



Xythos for Research

Research organizations today face challenges around the high volume of proprietary, sensitive documents and data that must be shared and reiterated among geographically-distributed teams and external collaborators. Most research organizations use email or FTP as the primary way of exchanging data, leading to duplication, rework and lost information. Xythos applications are helping universities, research labs and hospitals around the world to improve collaboration, manage and secure sensitive data, reduce duplication and errors, and increase grant funding by providing:

- A secure, auditable, web-based file repository with anywhere, anytime access;
- A simple, intuitive user interface that is easy for researchers to adopt; and
- Integrated document and records management features to track and preserve valuable research results.

Improve Grants Management and Technology Transfer

Xythos accelerates pre-grant collaboration at research organizations by providing workspaces for grant preparation. These workspaces provide file-level access control, auditing and email integration, so that researchers can be immediately notified when a new document is uploaded or an existing document is updated within a workspace. Xythos also offers automatic file versioning, eliminating confusion over what the latest version of a document is or where it is stored. Finally, workflow controls keep submissions on schedule with easy-to-use document routing, review and approval features.

For post-grant management, Xythos provides a secure, auditable workspace to store finished research reports and grant proposals. Important research results can be preserved according to institutional or federal guidelines with Xythos' DoD 5015.2-compliant records management features. As an integrated document and records management solution, Xythos offers a common storage repository for grant requests, historical proposals and document preparation artifacts.

Xythos also assists technology transfer when its time to move research out of the lab, Xythos' WebDAV-compliant server functions as a secure, web-enabled extranet for exchanging research-related content and technology with external partners. Instead of setting up an FTP site, research teams can securely exchange research results, software code and other digital assets—knowing they can be tracked and protected. Record retention and disposition rules can also be applied to any information stored within a Xythos system

“By deploying Xythos, Brigham and Women’s Hospital was able to more efficiently compete for grant proposals. Our institution alone will have received \$40 million in grant money over four years from grants prepared using Xythos.”

Dr. Michael Halle
*Director of Technology
Development, Brigham and
Women's Hospital*



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“The biggest advantage of [Xythos-powered] JShare is that email is taken out of the mix...we don’t have multiple copies of our product clogging and confusing the process.”

G. Steven Bova, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Pathology, Oncology, and Urology Joint Appointment in Health Sciences Informatics, Johns Hopkins University

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so that researchers can follow guidelines for how a research product can be held before it needs to be archived or terminated.

Speed Research Collaboration and Review

Xythos speeds research collaboration by providing a central, secure storage location for researchers to manage and exchange their files. Auditable document routing and approval features permit various collaborators to sign-off on documents in a review cycle. Institutions such as the University of Michigan Medical School, use Xythos to manage previously paper-intensive processes, such as MD and PhD admissions, scholar program applications, appointments and promotions, and compliance reviews. Xythos also offers records management features that allow organizations to comply with specific investigative protocols and government regulations.

Xythos delivers the collaboration tools investigators need right inside the applications they already know and use—reducing training requirements and accelerating the research process. Xythos Enterprise Document Manager utilizes open standards-based technologies including Java and WebDAV allowing virtually any application to safely access the Xythos document repository over the web. As a result, researchers can collaborate across the globe while continuing to use their own preferred systems.

Manage and Secure All Research Assets

Xythos provides a central repository to store all types of research information. All Xythos-managed information is automatically indexed and searchable for easy access and discovery—improving information visibility.

For research organizations, email is likely the weakest link in their communications networks—potentially exposing sensitive content within messages and file attachments being shared across vast networks. Xythos addresses this issue by automatically replacing file attachments with secure links. Used in combination with email products such as Lotus Notes or Microsoft Outlook, Xythos turns every attachment into a encrypted file that can be safely shared between organizations. External collaborators don't even need to have a Xythos account in order to safely read and edit content stored in Xythos.

Xythos was designed to leverage existing standards for system authentication and security—making it easy to integrate it into an organization's current applications and network infrastructure.

Customer Spotlight: Surgical Planning Lab at Brigham and Women’s Hospital

Since 2003, Xythos has managed large NIH grants at the Surgical Planning Lab (SPL) of the Brigham and Women’s Hospital. The activities of 200 SPL researchers, administrators and staff and 600 external collaborators are coordinated through secure folders with sharing, logging and versioning of grant proposal documents, including sensitive budget and biosketch information.

As a result, SPL has attributed \$40 million in new grants to using Xythos to collaborate on large proposals involving distributed teams of up to 50 investigators, administrators, editors and researchers. According to Michael Halle PhD, Director of Technology Development, Xythos enables SPL to work on “national-scale grants that wouldn't otherwise be possible.”