

Fenwick & West Use Metalogix for eRoom-to-SharePoint Migration

U.S.-based law firm cost-effectively speeds migration from eRoom 7 to SharePoint 2007 with Metalogix Migration Manager for SharePoint - eRoom Edition.



THE COMPANY

Prior to 2005, Fenwick & West used Documentum eRoom (now EMC Documentum eRoom) to manage extranet and intranet content. In 2005, Fenwick & West selected Microsoft SharePoint as its next-generation intranet, extranet, and collaboration platform. SharePoint was selected for its unique combination of feature richness, ease of deployment and adoption, large community support base and cost-effective licensing model.

In the past five years, Fenwick & West has leveraged SharePoint's low-friction, custom, site deployment model to make terabytes of content available to clients via extranets. Through 2009, the company supported both eRoom and SharePoint collaboration platforms, maintaining the former to provide ongoing access to historical content.

THE CHALLENGE

After several years of supporting both eRoom and SharePoint collaboration platforms, in 2009 Fenwick & West determined that decommissioning eRoom would provide large cost savings to the organization. The elimination of eRoom licensing, hardware, and support costs would make more resources available to support and streamline SharePoint and other IT systems. The challenge, however, was that a large number of valuable documents, versions and metadata still resided in eRoom. Fenwick & West had over 600 eRooms to migrate. Each room varied in size up to 15 gigabytes (GB) with an average room size of approximately 1 GB. The projected cost savings could only be achieved if Fenwick & West could identify a cost-effective solution for migrating eRoom content to SharePoint and deploy it successfully.

THE SOLUTION

Mark Gerow of Fenwick & West led the search for an eRoom-to-SharePoint migration solution, enlisting additional guidance from a leading California-based Microsoft consultancy. They quickly dismissed the feasibility of a copy-and-paste migration as too time consuming, error prone and lacking in traceability. Instead, they found two possible product solutions. After assessing both products, Fenwick & West selected Metalogix Migration Manager for SharePoint - eRoom Edition based on the following key attributes.

Product functionality was Fenwick's most important selection criteria for an eRoom migration solution.



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Mark Gerow, Director Applications & Business Process
Fenwick & West

HEADQUARTERS

Mountain View, California

ENVIRONMENT

- Metalogix Migration Manager for SharePoint – eRoom Edition
- eRoom 7 to SharePoint 2007 migration
- 600 eRooms with an average size of one gigabyte each

“The business case was simple. The cost of maintaining our legacy eRoom platform, including licensing, personnel and hardware was many times the licensing cost for Metalogix Migration Manager for SharePoint - eRoom Edition.”

Mark Gerow, Director Applications & Business Process, Fenwick & West

ABOUT FENWICK & WEST

Fenwick & West is a U.S.-based law firm that provides comprehensive legal services to technology and life sciences clients of national and international prominence. Fenwick & West has approximately 300 attorneys, with offices in Silicon Valley, San Francisco, Seattle and Boise.

The Fenwick & West IT team manages over 600 terabytes of internal, client-facing and public content. Through innovative client-focused solutions, the team at Fenwick has established itself as an industry-leading provider of efficient technology and content management systems that save time and money for its clients and attorneys. SharePoint is Fenwick & West’s content management solution of choice.

ABOUT METALOGIX

Metalogix, a leading provider of content lifecycle management solutions for Microsoft SharePoint, Microsoft Exchange, and legacy enterprise content environments. We enable organizations to scale and cost-effectively manage, migrate, store, archive and protect enterprise content whether on-premises or in the cloud. The company is a Microsoft Gold Certified Partner, privately held, and backed by Insight Venture Partners and Bessemer Venture Partners.

Metalogix

5335 Wisconsin Ave NW
Washington, DC 20015

877.450.8667

www.metalogix.com

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Of particular importance to Fenwick was the ability to migrate all eRoom documents, complete with metadata and version histories to SharePoint document libraries.

Fenwick was able to download, install and validate Migration Manager’s basic capabilities in short order—and the product’s capabilities struck the right balance between simplicity and power. Migration Manager is very easy to use but this does not come at the expense of scale, performance or features.

“With the Metalogix eRoom migration product, we were able to download an evaluation copy of the software and prove to ourselves that the product worked as advertised within a very short period of time,” said Gerow of Fenwick & West, “It was clear from the start the Metalogix product was simple to use and well designed to do the job it is intended to do. This sort of evaluation was not possible with the other product we looked at. It also helped that the Metalogix product requires no eRoom serverside install and interacts with SharePoint and eRoom only through supported APIs. That gave us the confidence that we would not be putting any valuable content or product support agreements at risk.”

Fenwick & West also had several project requirements that were not yet handled by the Metalogix product. Since they made sense as product features, Metalogix agreed to implement these features and make them available in the product by Fenwick & West’s project start date.

Price was also a factor in Fenwick’s decision to go with Metalogix. “We liked the fact that the licensing cost with Metalogix was fixed. Migration Manager is a turnkey solution that is simple to use so we were confident that we could complete the migration project in house using the product. The other offering that we looked at required outside services for successful deployment. These services would have introduced variable time and cost components to the project and we were not comfortable with that.”

The price point also enabled immediate return on the investment for Fenwick & West. In Gerow’s words, “The business case was simple. The cost of maintaining our legacy eRoom platform, including licensing, personnel and hardware was many times the licensing cost for Metalogix Migration Manager for SharePoint - eRoom Edition.”

Metalogix Sales and Support - Gerow identified Metalogix’s technical-based sales approach as another important factor in selecting Migration Manager for SharePoint - eRoom Edition. “Working with the Metalogix technical team instilled confidence in the products. The sales team was easy to work with. When we had sales questions or required information, they responded promptly and delivered what we asked for. When we had technical questions, the product team provided the technical information we required to be comfortable with the product.”

THE RESULTS

Migration Manager for SharePoint - eRoom Edition enabled Fenwick & West to cost effectively decommission its legacy eRoom system without losing the valuable content stored in that system.

“Metalogix removed the technology problem from the migration so that we could focus on establishing the business process required to completely transition our eRoom content to SharePoint in the most efficient manner possible,” said Mark Gerow, “I cannot imagine how long the migration would have taken using copy-and-paste or a custom-scripted approach but it would have been much, much longer than four months.”

Using Migration Manager, the project was completed on time and on budget and Fenwick was able to unlock the savings from eliminating eRoom licensing, hardware and resource costs.