CPA

Practice **Advisor**

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Document Storage Programs

Rack 2 Filer was designed as a solution to help market the Fujitsu ScanSnap desktop scanner. It is essentially designed as a very visual tool for organizing your scanned files, and it has evolved to its current version 4 release based on customer feedback.

Usability — 5 Stars

One thing is certain: Rack 2 Filer earns the highest marks for its ease of use. It is very graphical in the way documents are organized. The user interface is designed as a virtual bookshelf of color-coded binders. Each binder contains a related set of documents. The system provides some useful functionality to help you work with your scanned images, including a "Work Area" that lets you scan in a batch of documents and divide them into multiple files or combine them into a single file. Rack 2 Filer is also Vista compliant.

Document Organization — 4 Stars

The documents are organized at the highest level in binders to which you can assign names or even pictures in order to identify the nature of the binder's content. The binder serves as an index for the related documents. The table of contents assigned to a binder can be set up as a template. Within the table of contents, you organize by the file name.

Integration — 3 Stars

Rack 2 Filer is designed as a simple file management system to be used by any type of business. Therefore, there is no integration with tax or accounting software applications. The system directly supports storing the following file format to organize the storage of your files: PDF, JPEG, BMP, PCX, TIF, WMF, PSD, PNG, TGA, PCD, FPX, Word files, Excel files, and PowerPoint files. For

formats not directly supported by the browse feature, if the application that

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Annotation — 4 Stars

The software provides the ability to add "post it" notes and highlight sections of the document. It also permits inserting digital stamps (confidential, etc.) and embedding hyperlinks.

Overall Value — 4 Stars

The most appealing aspect of Rack 2 Filer is its visual interface for intuitively organizing documents. It's an improvement over Windows Explorer, but is limited in overall functionality. Pricing is \$249 or you can purchase it as bundle with a Fujitsu ScanSnap scanner for an additional \$100. Due to the simplicity of the software, the only training you need is the six-minute video provided.

2008 Overall Rating: 4 Stars

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