIS®.

In 1990, a team of engineers at EMC Captiva® created the Image and Scanner Interface Specification (ISIS). From day one, ISIS changed the way software developers and scanner manufacturers build imaging solutions. ISIS technology offers new levels of flexibility and power in communications between scanners and applications.

More than 300 different scanners currently communicate to applications through the ISIS interface. ISIS technology allows scanners to run at their rated speeds or higher and is the only imaging solution that consistently allows users to take full advantage of the power inherent in their scanners and other imaging machines.

For Software Developers: Assured Hardware Compatibility

You've got a Business Process Management application which requires transformation of data from paper to digital at the front end. How can you guarantee that it will work with scanners from Kodak, Fujitsu, Böwe Bell & Howell, Canon, Panasonic, Hewlett Packard, Visioneer, and all the others your application might encounter? Obtaining actual hardware from each manufacturer and doing the exhaustive testing required is time and cost-prohibitive.

Use EMC Captiva's PixTools® to build the scanning portion of your application using ISIS technology. EMC Captiva has long-standing partnerships with most major scanner manufacturers. ISIS-compatible drivers are available for more than 300 scanner models, all pre-tested and certified by EMC Captiva to be compatible with any properly written ISIS application.

Using PixTools software developer kits (SDK) also significantly reduces development time. Toolkits include scanner drivers, read/write modules, data transport/format conversion modules and an on-screen document viewer. With ISIS, the basic functions of imaging are already clearly defined, implemented and thoroughly tested, making ISIS applications faster and easier to execute.

The Big Picture

ISIS (Image and Scanner Interface Specification) is the industry standard enterprise-level interface that unites scanners with software applications. ISIS allows scanners to run at their rated speeds or higher and is the only imaging solution that allows users to take full advantage of the power inherent in scanners and other imaging machines. ISIS drivers are available for over 300 document, book, check and large format scanners from more than 50 scanner hardware manufacturers worldwide.

AIIM STANDARDS IMPLEMENTATION EXCELLENCE AWARD

ISIS®

EMC² captiva

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Also contributing to the successful execution of ISIS applications—regardless of image size or color depth—are:

- ISIS pipes, which allow ISIS modules to be loaded into and purged from memory as needed
- ISIS scanner drivers, which allow scanners to run at their maximum rated speeds
- ISIS data streaming, which enables processing in 8Kb packets

Another key benefit of ISIS to scanner manufacturers and software developers is reduced support costs. The code which ISIS is based on has been used and refined for over fifteen years. ISIS-enabled toolkits and scanners reduce risk for developers and scanner manufacturers, as they have been subjected to a rigorous, time-proven testing procedure.

Modular Architecture

In the document imaging environment change is constant, with new scanner models, new data compression methods and new imaging requirements appearing almost daily. The ISIS imaging interface is built with enough flexibility to adjust both to changing business needs and to new technologies.

The ISIS architecture is extraordinarily simple yet technologically robust. It is based on modules – software components that perform specific imaging functions (e.g., image acquisition, file conversion, data extraction and file read/write commands). ISIS' architecture allows for new modules to be added without making system-wide changes: you simply add what you need where it's needed.

ISIS modules interact with each other through a system of tags (data storage areas) and choices (value sets). A combination of two or more ISIS modules put together to perform a specific imaging function is called an ISIS pipe. ISIS pipes can be constructed according to your unique imaging needs, empowering the ISIS architecture with its greatest strengths, both in development and end-use—flexibility and extensibility.

ISIS technology is the basis for the AIIM MS61 standard since 1996.

ISIS for the End User

ISIS-based applications pass on the benefits of flexibility and reliability to the end user. Thanks to EMC Captiva's constant testing and comprehensive support of the ISIS standard, ISIS-based applications deliver consistency and stability which applications based on less formally -supported standards simply don't have.

ISIS allows businesses to save money on hardware and software investments. Using ISIS consistently across hardware and software platforms cuts training time, maintenance costs and upgrade hassles. Businesses can upgrade or add scanners as they see fit and be assured that their application will support these new investments easily, with no systems overhaul required.

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