Agora 2.0
Content Management System

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The Agora system

Agora is wholly implemented in JAVA and thus can be used on any operating system. Data is imported and exported in open standards such as XML or structured PDF.

XML descriptions of the documents or digital objects form the basis of each Agora digital collection. The description defines the required structural elements and metadata. The Agora data model is open and has no hierarchical limitations.

This allows any number of collections to be presented and managed with any required structural elements and the appurtenant metadata. This freedom of scope in defining customised structures means that any conceivable type of document can be imaged.

A special feature is the highlighting in facsimile tool, which is used to process scanned documents with OCR and then store the full-text with the word positions on the image in the repository. This information is in turn used to clearly mark all located text positions in the digital facsimile.

Showcase digital collections online – easily and fast

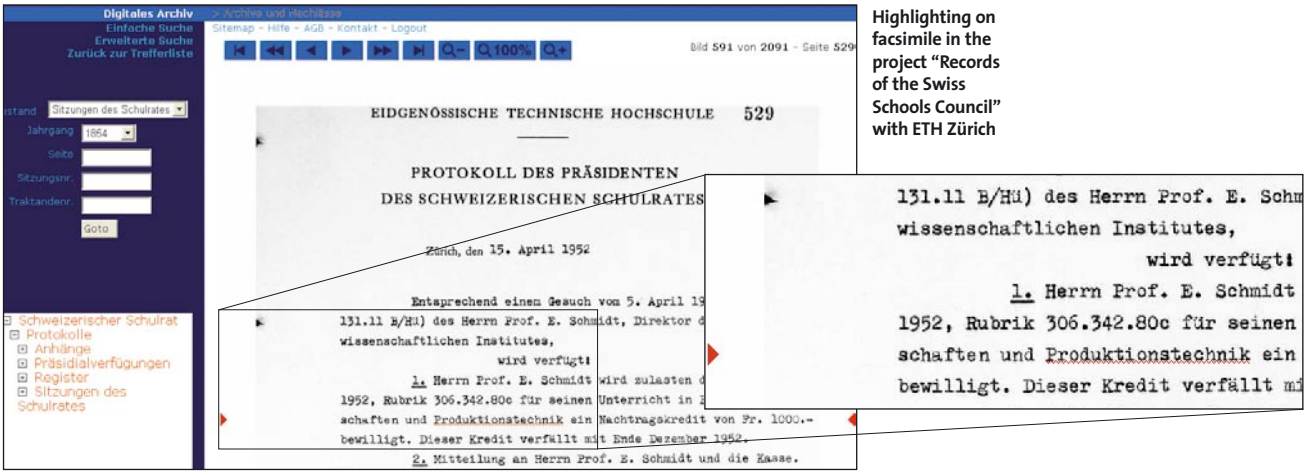
The Agora system modules

- The **Agora Repository** stores all object information such as full-text, structural data and metadata, and is indexed for rapid searching.
- The **Agora Server** forms the active middle layer between the online user and the system

- The **Agora Content Server** manages the locations of stored digital objects
- The **Agora Image Server** allows various data formats to be converted on the fly.
- The **Agora HTML Templates** for searching and displaying hits and metadata enables the online application to be adapted flexibly to the desired presentation form.
- The **Agora API** (Application Programming Interface) makes it possible to activate all the functions in the system from external applications. (e.g. OPAC)

New features:

- An **expanded data model,** which allows for even more flexibility and depth in describing everything from structures right down to parts of a digital object (e.g. abstracts, illustrations or marginalia)
- The **Agora Content Server** lets you save digital objects in any required file system, regardless of webservers and firewalls. It also ensures URLs to remain constant.
- The integration of the open-source full-text engine **Lucene** working together with the new Agora Repository performs an object storage function for extremely rapid access and supports Unicode (UTF-8)
- The expansion of the **Agora XML filter** supports further XML formats such as METS, MODS, TEI, NISO and MIX (see www.diglib.org) for import and export.
- The new **Agora Image Server** provides conversion of various image formats on-the-fly and facilitates quick and easy PDF download and print-out of images and strike lists



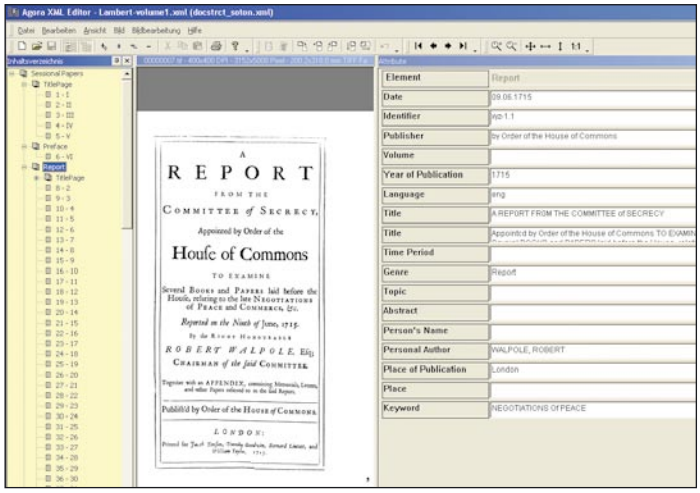
Highlighting on facsimile in the project "Records of the Swiss Schools Council" with ETH Zürich

The Agora tools

The Agora XML editor

is used to generate XML descriptions for import into the system via an intuitive graphic interface. It is supplied in a new, completely revised version:

- Data can be captured completely "mouse-free", using just the keyboard.
- Keyboard commands can be designated at will for each program function.
- Metadata captured by OCR on demand.
- Open for all image formats and naming conventions.



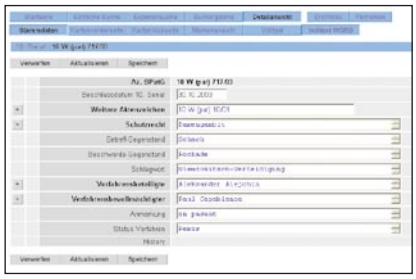
Capture of parliamentary papers in the Official Publications project office of the Hartley Library, University of Southampton

The Agora converter

- Generates a range of image formats and can process images automatically
- Interface to OCR engines with evaluation of the word position and generation of XML data for "highlighting in facsimile"
- Background processing

Agora online admin and capture

- Generation of new documents and metadata
- Management of existing documents



Online capture at the Federal Patents Court in Munich

The following organisations chose Agora 2.0 last year:

ETH Zürich: Their first project is the presentation of records from the Swiss Schools Council on the occasion of ETH's 150th anniversary.

SUB Hamburg: The first two projects here are the "Journal of the Hamburg History Association" and the presentation of old maps of Hamburg, antique large-format views of the city.

Hartley Library der University of Southampton: Agora is the chosen presentation system for „Official Publications", which is made up of several other projects, including developing access to parliamentary papers (around 1.75 million pages with stored full-text).

The Satz-Rechen-Zentrum

For over 35 years the Satz-Rechen-Zentrum has been responding to its customers' needs as a service provider for cross-media publishing. Comprehensive services relating to the digitalisation and capture of all kinds of documents were added to the company's service portfolio in the mid 80s.

And since the 90s, SRZ together with its expert partners has provided document and knowledge management systems that are precisely tailored to our customers' individual requirements.

Many years of experience as a service provider stand behind SRZ's development of professional system solutions for document scanning, capture and management: the **ProScan** product range and the **Agora** content management system.

Our company further offers services ranging from development and hosting for DMS and Internet applications in our data-processing centre and digital print runs right up to high-quality personalised digital colour printing.

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