

## KnowledgeTree Case Study - Kontron America

### *World Leading Manufacturer of Embedded Devices Meets 'Best of Breed' Document Management*

**Kontron America, a leading manufacturer of embedded devices, selects KnowledgeTree to replace its old-line proprietary document management system**

Kontron America is the US-based subsidiary of Kontron AG, one of the largest manufacturers of embedded devices in the world. As Kontron America's business grew in volume and complexity the company's legacy document management system wasn't able to keep pace. The system was needed to support the company's ISO 9001 quality management system and provide a repository for marketing information and general paperwork. Kontron selected KnowledgeTree to replace the legacy system and as of mid-2007 entered their second year of subscribing to the product.

#### **Old Proprietary Document Management System Not Up To Modern Demands**

Kontron's workforce needed access to the central document management server from remote offices. The old-line proprietary document management system was not a thin-client web application and therefore wasn't easily accessible over Kontron's corporate virtual private network.

Additionally, the document management server resided on an aging hardware and operating system platform that was rapidly becoming expensive to maintain.

Upgrading to the newest software offering produced by the legacy document management system vendor was going to be very expensive.

#### **KnowledgeTree Provides Simple Yet Powerful Solution**

Kontron's IT team downloaded KnowledgeTree Open Source Edition at no cost, and after a simple install, were able to test out the application's functionality.

The team determined that KnowledgeTree provided all the document management features that Kontron required: a simple yet powerful document management repository, a system that was easy to install on their standardized Windows 2003 Server platform, Web Services interfaces and a true web-based, thin-client user interface.



#### **Kontron AG**

<http://www.kontron.com>

**Founded:** 1962

**Headquarters:** Eching, Germany

**Number of employees:** 2300

**Annual Revenue:** Over €300 million

#### **Major Business Activity:**

Kontron is a world-leading manufacturer of embedded computer systems.

"KnowledgeTree is easy to setup, is easy to administer and easy for my colleagues to use. We've been very impressed with the product's features, open source community and, of course, stability"

#### **Rick Schulze**

Director of IT

Kontron America

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Pleased with both KnowledgeTree's feature set and price performance, Kontron America decided to purchase the KnowledgeTree Enterprise Edition product

### **KnowledgeTree Well Supported and Cleverly Architected**

KnowledgeTree is built on the popular Apache, MySQL and PHP (AMP) open source application server and database environment. AMP provides a rock-solid environment for cross-platform applications, allowing KnowledgeTree to run on a wide number of operating systems including Microsoft Windows and a variety of Linux distributions.

As a result of the popularity of the AMP environment and KnowledgeTree itself, Kontron was not only able to get support for KnowledgeTree from the KnowledgeTree professional support team but was also able to find easily a developer community that was capable of customizing and extending KnowledgeTree.

Additionally, KnowledgeTree's clever architecture allowed for easy integration with Kontron's Microsoft Active Directory authentication and authorization infrastructure, despite the company's complex organizational structure.

Kontron America, a subsidiary company of Kontron AG, designs, manufactures and markets products under the Kontron label worldwide to a diversified customer base in the communications, automation, mobile, medical, military, aerospace, test and measurement, and encryption security markets.

### **Key Document Management Requirements**

Support for company's ISO 9001 quality management system, remote access, customization, integration with existing authentication and authorization infrastructure, easy to use.

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### **About KnowledgeTree**

KnowledgeTree™ is document management made simple: easily secure, share, track and manage the documents and records your organization depends on.

By leveraging an active and innovative open source community, KnowledgeTree provides an easy to use and production-ready enterprise document management solution for use by corporations, government institutions, medium to small business and many other organizations. KnowledgeTree's open source architecture allows organizations to easily customise and integrate their document management system with their existing infrastructure, providing a more flexible, cost-effective alternative to proprietary applications.