

# Cherry LAN Systems

## Document Imaging System Adds Internet Access with Advantage Database Server

"It's fun to watch the look on a network administrator's face when we install our software with Advantage Database Server. Five minutes after we start, I'll hear 'That's IT? We're DONE?'"

Greg Nelson,  
President,  
Cherry LAN Systems

### ABOUT THE COMPANY

- Cherry LAN Systems has been providing document indexing and imaging solutions for more than 15 years, with a particular focus on the needs of county governments. The company offers a suite of seven integrated software applications to build, index, retrieve, and output records and other database-held documents and data.

### BUSINESS CHALLENGE

- In addition to demanding more imaging functionality from existing indexing software, public and private customers wanted to provide secure Internet access to records and other data from remote or private locations.

### SOLUTION

- Advantage Database Server, already embedded in Cherry LAN Systems' imaging solution since 1999, provided the ability to offer Internet access to data and documents while also supporting APIs and data capture from a variety of other database programs.

For Cherry LAN Systems, providing a secure and reliable database for the high volume of records kept by its clients just wasn't enough. "Our customers wanted to provide their users with secure Internet access from any Web browser to the documents and data," says Greg Nelson, president of Cherry LAN Systems.

With the latest version of its Cherry Image System, released in mid-2002, the company not only met that need, but also enhanced the product's ability to transfer indexed data from embedded Advantage Database Server to a variety of other outside databases within a Windows NT/2000 or Novell NetWare environment.

The Cherry Imaging System integrates seamlessly and effortlessly with a variety of indexing software packages that require an imaging component to display, print, and download the actual forms and other documents held in the database indexes. "In development, it's important to not only provide what our customers want in the way of indexing and imaging systems," Nelson says, "but also to meet the needs of those who want to connect or integrate their own software with our systems, even from different platforms such as an AS/400."

In fact, Advantage Database Server is embedded in nearly all of Cherry LAN's applications to provide a secure, reliable, compatible, and scalable database solution to its ever-growing list of clients. "Over the past decade, we've tried a fair number of database solutions with varying degrees of success," says Nelson. Since switching exclusively to Advantage Database Server in 1999 for all of Cherry LAN's PC-based applications, he says, "Our database headaches disappeared overnight."

### ENHANCED IMAGING

Increasingly, county governments and other public and private entities require the ability to call up actual images of the thousands (or perhaps millions) of electronic documents indexed in their databases.

Cherry Image System meets that need without fail, protecting data from corruption and allowing multiple users on the network to access documents without fear of a freeze-up or even slow retrievals. The product allows users to view, download, print, and scan actual document images from an index search.

With its latest version, the company extended that ability with secure Internet access, allowing citizens, government agencies, and others with access privileges to view county records from remote locations using any Web browser software and even other indexing systems on compatible network environments. "We provide API calls which allow other vendors to quickly integrate their applications with our imaging software," says Nelson. "Usually it takes less than an hour to completely integrate even very complex Windows or AS/400 applications."

### COMPATIBILITY

The compatibility features in the Cherry Image System don't end there. Occasionally (and increasingly), customers are looking to easily and securely transfer data from legacy database programs when they upgrade or switch systems.

## RESULTS

- Now, it takes less than an hour to completely integrate even very complex Windows or AS/400 applications.
- Data is protected from corruption and multiple users are allowed access to network documents without fear of a freeze-up or even slow retrievals. The product allows users to view, download, print, and scan actual document images from an index search. Now able to have citizens, government agencies, and others with access privileges view county records from remote locations using any Web browser software
- Cherry LAN has never lost a record among the millions of records kept among clients

## INDUSTRY

- Business Services

"With Advantage Database Server software embedded in our image and index products, we can capture other databases intact and fold the data into our system," says Nelson. "We've never lost a record, not one, among the millions of records kept among our clients, using Advantage Database Server."

Programming its systems in a Delphi environment, Cherry LAN Systems licensed Advantage Database Server for its ability to easily and seamlessly transition its clients to upgraded versions with more functionality while maintaining the company's core system architecture.

"One of the great things about Advantage Database Server is that it's easy for us to program with and for our customers to use," Nelson says. Whether using the program internally, via the Internet, or with outside indexing systems in a compatible network, he says, "Advantage Database Server is a snap. Smooth deployment brightens any network administrator's day."

## BEHIND THE SCENES

In addition to providing Cherry LAN Systems with a database that allowed the company to program in its preferred environment and provide its customers with the functionality they demanded, Advantage Database Server offers accessible and knowledgeable support.

"When a software company decides to use a database component, it's important that we have access to the database technicians on behalf of our clients," Nelson says. "Excellent technical and sales support is something we consider equally important to the performance of the database, and [Advantage Database] provides both."

## ABOUT ADVANTAGE DATABASE SERVER

Advantage Database Server is a high performance client/server data management system specifically designed to meet the needs of application developers. Advantage provides both ISAM table-based and SQL-based data access, allowing a growth path for legacy applications to today's modern technologies. With over 3 million deployed seats and over 15 years of continuous development, developers rely on Advantage Database Server to run mission-critical applications that enable them to successfully conduct their business around the globe. For more information, visit the product website: [www.advantagedatabase.com](http://www.advantagedatabase.com).

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