

Laserfiche Toolkit™

Support Revenue-Generating Activities Through Integration and Automation

- Integrate Your Document Repository With Other Applications
- Automate Work Processes and Eliminate Redundancy
- Rapidly Develop Solutions to Complex Business Problems
- Increase Productivity While Reducing Overhead Costs

In today's competitive global environment, it's critical that you maximize the value of your IT investments. That's why we designed the Laserfiche® platform with interoperability so firmly in mind. By integrating your Laserfiche document and records management system with your other line-of-business applications, you can streamline work processes, reduce IT complexity and automate resource-intensive tasks.

To promote rapid integration, we've built Laserfiche with a highly flexible application programming interface (API). This API uses the Component Object Model (COM) to interface with third-party systems, which means that Websites, scripts, Windows® applications or anything else that is compatible with COM libraries can easily communicate with the Laserfiche Client and Server.

The Laserfiche Toolkit™ contains commands and documentation that will help you use the Laserfiche API most effectively. In the Toolkit, you'll find instructions that help you integrate Laserfiche with third-party applications, customize system functionality and automate Laserfiche-related tasks. Additionally, you'll find a wealth of sample code, written in both C# and Visual Basic® .NET, designed to help you tailor your Laserfiche system to your organization's specific business needs.

To promote fast distribution, the Toolkit also includes pre-built merge modules. You can use these modules to create installation packages that contain both your custom code and the relevant Toolkit components.

Automate Business Processes

Laserfiche Server Objects (LFSO) is the component of the API that enables third-party applications to communicate with the Laserfiche Server. Because each type of data in the Laserfiche repository corresponds to a particular server object, you can use LFSO to automate a variety of functions, from creating folders to running security reports to populating template fields.

For example, many municipal attorneys' offices use specialized legal software to manage their case docket, and store the documents, e-mail messages and other items associated with each case in Laserfiche. Using the Toolkit, IT personnel can integrate the two systems so that, when staff create a case in the legal application, a corresponding folder is created in the Laserfiche repository. Such automation saves staff time, eliminates data entry errors, and reduces overhead and administrative costs.

Create Custom Applications

The API's DocumentProcessor library complements LFSO by providing third-party applications with access to functionality associated with the Laserfiche Client. You can use DocumentProcessor objects to perform a variety of import and export actions, process documents using OCR, and extract text from electronic documents.

For example, you might use DocumentProcessor (in combination with LFSO) to create an application that automatically evaluates each document in your repository and performs OCR on any document that needs it. By running this application on a regular basis, you can ensure that your repository's index file remains up to date. This helps users to quickly find the information they need, without having to perform multiple searches or sift through a large number of search results.

Add Value to Current Systems

The Toolkit's Image-Enable component allows third-party applications to manipulate the Laserfiche Client. Using this component, you can bring digital document and records management functionality—including search and retrieval, versioning, check-in/check-out, metadata and security—into your organization's other line-of-business applications.

Many organizations, for example, rely on a geographic information system (GIS) to store and manage spatial data. Using the Toolkit and the GIS application's API, you can image-enable your GIS software so that users can access Laserfiche documents simply by clicking a location on a map. Providing users with instant access to information from within their primary application helps them work more productively and make better-informed decisions. It also minimizes the need for additional training, given that users retrieve and work with documents using the same application they use every day.

Collaborate With Other IT Professionals

On the Laserfiche Support Site, you'll have 24/7 access to two key resources that help you maximize the value of your Toolkit investment: the Toolkit Forum and the Laserfiche Code Library™.

- The Toolkit Forum enables you to engage in discussions with other application developers and with Laserfiche staff. You can ask questions, share best practices and learn about new ways of using the Laserfiche API.
- The Code Library contains a variety of integrations and custom applications—the majority of which were created by Laserfiche Development staff—that you can download and implement at your own organization. You can also post comments and ask questions about items in the library, as well as contribute code of your own.

By promoting active collaboration among the members of the Laserfiche community, we aim to help you optimize your organization's information management infrastructure—without creating an additional burden for your IT department.