



Word from our President

In this new millennium, business is facing a fundamental challenge: the management of an enormous amount of information. Globalization and the explosion of the Internet have increased the amount of information to be managed, and at the same time have created a greater expectation of quick electronic access to data in all forms. This flood of information and the development of global networks have created unprecedented pressures on business. To meet the challenge and to remain competitive in this brave-new-world of information technology (IT), more and more businesses are investing in software that will help them to manage enterprise documents and to improve business processes.

Business requires that document management systems are secure, scalable, and easily integrated. Integration issues are of particular concern since most businesses use a mixture of heterogeneous hardware and software systems. Moreover, enterprises are increasingly turning towards vendors who can offer a comprehensive document management package that includes features such as archiving, multiple source data capture, publishing, multiple format distribution capabilities, and a true web-based interface.

The Enterprise Content Management (ECM) market is explosive. A recent survey conducted of 750 medium to large US businesses indicated that 63% of those companies plan to increase their investments in ECM software over the next 12-18 months. Many available products exist on the market, including mature technologies such as Integrated Document Archival Systems (IDARS) and Distributed Output Management (DOM) systems that are already widely in use. However, much of this software was originally designed in an older IT environment, frequently from a systems or mainframe perspective. Additionally, it was conceived before the Internet, and consequently, it is often lacking in scope or capability. In an effort to satisfy market demands, IDARS and DOM vendors are now scrambling to introduce web-based solutions, and other features. The result until now has often been a lack of integration from one solution to the next, since additional pieces are tacked on to already existing older architectures.

PIREL is different. We have made the right choices at the right time, and these are now propelling us into this explosive ECM market. As a young company, we grew up with networks, the Internet, and security issues. We designed the PIREL EFS Server™ on an *n*-tier, client-server model using open standards and state of the art technologies that lead to easy scalability and integration with other systems. We recognized early that document management software needs to offer a web-based interface, and accordingly we built this into the design from the ground up. Consequently, the PIREL EFS Server™ is not a fragmented collection of different components that have been forced to work together, but rather an integrated document management package that maintains complete document integrity and provides an easy to use intuitive web-based interface.

Since 1994, PIREL has been developing quality printing and document management solutions for businesses in diverse industries - the financial, insurance, and educational sectors to name a few. We believe in maintaining long-standing business relationships, and proof of our success is our established customer base, which includes, among others, several of the top banks in North America. Since our inception, we have been developing and evolving along with our customers to produce real solutions in response to their business needs. At PIREL, we focus on what we do well: We produce high-calibre, web-accessible, secure, scalable, robust, and easily integrated software solutions that provide our customers with a fast return on investment.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Denis Pigeon".

Denis Pigeon
Founder & President