



# **SENTRYFILE**

*Technical Explanation and Summary*

## Software Platform

SentryFile is a web-based document system written as a set of Active Server Pages (ASP). The software runs on Microsoft Internet Information Server (IIS) version 4.0 and 5.0. IIS version 4.0 is available in the Windows NT Option Pack CD-ROM that ships with Windows NT 4.0 Server. IIS version 5.0 is included with Windows 2000 Professional and Server. The Microsoft Index Server provides full-text searching capabilities. This software is also included with Windows NT 4.0 and Windows 2000.

Client computers access the system using Microsoft Internet Explorer version 5.5 or later. If your client PC's already have Internet Explorer installed then there is no requirement to install additional client software. Simply provide your staff with a URL that points to your SentryFile server. All client workstations can scan documents to the system directly through Internet Explorer with an ActiveX control. This control provides imaging and Twain capabilities that would normally not be available in a web application.

## Users, Groups and Integration

SentryFile can authenticate users against your Windows NT/2000 domain controller. This is achieved by removing the "anonymous" access option for the SentryFile application within IIS and setting the authentication scheme to "NT Challenge/Response". More is discussed about this topic in the Administrator's Manual.

Alternatively, SentryFile can maintain it's own user list. This is useful in situations where a NT/2000 domain is not available.

## Document Types / Data Storage

Documents that are uploaded to the system are stored in their native format as flat files within the file system. They are not encapsulated within a database. All index data entered is stored in a Microsoft Access or Microsoft SQL Server based database depending on the scope of the project. Both are non-proprietary and all data within the database is left in its natural state (no encoding of the data values).

Tiff documents that are uploaded to the system can be converted to PDF format. There are administrative options within SentryFile that can allow you to auto-convert to PDF, make PDF conversion optional, or disable PDF conversion completely. Scanned document can also be recognized by our integrated Optical Character Recognition (OCR) engine. This will allow you to full-text search for documents that have been scanned and OCR'd.

## Full-Text Search

Microsoft Index Server provides full-text search. Index Server works in the background with little or no administrative interaction required. Essentially, Index Server “watches” all documents within SentryFile. When new documents arrive they are indexed for full-text searching. Natively supported formats are all Microsoft Office Formats such as Word (DOC), Excel (XLS), and PowerPoint (PPT) etc. Other file types can be supported by installing appropriate IFilters. IFilters are typically provided by third parties free of charge. For instance, Adobe provides a free IFilter for indexing PDF documents with Index Server. IFilters are available for a wide range of other products included Corel WordPerfect, XML, MP3 and more.

## OCR Support

Beyond our integrated OCR engine, SentryFile supports almost all third party OCR packages. Some of these packages work on the server-side such as Adobe Capture Server. Others work on the client side such as Textbridge, Omnipage and FineReader. Server-side OCR packages can be tightly integrated within SentryFile by using the “Process Folders” option. This option essentially places uploaded document within a specific folder where the OCR engine can pick them up and process them. More is discussed in the Administrator’s manual.

## Backups

SentryFile can integrate within almost any backup system. SentryFile resides within a folder typically called “c:\sentryfile” or similar. To backup the system simply include the installation folder within your backup regime. Many current customers use technologies such as Tape backups, DVD backups, Network Attached Storage (NAS) and removable hard disk technologies to achieve their backup requirements.

## Internet Connectivity

Your SentryFile installation can be made available on the Internet if you choose. Many of our clients prefer to have their installation only available on their private LAN. Making your SentryFile installation available over the Internet requires a full-time dedicated Internet Connection. After this, it is necessary to ensure that the IP address is available through any firewalls or gateways installed within your organization. SentryFile supports secure 128-bit encrypted connections, commonly used in e-commerce and online banking applications. In order to achieve this it is necessary to install a digital certificate within IIS, they can be purchased through companies such as Verisign, or you can generate one yourself.

## Ask Us!

If you have further questions about the architecture of SentryFile please contact us! We’re more than pleased to help in any way. Email our tech support team: [support@sentryfile.com](mailto:support@sentryfile.com), or visit us online at [www.sentryfile.com](http://www.sentryfile.com)