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Apr. 13, 2006

*From the April/May 2006 [Review of Document Management Systems](#)*

FileCabinet CS is designed primarily to be an integrated document management system that supports the entire Creative Solutions (CS) suite of applications. As such, it is very much an accountant-centric solution, particularly for firms that have standardized on the CS suite of applications. That is where its primary value is positioned. While it is deployed in firms of all sizes, its primary target is small and midsize firms.

**Installation & Configuration — 4 Stars**

The system is installed via traditional network software installation from a workstation. The original software CD can be downloaded directly from the web, allowing you to bypass handling a physical CD. Even better yet, you can subscribe to the hosted FileCabinet CS and eliminate the installation and server technology requirements. The security, reliability and cost of the hosted option is very compelling, and I highly recommend that you consider the benefits of this alternative approach.

**User Interface — 4 Stars**

The home page is designed to serve as a central portal to the system. The user can select documents by navigating to a particular client. Within each client are drawer tabs to segregate specific types of documents/files. Additional information on the home page includes alerts that can be pushed out via CS's direct alerts feature, recent document activity and a history of events for the selected

client. Overall, the user interface is relatively easy to navigate and intuitive.

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of capability to develop application integration as some of the more horizontally marketed solutions.

In addition to the direct integration with CS applications, FileCabinet CS supports integration with MS Office and MS Outlook. If you use Engagement CS, the entire workpaper binder can be sent to FileCabinet CS with a single command — a very valuable feature for firms trying to integrate their electronic workpaper and document management systems. A print to FileCabinet CS print driver

is provided to send document images directly to FileCabinet CS from any Windows application.

### **Training & Support — 5 Stars**

FileCabinet CS has the advantage of drawing on all of the technical and professional services of the CS organization. The system initially includes 60 days of free support; thereafter, support is provided at the rate of \$108 per hour in 10-minute increments. In addition, Creative Solutions University (CSU) provides web-based, regional and on-site training and consulting, including pre-deployment consulting.

### **Workflow & Document Tracking — 4 Stars**

FileCabinet CS does not provide any inherent workflow and document tracking capability. However, these capabilities are available in both Engagement CS for electronic workpaper engagements and UltraTax CS, the vendor's tax preparation software.

### **Security — 4 Stars**

CS made security a top priority in its most recent upgrades. The system provides the capability to establish security permissions at the group level. You have the ability to control document viewing, editing, printing, etc. A nice feature

for larger firms is the capability to import the user setup list directly from

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### **Relative Value — 4 Stars**

If your firm has standardized on the CS applications, then FileCabinet CS gets the highest rating. However, if you are looking to integrate FileCabinet CS with other vendor applications, it loses some of its value. The hosted option is an important feature. As noted, the rating goes higher if you have standardized on the CS Professional Suite for your firm.

### **2006 Overall Rating — 4 Stars**

Technology

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