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Canto **Cumulus 7**

managing your digital assets

Undoubtedly, as media demands change, we find ourselves using creative assets in different ways. Recognising this, Canto injects the Cumulus 7 administrator-controlled server products with tools that help creatives use common files efficiently.

Asset management... what's your flavour?
All Cumulus 7 server supported products come with LAN access to off-site storage, with the Cumulus 7 products defined by the level of access offered. Cumulus 7 Archive, for example, is available solely through the Cumulus desktop software via the LAN.
Owners of Cumulus 7 Publishing Server can open, from the desktop software, 'Catalogs' of data 'assets' for display on the web.
Business Server owners, in addition to the forementioned features, may allow off-site users to actually post assets to these nominated Catalogs, also via the web.
In the latest release, the advanced 'find' tools used to search these Catalogs of images, files etc., has been enhanced.
Cumulus version 7 now identifies the relationships between assets. A document, for example, can list all of the images it sources across a split screen, enhancing browsing from asset to asset.
Web users of Cumulus 7 Business and Publishing solutions—who access these Catalogs using a browser—are now able to search for items with many of the tools and menus seen within the desktop version.

Tighter project control
Cumulus 7 offers plenty of benefits for those working in teams, starting with the introduction of Shared Collections. This is a simple feature that allows co-workers access to the same group of defined assets within a Catalog. Shared Collections cut down search times and reduce the risk of the wrong asset being used.
Changes in administrator controls now see managers of multiple projects able to define who has access to which Catalog, and to what degree.
Newly appointed Star ratings, Labels for assets, and improved Metadata Import options from legacy systems enhance communication, while automation supported by Actions reduces errors and time spent on repetitive tasks.
A welcome addition, Cumulus 7's Action commands can launch tasks direct from a stored file in three ways: as things happen, at set times or as instructed by the user. Several actions come predefined including: image conversion tools; assigning ratings, labels and filling in metadata; and a handy PDF proof sheet function that operates without requiring the installation of Adobe Acrobat. Depending on the way permissions are set, Actions may also be customised.

Intel-ready
Both Mac and Windows compatible, Cumulus 7 products run natively on Intel-based Macs and are sold with a 12-month Software Maintenance program. Prices begin at A$6,865 inc. GST for a '3 client' license, or A$11,776 inc. GST for the Publishing Solution with unlimited web access.

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