

What Digital Asset Management (DAM) system does your institution use?

These responses were given to the above question posed to the Business Archives Section listserv in January 2016. They have been anonymized and are not an endorsement by SAA or BAS, but a starting point for your research.

- We are currently looking at **OpenText, Adobe, Adam Software and Oracle**. It is a larger company-initiative, and it is not clear where we are going yet. I am participating in the vendor selection.
- We use **Cumulus** and have had it for several years. We use Cumulus primarily to store currently used marketing design files and images, so it serves as an image library. I have also used it to store some of our "archival" electronic records as it was the only option to place our files, though I would not recommend Cumulus as a long-term digital archives repository. We also do not use it for electronic records retention, and I don't think it has those features.
- We used the **Widen Media Collective**. (<http://www.widen.com/>; <https://support.widencollective.com/support/home>) We were satisfied with their services. The nice thing was that everything was hosted at Widen, so there was no need to involve IT and the system updates happened on Widen's end. I believe they had the capability to set their service up on local servers (unless I'm confusing them with another vendor... it's been awhile) if that's something that makes sense for your company, but we didn't and I'm not sure if they still do that or not. The corporate archives partnered with marketing and communications on this project and we served as gatekeepers to the system by controlling who had access and specified the the metadata that should be entered when new assets were being uploaded to the system (not that the metadata was ever entered as thoroughly as we'd hoped).
- We recently signed on with **Piction** to create a DAM for us. They are more geared to catering to Art museums rather than archival repositories, but they want to move more in the archival circles.
- The DAM system we used is an HP product called **MediaBin**. It is designed only for rich media assets. We used a different system/repository to house text-based records. MediaBin does not have any pure records management functionality but retention rules could be applied based on type of content or the folder structure if necessary. We did use it for both current assets and archived (non-current) assets. It is a good tool and I would recommend it.
- I was working with a group called **Eloquent Systems Inc.** out of Vancouver on DAM systems for corporate archives last year. I was trying to figure out how to work directly with a vendor to make one that would meet the needs of the unique challenges of this type of organization because it often has to play nice with other CMS systems that would need access to the same records like Marketing and Legal departments. Last I heard it worked well with SharePoint and was based on a Google platform so you could tie in Google Maps...
- We went with **Cuadra Star's Star Knowledge Center for Archives (SKCA)**. They have quite a few options available and have been great to work with. They are under the parent company Lucidea. The web site is intriguing but doesn't show you anything. The sales staff is very GOOD, ask for Ilene Slavick. We had to pretty much politely demand access to a trial version to get a feel of how the system works, they allowed us a 2 week trial that sealed the deal.
- I've been very happy with an enterprise-wide DAM system we purchased and I set up four years ago. I use it every day. It's used mostly for images but I also pack it with videos and pdfs. It's got some very handy features. It's **Extensis Portfolio**.