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ABBYY Recognition Server improves Library Unit services of the Department of Museums Malaysia, Library Unit

Background

Officially established in 1993, the Department of Museums Malaysia (DMM) is responsible for the preservation of cultural heritage and manages more than 20 state museums around the country. It has become the research, preservation, automation and coordination center of Malaysian museums. Apart from cultural work and research (organizing and taking part in exhibitions, lectures, workshops, seminars and conferences), it maintains and keeps all related documentation.

The Department has its own library which contains rich and diverse bibliographic collections related to Malaysian museums. The collection of over 9,000 units of books, local and international serial publications and other research-based materials have made the Department the main reference center for printed heritage of Malaysian museums.

Challenge

The Library needed a trusted digital archive to securely store any type of document and find it within seconds, even over the years. Having researched the market, the Department turned to the solution offered by Application Universe Sdn. Bhd., a provider of high-end software outsourcing services for government sectors, private and multinational organizations, and SMEs; specializing in enterprise application development, system integration and business application tools. The system integrator contacted Data Capture Solutions, ABBYY authorized distributor, which recommended the use of ABBYY Recognition Server, a server-based solution for automating OCR and document conversion, together with MediaUniverse, a management system for organization, management and coordination of digital media (text documents, audio and video files, as well as animation and graphics).

Project

The main idea of the project was to transform the newspaper cuttings and articles located in the Library's funds from a paper resource to an easy-to-use digital data archive that provides secure storage and document indexing. After analyzing the current situation, Application Universe developed a robust and cost-effective end-to-end solution for data archiving, document restoration and information retrieval services based on ABBYY Recognition Server integrated with MediaUniverse software. ABBYY Recognition Server gets scanned image files and converts them to searchable PDF, XML and TXT files while MediaUniverse software outputs image and metadata files. Then all files are stored and archived on the same server.

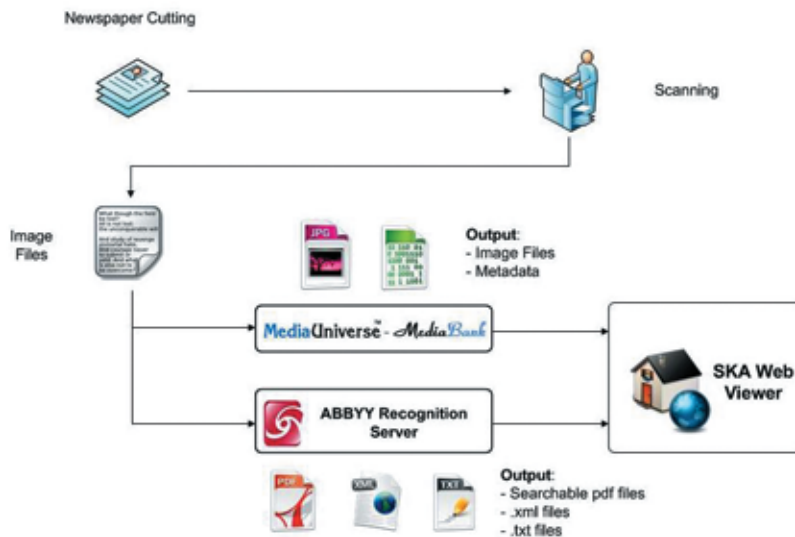## About the Department of Museums Malaysia (DMM)

The Department was officially established in 1993. The main functions are keeping and preserving art collections, keeping and maintaining the documentation, organizing exhibitions, contributing to tourism development. It contains several library collections such as General and Reference Books, Nadir Books, Serial Publications, Annual Reports and Projects, Seminar Working Paper and Thesis, Newspaper clippings ongoing since 1960, Electronic Media, a rich collection of mass media including local and foreign publications and The Journal of Federated Malay States Museums - the most comprehensive and important collection in Malaysia since 1905.

Results

The Department has satisfied its need of a better management system based on digital solutions to improve its operational efficiency and ability to serve its users. Heretofore manual scanning and desktop software were used for document storage and retrieval. Now the Department has found an automated award-winning solution from ABBYY that assures a reliable management system, supports preservation of documentation and allows users to have easy access to the library collection.

The results were indeed positive:

- The document archive can now be simply viewed and retrieved using the software;

- 250,000 pages per year are processed by only 5 operators on 5 workstations;

- Documents processed by ABBYY's accurate multilanguage software are stored and archived on the server, where they are available for the SKA Web Viewer application.

About Application Universe Sdn. Bhd.

Application Universe is a provider of high-end software outsourcing services for government sectors, private and multinational organizations and SMEs; specializing in enterprise application development, system integration and business application tools. The company is an expert in a specific software industry focusing on electronic document management, electronic workflow systems, communication, and internet, and e-commerce applications.

About Data Capture Solutions

Data Capture Solutions is a Malaysian company providing document scanning and document processing systems. DCS is the distributor for ABBYY products in Malaysia, supplying the full range of products from ABBYY, Russia. For further information please visit http://www.datacapture.com.my/

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