

## Concordance Web Server

### Frequently Asked Questions

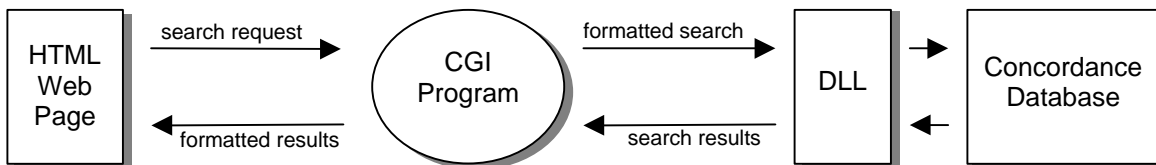
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#### Overview

The Concordance Developer's Toolkit offers the 32-bit text-retrieval "engine" used by Concordance. It can be used to add Concordance searching and database management to custom programs created by 3<sup>rd</sup> party developers. This can be done with any high-level language capable of making standard C function calls, such as C, C++, Visual Basic, CGI scripting, etc.

#### Concordance "Web Version"

For a demo, please see <http://www.dataflight.com/cgitest.htm>. The Concordance web implementation uses an HTML/CGI "front-end" (the CGI is written in C) to the Concordance DLL, in the following scheme:



#### System & Administrator Requirements

The Concordance web version is a 32-bit program designed to run on Windows NT Server v3.5 or later. Additional web server software is required to grant Internet access, such as Netscape Server or Microsoft Internet Information Server.

The basic Concordance web-server package can be implemented by a network systems administrator. Familiarity with NT server and web server software is required. Customization of the basic package will require additional CGI programming.

#### Cost

The Concordance web version is \$4000 per server. The annual maintenance fee is \$795, which includes all updates to the DLL. The number of maximum simultaneous users is constrained only by what your web server can support. Dataflight does not monitor seats or usage.

#### What's Included?

- The DLL and documented function calls. Documentation is comprehensive, yet minimal, and is intended as a guide for experienced programmers.
- A single-user version of Concordance, intended as an instructive demonstration tool for the developer.
- Web Tools
  - The HTML form template as seen on our website, suitable for modification.
  - The CGI executable source code and configuration template (INI file), suitable for modification.
  - A Web server configuration and installation checklist.

#### Security

Concordance's DLL will respect database security settings created by the Concordance for Windows program. For example, if a field is marked "No Access," the web version cannot see it. At this time the Concordance web version does not support per-user security like the Windows version. All CGI requests will be submitted under the user ID of the web server (Netscape or IIS) account.

However, in most scenarios, you'll want to use a web-based security login to control access to the Concordance search page. This will require that a userid/password be given before the Concordance web page can be accessed. Many third-party web security solutions are available, we recommend that you confer with a consultant who specializes in Internet security implementations.

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### Image Retrieval

The CGI program automatically returns the contents of Concordance database "image" fields as hyperlinks. Clicking the returned image hyperlink will retrieve the image. If the image is a GIF or JPG file type, the browser will display it. If the image is a TIFF or other format, a "plug-in" viewer is required. Please visit the Netscape or Microsoft web sites for a list of 3<sup>rd</sup> party browser plug-in products. Image locations are stored in library files (DIR/VOL files) created with Dataflight's Opticon program. Separate purchase of Opticon is not required, a free demo version can be used to create the image library files.

### Custom Reporting

Concordance data displayed through a browser interface *is* a report, ready for printing. The CGI program controls the particulars of data display formatting, e.g., which fields to print, full or summary data display, on-screen field placement, the font and color of highlighted keywords, etc. The currently available default reports are "Summary," "Full," and "Table." Keep in mind, because you are not using the "Concordance" interface, you do not have access to Concordance interface features, such as the Report Writer. Any customized non-default reports must be scripted by a CGI programmer.

### When should my firm consider the Concordance web version?

The web version should be considered for remote real-time search and retrieval access to Concordance databases. Make an edit? Anyone with access can see it immediately: Dial-in laptop users; far-flung co-counsel; satellite offices; clients; expert witnesses, etc.

The Concordance web version can also be used in a LAN or Intranet environment, but keep in mind that a lot of "reinventing the wheel" will be necessary in terms of development. Concordance features like the Report Writer, Authority Lists, etc. must be entirely rewritten by your programmers for a browser interface. In a LAN environment, a browser interface will be slower and less refined, making poorer use of resources (same PC, same network wire, same server, using TCP/IP instead of IPX/SPX, etc). However, for some firms, browser-interface standardization takes precedence over performance.

### Client/Server vs. Distributed Processing

In the Client/Server model, the server does the work and returns the results to the requesting client. This is the model used by the Concordance web version. In the Distributed Processing model, the workstations do most of the work, server processing is greatly minimized. This is the model used by Concordance for Windows. In most LAN environments, the latter is preferred. Distributed Processing utilizes otherwise idle workstations to lighten the server burden. However, in WAN or Internet applications, the client server model gains the edge by minimizing network traffic over generally slower links.

### Web Access vs. Replication

The Concordance web server provides immediate live access to your Concordance databases. However, a web browser interface offers fewer features than Concordance for Windows.

In contrast, replication provides ASAP access to Concordance databases, with full use of the Concordance for Windows interface. Replica databases can be synchronized at any time, by user command.

### Glossary

- DLL: "Dynamic Link Library." A library of function calls that can be accessed by other programs. For example, the Concordance DLL offers functions like "search" and "sort" to custom programs created by 3<sup>rd</sup> party developers.
- CGI: "Common Gateway Interface." A web server program that extends a web server's features, e.g. database search and retrieval.
- HTML: "HyperText Markup Language." The source code that is used to create web pages.