



## ENTERPRISE REPORT MANAGEMENT

Report Data Mining Platform  
Digital Content Asset Manager

## PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

*webFiche, Inc.*  
31 Hasbrouck Drive,  
Franklin Park, NJ 08823

Phone: (732) 821-6437

E-Mail: [info@webFiche.com](mailto:info@webFiche.com)

[www.webFiche.com](http://www.webFiche.com)

---

## Table of Contents

1. OVERVIEW.....	1
2. BUSINESS REQUIREMENT .....	1
3. THE <i>WEBFICHE</i> SOLUTION .....	2
▪ DATA ACCESS AND NAVIGATION .....	2
Navigation by Report/Asset Name .....	2
Navigation by Report/Asset Date .....	3
▪ REPORT DATA MINING FUNCTIONS .....	3
View.....	3
Print.....	3
Annotation .....	3
Export to Spreadsheet .....	3
Index Access .....	4
Recall Patterns.....	4
Complex Search/Search Control .....	4
▪ OUTPUT CONTROL.....	5
Output Range Selection.....	5
Output Format.....	5
Output Data Selection.....	5
▪ HARVESTING .....	6
“Pull Mechanism” .....	6
Legally Compliant Archive Data Repository .....	6
▪ ADMINISTRATION.....	7
Core System Administrator Components.....	7
Security / Access Control .....	8
4. HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS .....	8

---

## 1. OVERVIEW

*WebFiche* is a secure, internet/intranet based data mining and archiving solution that permits users to efficiently manage vital information. By providing web browser access to critical data in real time, *webFiche* delivers a tremendous value proposition enabling users to maximize essential information assets. *WebFiche* is a powerful platform that goes way beyond the storage, retrieval, viewing and data extraction of text based business reports; *WebFiche* also provides online access, archival storage and retrieval of any format digital content including data, image, video, audio and rich media file types. *WebFiche* can afford your business a competitive advantage by increased customer satisfaction, improved employee productivity and reduced development time. A typical *webFiche* implementation generates a return on investment (ROI) in less than 8 months. *WebFiche* is the most cost efficient, powerful, enterprise digital content data mining tool available anywhere in the world.

## 2. BUSINESS REQUIREMENT

The need to access critical business information on a timely basis is universal. A business that currently produces and stores vital reports on paper, COLD (Computer Output to Laser Disk) or fiche/film can benefit from *webFiche*'s ability to eliminate the need for this output and provide authorized users with an online report mining solution. Today, legacy systems produce paper transaction ledger reports, customer statements, voluminous data binders and executive level reports, to name a just few. It is inefficient to access the valuable information housed in these paper reports due to the nature of managing printed-paper. In all cases the reports must be printed, post processed (bursting, binding, collating, etc.) and delivered to the user or information client. The printing and distribution of legacy reports is an expensive process due to the cost of paper, printers, printer maintenance, printing supplies, report delivery, and report storage. The process is slow, spanning days, or in some cases weeks, often making the delivered report obsolete and the information asset less valuable. One key benefit from a *webFiche* solution is the enhancement of your businesses most valuable asset:

---

Information. The value of businesses information is difficult to quantify, yet we know it is immeasurable; without timely access to critical information most businesses will fail.

### **3. THE WEBFICHE SOLUTION**

*WebFiche* is a web server based application that requires no modification to the existing systems that generate report data or digital content. *WebFiche* automatically harvests data and digital content from any system on an enterprise network and instantly makes that information available online to authorized information clients. Users simply point their browser (MS Internet Explorer or Netscape) to the *webFiche* server and log on for immediate access to enterprise reports and digital content. This elegant solution does not require any change to your established applications and does not require any software to be installed on users desktops. And, *webFiche* can usually be installed in just one or two days. There are three main functional components of a *webFiche* platform, Data Access and Navigation, Data/Digital Content Harvesting, and System Administration.

#### **▪ DATA ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

Reports and digital content assets are automatically organized into easy to access, hierarchical virtual folders defined by the *webFiche* administrator. This virtual folder concept was developed by *webFiche* and gives the administrator an efficient method to define authorized user access to data reports/digital content assets. *WebFiche* offers the user two distinct modes of navigation, by report/asset name and by report/asset date.

#### **Navigation by Report/Asset Name**

This mode allows the user to select a report/asset name from any authorized virtual folder. *WebFiche* then presents the user with a calendar of dates that report/asset is available. Just click on a date to access that report/asset. When done simply go back a page and choose another date to view that report/asset. This is most useful when investigating a report/asset over several different dates, which could actually span years.

---

## **Navigation by Report/Asset Date**

This mode allows the user to choose a date and *webFiche* presents a list of the reports/assets within a virtual folder for that date. Click on a report/asset name to access. When done go back a page and choose another report/asset to access for the same date. This is extremely useful when investigating different reports for a specific date.

### **▪ REPORT DATA MINING FUNCTIONS**

After a report is selected and displayed *webFiche* enables the following powerful report data mining capabilities:

#### **View**

View selected report pages. Enter the page numbers that you want displayed. Select Page Calculation Option Exact and click View to see the selected pages.

#### **Print**

Select a printer Queue and click on Print button. The pages currently selected in the View frame are printed.

#### **Annotation**

Each line on a report can be annotated. Each annotation is tagged with the user name, date and the folder from within which it was annotated. This allows users of a particular folder to communicate with one another. Annotations cannot be modified. Annotated reports are identified on the folder screen by a flag. This option is available only in view by Date mode. Annotations are maintained separately and the report remains unchanged.

#### **Export to Spreadsheet**

This is another very powerful feature of *webFiche*. *WebFiche* has the built in intelligence to analyze the reports for tabular data. Based upon this analysis, *webFiche* formats the output into a CSV (Comma Separated Values) file and passes it to the browser. If the

---

browser is running on a windows system, then, MS Excel is invoked providing the user with a spreadsheet output. On non-windows systems a prompt appears asking to save the CSV file. Again the user controls the amount of data formatted into a CSV file by choosing the pages to view. Users can also specify that repeating header lines not be extracted. All pages displayed in the current view are converted to a CSV file.

## **Index Access**

Most reports have a very logical structure. For example a customer account statement has the customer account number on each page of the statement. By identifying a key field or key fields (customer account number etc.), indices can be built for reports such as customer account number, dollar amounts, customer name, etc. Users can quickly view portions of the report identified by an index value. This is especially useful for large reports containing many thousands of pages. *WebFiche* also allows the administrator to restrict a users access to select index values. This means a user can only view pages of the report pertaining to their authorized indices.

## **Recall Patterns**

Generally, each user looks for specific information on the same reports over and over again. More than 80% of the time the search criteria is always the same. *WebFiche* users can save this search criteria information and recall it during subsequent searches in the report. This saves the user time and increases accuracy by preventing input errors. Search patterns are saved for specific folders. Users authorized to access a specific report can share the search patterns. Each user owns the search patterns they have created and only that user can modify or delete his/her pattern, although others can use it.

## **Complex Search/Search Control**

Complex Search is an extremely powerful data mining function within *webFiche*, and gives extraordinary ability to accurately search and extract data. There are three different search modes available:

---

(1) Search text, date range and amount/number range on one report line. In this mode the user can search for, up to 4 fields, using logical operators AND, OR, EQ (=), LT (<) and GT (>), which provides for a large number of combinations of data fields to search. This gives the user the ability to more accurately extract the needed data.

(2) Search text on one line and text, date range and amount/number range on a second report line spaced up to 6 lines from the first line.

(3) Search for up to 7 text fields on a single report line.

## ▪ **OUTPUT CONTROL**

The user is provided with powerful options to control how the searched report data output is presented.

### **Output Range Selection**

The user controls whether *webFiche* presents all the pages where the search match was found or a single page at a time. If the user prefers, *webFiche* will point to where the search match result was found and the user can then view the report from that point on.

### **Output Format**

The format control allows the user to flip trailing negative sign, a very useful tool when translating a report to a spreadsheet. The user can also choose to view annotation on the search output.

### **Output Data Selection**

This is another powerful option, where the user can choose to view the entire page or just the lines that contained the search data. The user then has the option to view search data

---

moving forward or backward, print the search data or output the selected search data to a spreadsheet.

## ▪ **HARVESTING**

### **“Pull Mechanism”**

*WebFiche* has developed a powerful data collection capability we call harvesting. The harvesting component completely automates the process of obtaining data reports/digital content files from any host system including AS400, UNIX Platforms [Solaris, True64, Linux etc.], OpenVMS, Legacy Mainframes, and MS Windows.

The harvesting component uses a “pull mechanism” utilizing sophisticated scheduling algorithms to fetch the reports/digital content files from host systems. Use of this pull mechanism eliminates any requirement to make changes to the host system processes or current procedures. Alternatively, to satisfy certain highly secure environment requirements, the reports/digital content files may be dropped onto a neutral server or transmitted to specific locations on the *WebFiche* server. *WebFiche* then harvests the reports/files without ever interacting directly with secure production systems.

*WebFiche* is capable of harvesting any file type from the host systems. The administrator specifies the file type of each file that is being harvested. Data report print files are processed for elimination of null characters that will distort the report display. The browser processes other files based on the file type, respective plug-ins and rich media applications are required to access various other file types.

### **Legally Compliant Archive Data Repository**

*WebFiche* provides a legally compliant archive repository with CD-R or other optical disk storage capability that meets regulatory requirements for long-term records



---

retention. The compression algorithms used by *webFiche* allow for cost efficient on-line retention of data on magnetic disk providing instant access to historical data while also providing the capability to write archival data to unalterable CD-R or other optical disk media for legal records retention compliance. The system administrator defines the retention period for data and the frequency of data backup and output to CD-R or other optical media. *WebFiche* can be set to automatically remove data older than set retention timeframes efficiently utilizing storage media.

## ▪ ADMINISTRATION

### Core System Administrator Components

This component provides the required functionality to efficiently and effectively manage the *webFiche* platform. System administration functions are performed from the system administrators browser allowing a *webFiche* server to be administered remotely providing for round the clock support capability anywhere in the world. Following is a list of key Administrator functions:

- Calendar Administration – for recording holidays
- CD Archive Administration –for managing output to CD-R or other optical disk
- Disk Administration – for managing storage environment
- Folder Administration – for creating virtual folders and defining user access
- Harvesting Administration – for defining parameters of source nodes
- Harvest Request – for launching “pull mechanism” one time or scheduled
- Index Administration – for building indexes and authorizing user access
- License Administration – for managing *webFiche* purchased licenses
- Remote Node Administration – for maintaining access information
- Restore Request – for managing predefined requests

- 
- User And Password Administration – for maintaining user access rights
  - Online User Count – for a snapshot of system usage

## **Security / Access Control**

*WebFiche* is designed to operate in highly secure environments. As such great care has been taken to provide strict controls over which users are able to access specific reports/digital content asset files. The virtual folder concept employs multiple levels of security by controlling which users have access to specific files. A user is identified upon login with password and username ID. Direct access is provided to the files by organizing them into customized virtual folders. The system administrator will define authorization rights by user granting access to specific virtual folders. Generally, individual users only need to access a small percentage of the files. The system administrator can define virtual folders comprised of files specific to individual users or user groups giving users the ability to quickly access any of the files that are essential to perform their tasks. Accessing any file is made very simple. Choose a mode, by name or by date, choose a virtual folder or date and choose a file to access. All this is done through the browser by point and click operation. This access methodology provides the high level of security required in many environments.

## **4. HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS**

*WebFiche* is an extremely flexible software solution that can run on a wide range of different hardware platforms. The *webFiche* application runs as a web server and can reside on a shared server platform or on dedicated web server appliances. The only requirements are that the hardware platform is connected to the network, run UNIX or Linux OS and has Apache web server and Perl script language installed. An Intel PC is a typical minimum configuration. Configuration assistance is provided by *webFiche*.