

CCS SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

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GENERAL

The CCS System operates in several user required installation configurations. Each configuration has pros and cons and the users must weigh these up to design the best option that fits their business operations. The four base environments Single user, Peer-to-Peer, Terminal Server, and Client Server are supported with various user configurable adaptations.

CCS Operating System requirements

The CCS System operates on Microsoft Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT4.x Windows 2000 and Windows XP.

CCS File System Requirements.

The CCS DBMS uses and obeys a subset of the Win32® File API that makes it compatible with most File, Server, and Network operating systems that comply with the Win32® File API. Other file operating systems and server configurations that do not emulate the Win32® File API fully will not execute the CCS System correctly.

The CCS DBMS uses the Win32® file sharing, file locking and record locking API. If non Microsoft systems are used, they must obey the Microsoft Network Client services fully to operate the CCS System correctly.

If the CCS System is installed on a network, it is assumed that the system and the user's data are operating in a Microsoft Peer to Peer environment.

Network operating systems that include propriety caching software must be fully compatible with the Win32® File system. If the latest network operating system patches and software are not installed, and settings on servers are not carefully considered data loss can occur.

CCS Licence

Unless otherwise agreed the CCS System requires a seat licence to operate. The CCS licence mechanism is supported on Win32® File systems. The CCS licence will fail on Unix, Linux and DOS based servers that do not emulate the Win32® File API correctly.

Virus protection software and archive utilities that tamper with file attributes, and properties of the licence file will cause it to fail. If the CCS licence is installed in a Peer to Peer, or Client Server Network environment the server of the CCS licence must be on the dominant operating system. In a mixed operating system environment of Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows 2000 and Windows XP, the CCS licence server must be on either the Windows 2000 or Windows XP computer.

SINGLE USER ENVIRONMENT

Stand alone computer or laptop.

The CCS application files, the user CCS data files and the CCS licence reside on the local hard drive.

The CCS System installation, CCS licencing and data file backups is the users responsibility.

PEER TO PEER ENVIRONMENT

Several Computers and other hardware resources connected to each other using network cards, cables, hubs, switches etc. in the same local area. (LAN)

P2P systems are based on a distributed computing model in which peers share computer resources and exchange services directly. In P2P systems computers can act as both clients and servers. P2P systems increase the utilization of information, bandwidth, and computing resources available via the Internet.

Users must share a hard drive with full rights to all users. Users can share data files, applications, printers and other network resources. Very low network security.

Computers with different Windows operating systems (95, 98, 2000 and XP), and file operating systems can operate in this environment.

Application response times are highly coupled to network resources.

Data file backups can be centrally managed with some effort. The CCS data folder must be unique for each Peer and cannot be accessed from another Peer. CCS users can exchange job data with common folders and email. CCS Master libraries can be shared with other users on the network.

CCS installation configurations

- The CCS application files, the user CCS data files and the CCS licence on the local hard drive.
- The CCS application files on a Peer shared hard drive, the user CCS data files and the CCS licence on the local hard drive.
- The CCS application files, the user CCS data files on a Peer shared hard drive and the CCS licence on the local hard drive.
- CCS Master libraries and data exchange folder on server Peer.

CLIENT SERVER ENVIRONMENT

Several Computers and other hardware resources connected to each other using network cards, cables, hubs, switches etc. in the same local area. (LAN)

Client Server systems are based on a distributed computing model in which nodes share computer resources and exchange services through a dedicated network control computer, called the server. (LAN) The server handles the communication needs of the other computers in the network.

Users can share folders with read write access to controlled user groups. Users can share data files, applications, printers and other network resources. Very high network security. Computers with Windows operating systems with the same security capabilities and file operating systems can operate in this environment.

Data file backups can be easily managed centrally.

Application response times highly coupled to network resources.

- The CCS licence on a LAN server and shared to the CCS user group.
- The CCS application files on a LAN server and shared to the CCS user group.
- The CCS user data files on a LAN server and shared exclusively to the user.
- The CCS application files, the user CCS data files and the CCS licence on a LAN server.
 - If the server is down, the user cannot continue the business process.
 - If the server is lost, the user can only continue when disaster recovery process is completed.
 - The CCS licence can be shared with other users. Increases number of users exposed to the CCS application and company licence seat utility.
- The CCS application files on a LAN server, the user CCS data files and the CCS licence on the local hard drive.
 - If the server is down, the user cannot continue the business process. The user can install the CCS application on the local hard drive and continue working. Install time within 5minutes.

- The CCS licence cannot be shared with other users. Limits number of users exposed to the CCS application. Only one user utilises licence seat.

TERMINAL SERVER ENVIRONMENT

Several Computers and other hardware resources connected to each other using network cards, cables, hubs, switches, modems etc. located in geographically distant areas. (WAN)

Users can share data files, applications, printers and other network resources at enterprise level. Computers with different Windows operating systems (95, 98, 2000 and XP), and file operating systems can operate in this environment. Very high network security.

Data file backups can be easily managed centrally.

Application response times highly coupled to bandwidth, connectivity and network hardware resources.

The CCS application files, the user CCS data files and the CCS licence on a WAN server.

- If the server is down, the user cannot continue the business process.
- If the server is lost, the user can only continue when disaster recovery process is completed.
- If connection is interrupted, the user cannot continue the business process.

WEB SERVICES

A WEB service is lightweight XML based flexible middleware application for integrating systems over the Internet or Intranets. The two dominant platforms are Java and .NET. CCS is considering enabling WEB services in our application but so far our client leaders, commercial and estimating managers, have yet to commit to exposing their corporate data to this technology with high security and integrity risks.

WEB ENABLED

Among the many definitions and included functionality of 'WEB Enabled' two functions stand out clearly. The application must be able to send email and publish to the Internet. Email can be sent from within the CCS System and CCS can print all reports to PDF format, which is a recognised Internet document format.

WEB BASED

A WEB based application allows the user access to application data thru the users preferred Internet access application. The application data can reside on the Internet or intranet. The user interface is standardised and controlled by the ability of Internet access application. The WEB based application increases user collaboration, workflow and data dissemination

CCS is not currently WEB based nor is this anticipated in the near future.