

Electronic Records Scalability: Moving From Theory to Practice with Actual Test Results

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Abstract: For any electronic records initiative, the ability to scale is a critical part of the decision and an integral issue that must be understood so that your program does not hit unforeseen barriers. How do you know where the maximums or limits are in the speed at which you can ingest files, the number of files you will be able to handle, the impact of the size of the files and resulting performance results you will see over time. Many digital preservation projects lay claim to the ability to scale but have they undergone actual testing and to what levels?

By focusing on several attributes of a digital preservation system including loading, delivery, staff searches and process automation, this project tested how Rosetta, a permanent access and preservation solution, handles these attributes when scaling to hundreds of millions of files. In this presentation, the results of the recent scalability test will be outlined including expectations, assumptions and the results.

About the author:

Mike Thuman is the Ex Libris Director, Digital Preservation. He is dedicated to the digital preservation domain and has developed and led educational and outreach symposiums for archives and libraries. He has facilitated workshops and spoken on the subject of digital preservation and permanent access at SAA 2009, American Library Association, Sun Preservation and Archives Special Interest Group (PASIG) and at academic and government institutions in North America.

Mike can deliver OAIS and executive assessments for digital preservation and while working as an IT professional, Mike developed partnership programs and worked on other facets of digital preservation including gathering user requirements for the development of scanners and document imaging systems for digitization and management of electronic records.

He currently serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Summit County Library.