

Sun Solutions for Libraries and Museums



“The computational power delivered to us by Sun Microsystems’ technology has expanded our research capabilities.”

— Michael J. Novacek, Senior Vice President, American Museum of National History

Key Highlights

- Sun Fire™ servers provide the computational power required for fast, convenient data linking and search services.
- Sun StorEdge™ technology provides highly scalable storage systems for massive digital repositories and preservation of irreplaceable cultural heritage materials and collections.
- Sun’s Java™ and Solaris™ technologies offer unparalleled security and scalability for access to the increasing volume of digital collections and associated services for institutional or public use.
- Sun Ray™ technologies dramatically reduce desktop costs by delivering zero-administration clients for online public access catalogs as well as library and museum administrative work.
- Sun identity management and portal solutions provide secure access and provisioning of application services to the right people at the right time on any device.

Today’s libraries and museums are facing an array of changes that are affecting their information technology choices:

- An increased demand for digital repository products and services resulting from the explosive growth of electronic content.
- Ever-increasing degrees of collaboration and consortia activity with resulting scale of systems and data collections.
- Expectations for greater productivity and improved services to patrons, while enduring pressure to lower operating costs.
- Integration of library services with e-learning course management systems.
- Steady migration from integrated library solution (ILS) “legacy systems” to modern products offering n-tier architecture, open APIs, leading-edge security and authentication, and other leading technologies such as Java.

Sun Value Proposition

Sun offers more than just hardware to staff and patrons in libraries and museums. As a technology leader committed to this industry, Sun offers a complete solution:

- Extensive domain expertise. Sun has served more than 4,000 library customers worldwide for many years. We understand the constraints and needs of these unique organizations, and have created an ecosystem of key independent software providers, spanning solutions for the diverse needs of libraries of all types and scales.

- Robust, highly scalable operating systems and servers.
- A unique enterprise middleware stack with a service provider-ready pricing model.
- Outstanding support for all of the leading integrated library systems and other library applications.
- Commitment to open standards and application programming interfaces.
- Promotion of “communities of interest” that provide a forum for users to benefit from shared knowledge and experience.

Sun’s Library Technology Platform

Sun’s open technology platform and commitment to all types of educational institutions has resulted in a highly stable environment for libraries and museums and a rich collection of leading ISV solutions for library management and digital library activities. Sun’s experience and capabilities translate to complete systems innovation:

- **Servers** – Sun offers the broadest server portfolio in the industry, based on all the leading hardware platforms — SPARC®, x86, Opteron, and Intel Xeon-processor based products on the way. Sun systems provide the computational power required for activities that range from fast, convenient data linking and search services, to management of physical book collections, to distributing and viewing the new digital objects of our cultural heritage via collaborative networks. Highly secure and mobile Java™ Card and Sun Ray™

technologies provide secure access to library and museum services over any network on any platform. Thin-client Sun Ray technology dramatically reduces desktop costs by delivering zero-administration clients for on-line public access catalogs as well as library and museum administrative work. Java Card technology enables libraries and museums to use an interoperable execution platform that can store and update multiple applications on a single device.

- **Software** – Sun’s software portfolio provides the infrastructure for Web 2.0 – our open software platform includes the Solaris™ Operating System, Java Enterprise System and numerous library and museum software packages that run native on Solaris, as well as support for Solaris on x86 and Linux. Sun provides a complete Web services-compliant middleware stack that is highly integrated — offering services from Sun’s market-leading identity management to operating systems on multiple platforms. Sun also offers the revolutionary Java Desktop System (JDS), a rich and robust open source platform for client-side computing innovation and application services.
- **Storage** – 37% of the world’s data is archived on Sun storage products. Sun StorEdge™ technology provides highly scalable storage systems for digital preservation of cultural heritage materials and collections. Sun StorageTek SAM-FS software enables users to reduce the cost of storing data by providing a powerful, easily managed, cost-effective way to access, retain, and protect data over its entire lifecycle — a significant benefit to libraries seeking to establish large digital repositories.
- **Services** – Sun provides a full range of customer services that help you reduce IT costs and keep your systems operating at optimal levels. World-class consultants can help integrate your entire systems environment through identity management and a service oriented architecture. Sun delivers an unparalleled level of round-the-clock assistance (including disaster recovery, server consolidation and systems support) to meet the exacting demands of today’s library and museum IT customers.

Independent Software Vendor (ISV) Solutions

Sun partners with all of the top library and museum ISVs:

- **Ex Libris** is a global pioneer in software solutions for libraries and information centers. Over two decades of experience and thousands of loyal customers worldwide attest to their software strengths. The acquisition of Endeavor Information Systems has contributed to the most extensive suite of applications available for academic and research libraries. (www.exlibrisgroup.com)
- **Innovative Interfaces** provides the market-leading integrated library system to thousands of libraries of all types and sizes in 42 countries. For 25 years, Innovative has worked with and for libraries, with the goal of creating the most useful and robust products in the marketplace. Innovative has retained its core mission and key management personnel to this day. (www.iii.com)
- **SirsiDynix** was created through the merger of Dynix Corporation and Sirsi Corporation, both companies with long track records as leading information technology providers to libraries and consortia worldwide. With customers in 70 countries, SirsiDynix serves these institutions by offering a comprehensive integrated suite of technology solutions for improving the internal productivity of libraries and enhancing their capabilities for serving people and communities. (www.sirsidyndix.com)
- **VTLS Inc.** is a leading global company that creates and provides visionary technology in library solutions. They have three distinctive divisions that provide these solutions to a diverse customer base of more than 900 libraries in 35 countries. VTLS is one of the few ISO 9001:2000 quality-certified companies within the library industry. (www.vtls.com)

Case Study: Stanford University

Stanford University Libraries and Academic Information Resources (SUL/AIR) needed to build a digital archive large enough to accommodate the university’s content as well as that of multiple journal publishers and mirroring and archive partners. An additional challenge was to build a journal publishing platform that can accommodate the full back sets of hundreds of scholarly journals, which exceed 2 million articles. Using Sun servers and storage systems, Stanford built the world’s largest archive of full-text scientific articles — and a platform for the preservation of digital content for more than 100 years. In addition, the solution provides a state-of-the-art platform for electronic journal distribution and preservation. Students will also have access to more than 350 online courses. Sun and the university also established the Stanford Center of Excellence for Knowledge Management to provide a unified architectural view of information services at the university, including an e-journal service, Stanford University Press and a preservation system for journals and government documents.

Next Steps/For More Information

Visit Sun Digital Libraries and Museums at:
<http://www.sun.com/products-n-solutions/edu/commofinterest/libraries/>

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