

ABBYY® Recognition Server



ABBYY Recognition Server Helps Airline's Document Management System Really Take Off

The Background

Gen2 Systems Limited builds software solutions that manage large volumes of data files and which allow that data to be indexed by searchable systems. The company's document management solutions are designed and tailored to the specific needs of a number of different industries. One example is the aviation industry where Gen2 can assist an airline in keeping its aircraft maintenance records properly archived, accessible and searchable.

The Challenge

In the aviation industry a key component in calculating the value of a fleet is the individual planes' maintenance records. To prove that a particular plane is worth a claimed amount, airlines, both private and commercial, must show that all regular service and unscheduled repairs were properly carried out from the very first day the plane was in operation. Additionally, for insurance purposes and to comply with regulations, these records must be thoroughly compiled and impeccably managed so they can be searched when necessary.

For one particular airline the sheer volume of documents was becoming an unmanageable pain point. Keeping these records in order was a full time job that required multiple employees to see to the task. One plane for example with 30 years in the sky can have records numbering in the hundreds of thousands; larger airlines maintain hundreds of planes meaning that millions of records are archived for the entire fleet. With such a large volume of paper finding one answer among the thousands of documents often required days of manual searching by airline personnel.

After discussions with the airline about a document management solution, Adrian Ryan, Managing Director of Gen2 saw an opportunity to streamline this process and to save the client vast amounts of time and money. He was confident he could handle the backend storage but knew that his solution would need to incorporate an OCR (optical character recognition) processing tool to get the documents from their paper form to a searchable archive.

The Solution

After a thorough search for an OCR and document conversion component and taking into consideration his business needs, Adrian Ryan decided on the name ABBYY. During a subsequent consultation with ABBYY's UK Sales team Recognition Server was identified as the appropriate solution. "We needed a robust product that could handle large numbers of files quickly and efficiently," explains Adrian Ryan. "We had initially looked at solutions whose performance peaked at a rate of 50 pages per hour - at that pace it would have taken us 3 months to do what ABBYY's software could accomplish in just a few days."

ABBYY Recognition Server is a robust server-based solution designed to automate the recognition and document/PDF conversion process in enterprise environments. It is a scalable, reliable and rapidly deployable solution for high performance delivery of optical character recognition (OCR) functionalities in environments where centralised processing management and greater flexibility

About Gen2

Gen2 Systems Limited provides confidential dedicated software solutions for partners primarily in the engineering and aviation industries.

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integration is needed. OCR features can be used together with existing infrastructures and third-party applications. Recognition Server delivers highly accurate conversion of PDF files, images and scanned documents for the purpose of classifying, searching and exporting to third party systems for documents storage and management.

With Recognition Server and ABBYY's OCR technology as a core component, Gen2 Systems created a solution to handle all steps involved in document conversion including scanning, recognition and creation of a searchable archive. Gen2 Systems arrive at the airline's facilities and perform the scanning on site so that there is no risk of the files being damaged or lost during the process.

In some digitalization projects the client wishes to keep the documents on site. This may be for reasons of availability, safety, reliability, confidentiality, et cetera. This may also be required by legal and other regulations. Each paper-based document is entered into the Document Management System when it is scanned into a MFD (multi-function device). From this point Recognition Server takes over and automates the process converting each airplane maintenance record into a TIFF which is then converted into a searchable PDF for long term, secure archiving. To ensure a highly reliable and extremely quick access to the archives Gen2 designed a search function that is intelligent, automated and easily programmable.

"Without the level of accuracy delivered by ABBYY, the search feature would not have performed nearly as well. Luckily for us Recognition Server was not only up to the task in terms of throughput, scalability and stability, but it was cost-efficient as well," explains Gen2's Adrian Ryan. *"For our business the ability to recoup our initial investment in a shorter period of time was incredibly important. ABBYY's product allows us to pass the savings along to our clients while at the same time provide them with a very capable and powerful solution with high quality output for their needs."*

The Outcome

Over the long term Gen2's solution allows their airline client to reduce resources dedicated to the manual searching of documentation by at least 40-50% and to reallocate those staff members in a more productive manner. In an industry with historically low margins Gen2 can offer a truly tangible benefit to the airline's bottom line. At the busiest times Gen2 is processing roughly 30-40,000 documents per day using ABBYY Recognition Server and the average search time has decreased from over 10 days to just a couple of days. The airline has a solution that they know is safe, secure and reliable and Gen2 has a successful solution with which they can service an important industry.

"ABBYY's solutions have worked so well for us and I could not recommend them highly enough," declares Gen2's Adrian Ryan. *"We intend to incorporate them further into other processes that are currently being performed manually by our clients in different industries."*

About ABBYY

ABBYY is a leading developer of document recognition, document conversion, data capture and linguistics technologies.

ABBYY's products include: FineReader and PDF Transformer – end-user applications for document conversion; Recognition Server – a server-based OCR and PDF conversion solution; FlexiCapture and FormReader – data capture programs for processing forms, semi-structured and unstructured documents; FineReader Engine SDKs that provide a full spectrum of ABBYY's recognition technologies; and Lingvo – a line of dictionary software.

More information about ABBYY at
www.ABBYY.com