

Ariel 4.0 New Features

History

- Ariel® for Windows® was first developed by RLG in 1994
- Ariel has been functional and vital for over 10 years, without a major code overhaul
- Infotrieve has re-written and re-architected the Ariel product from the ground up
- During the two years that Infotrieve has owned and managed Ariel, they have collected enhancement requests and prioritized according to customer input.

Networking Capabilities

- Network multiple Ariel workstations
- Share patron and address lists for all networked Ariel workstations
- Load balance between Ariel workstations

Advanced Image and Scanning Capabilities

- Ability to batch import multiple documents/images into the archive, send or delivery queues.
- Option to use either Ariel's scan dialog or manufacturer's scanner specific dialog

Improved Patron Functionality

- Ability to forward received document to requesting patron without intervention
- "Send to Patron" directly after scanning
- Infotrieve developed a tutorial to manage the patron delivery setup process which should encourage institutions to use this improved functionality.

Enhanced Security

- 'Store and retrieve' functionality

This includes 'Store and Retrieve' functionality. Using Infotrieve's store and retrieve server, Ariel stations will no longer need any inbound ports open through the firewall. This improves infrastructure security and reduces the risk of attack from the outside world.

In addition, Ariel now supports SMTP authentication for more secure e-mail transmissions.

- Support for SMTP authentication

Ariel 4.1 Update

Compatibility

- at ALA and on the listservs, Infotrieve received feedback that backwards compatibility between Ariel 4 and previous versions is a very important workflow consideration for Ariel users.
- their technical development team has engineered a way to make Ariel 4 backwards compatible with previous versions of Ariel. This means that you will be able to send and receive from Ariel 4.1 to Ariel versions 2.x and 3.x.
- Should be available in the coming weeks.
- This "patch" will be labeled as Ariel 4.1 and will be FREE to all 4.0 users.
- There will be NO NEED for a global upgrade cutover schedule and no need for a compatibility patch to Ariel 3.4.
- In anticipation of this, we are currently accepting orders for Ariel 4.0 so that all institutions can install 4.0 and 4.1 at the same time.
- Infotrieve recommends that no one install 4.0 until the 4.1 patch is available and that 4.0 and the 4.1 patch be installed at the same time.
- In the coming fiscal (Year 5), the NER will be exploring with the RAC Resource Sharing Committee the feasibility of making a bulk purchase of the Ariel 4.1 for the membership. The NER is considering submitting a proposal to NLM in the coming year for approval.

Integration with ILLManager, VDX and ILLiad

- Infotrieve will be addressing the issue of integration with the RLG's ILLManager, Freywell Downing's VDX and OCLC's ILLiad. They hope to maintain a level of integration consistent with the Ariel 3.4 experience. A patch to Ariel will be required to ensure integration with ILL Manager and VDX.
- Infotrieve has been working jointly with Atlas/OCLC to maintain the current level of integration between ILLiad and Ariel 4. This allows Ariel 4 users to continue importing requests into the Electronic Delivery screen in ILLiad. This integration will be available in an ILLiad client release after version 7. Please contact OCLC for further details.

Technical Support

- Technical support for Ariel versions 3.01 and 3.3 will be retired on December 31, 2005. Technical support for version 2.x was retired on March 31, 2003. Ariel versions 3.4 and higher will continue to receive free technical support.