Final Presentation

By: WPI Postal Team Students - Shivaani, Ian, Viren and Alopa

About our Project

- Recommend the best Collection Management Systems (CMSs) for The Postal Museum
- Interview & "Think-Aloud" staff to develop evaluative criteria
- Narrow down list of 25 systems to 3

Methods

- Evaluative Criteria
- Narrow down CMSs

Evaluative Criteria

Primary	Secondary
Supports archive and museum collections	Budget: £6,500 - £10,000 per year
Web-based	Single collections can be stored in multiple locations
ISAD(G) and Spectrum compliant	Integrated Online catalogue
Proper hierarchy system for archives	User friendly
Capable of loan management	
Customisable conservation fields	

Back to Agenda Page

The Narrowing Down Process

25 to 10

The top 10 all cater to both museum and archive collections

10 to 5

The top 5 fit all primary criteria

5 to 3

The top 3 fit all of the primary criteria and most of the secondary criteria. We reached out to CMS providers to make an informed decision

Findings

- Report Cards
- Survey + Results

axiell

Pricing

- £5100 one-time upfront cost
  - setup fee, training (up to 8 attendees), and internet server configuration
  - £1000/day migration
- Annual cost
  - licensing and online catalog
  - £18500 for 10 concurrent licenses

Support

Email:

- sales-alm@axiell.com

Website:
https://www.axiell.com/solutions/product/axiell-collections/

Features

Pros

- Axiell has the best support for this system
- Open API
- Can export data to Excel
- Generates flexible and automated reports
- Media can be viewed in high quality
- Can manage user permissions

Cons

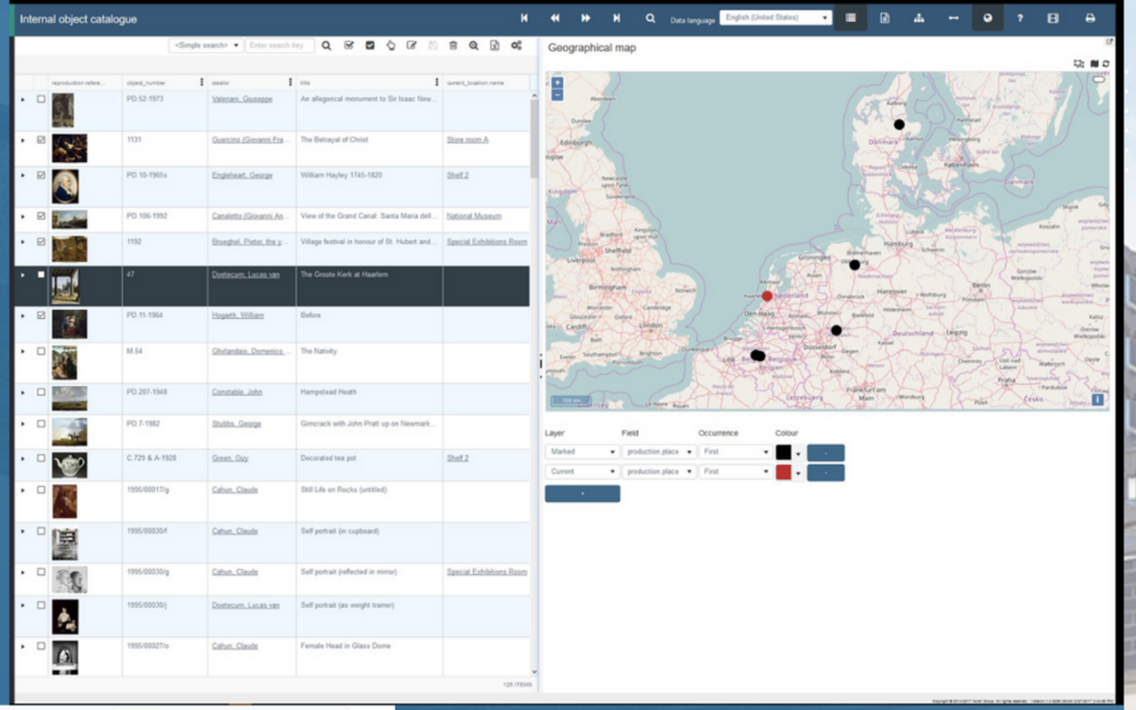
- Beyond the budget range

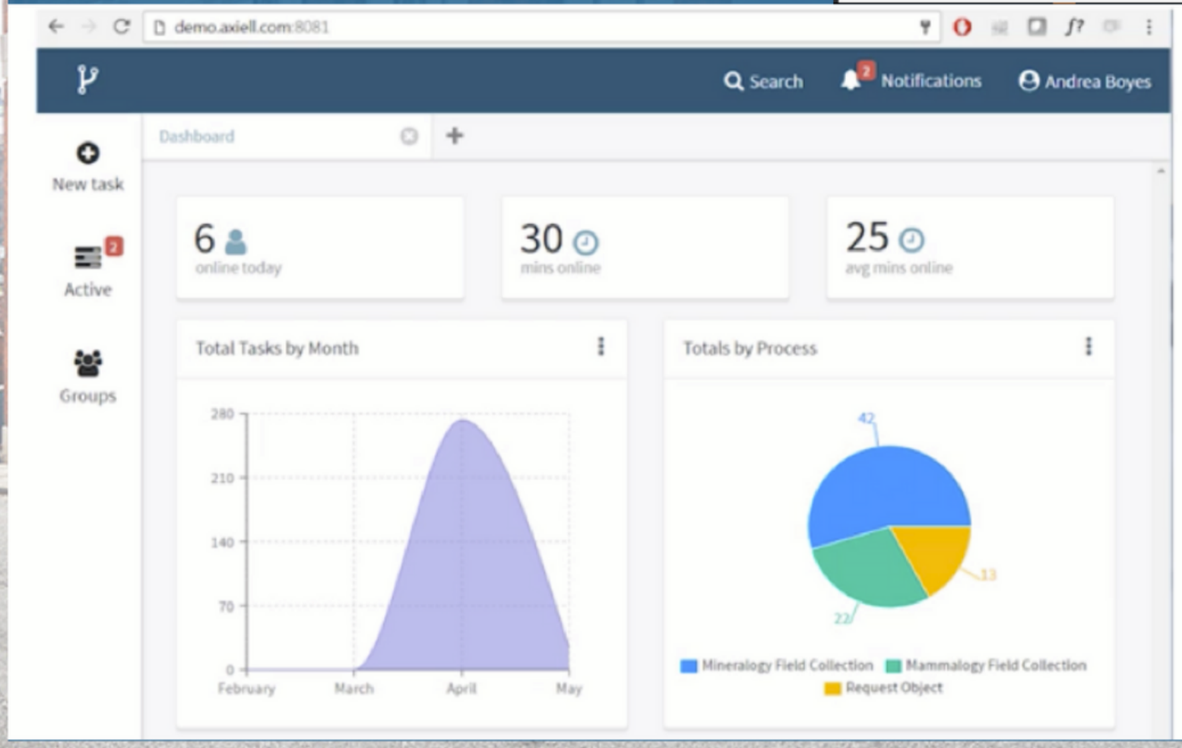
Criteria

Support archive and museum collections	☑
Web-based	☑
ISAD(G) and Spectrum compliant	☑
Hierarchy for archives	☑
Loan management	☑
Budget range £6,500 - £10,000	☐
Single objects can be stored in multiple locations	☑
Online catalogue integration	☑
Customisable conservation fields	☑
User friendly	☑

axiell

Dashboard





Content/Record

PAST PERFECT
MUSEUM SOFTWARE

Pricing

-£2565 for the first year
- £985 for installation
- £595 for the public access package
- £985 for annual hosting (includes licensing, maintenance, and support)

£1580 for each year after

Support

Email:
- support@museumsoftware.com

Website:
museumsoftware.com/webedition.html

Features

Pros
- Great technical support
- Inexpensive
- Supports Barcode Printing
- Automatic backups every night

Cons
- Based in the US
  - Technical support may be a challenge due to time difference
- Has a main and temporary location

Criteria

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Web-based	☑
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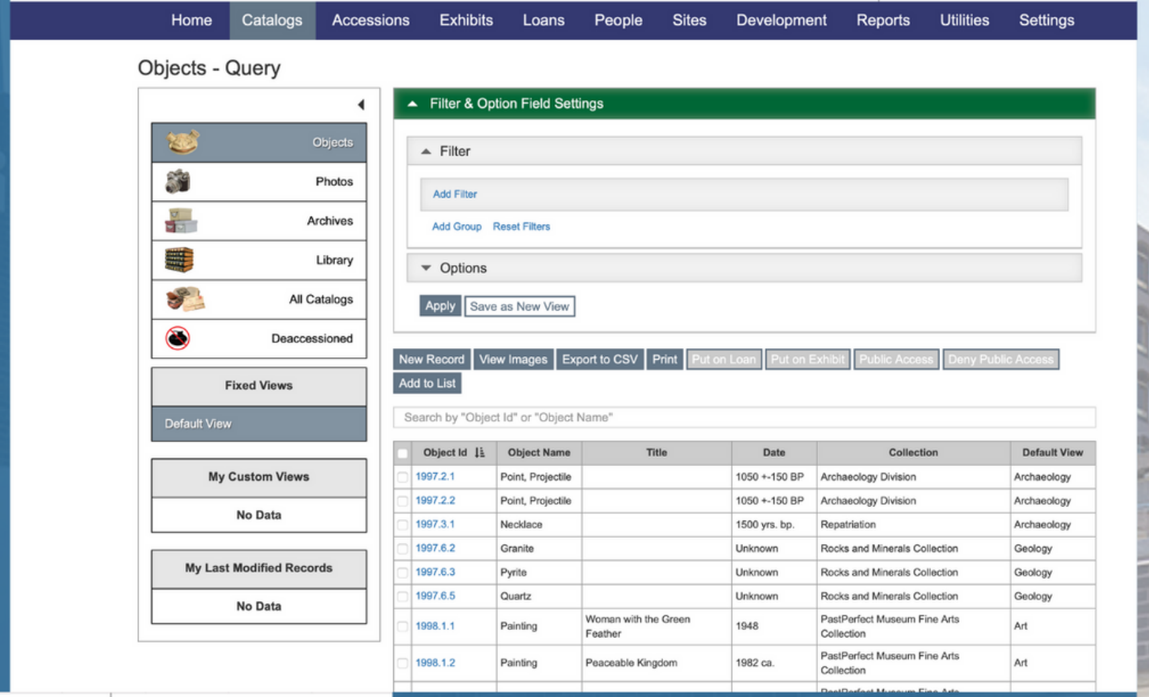

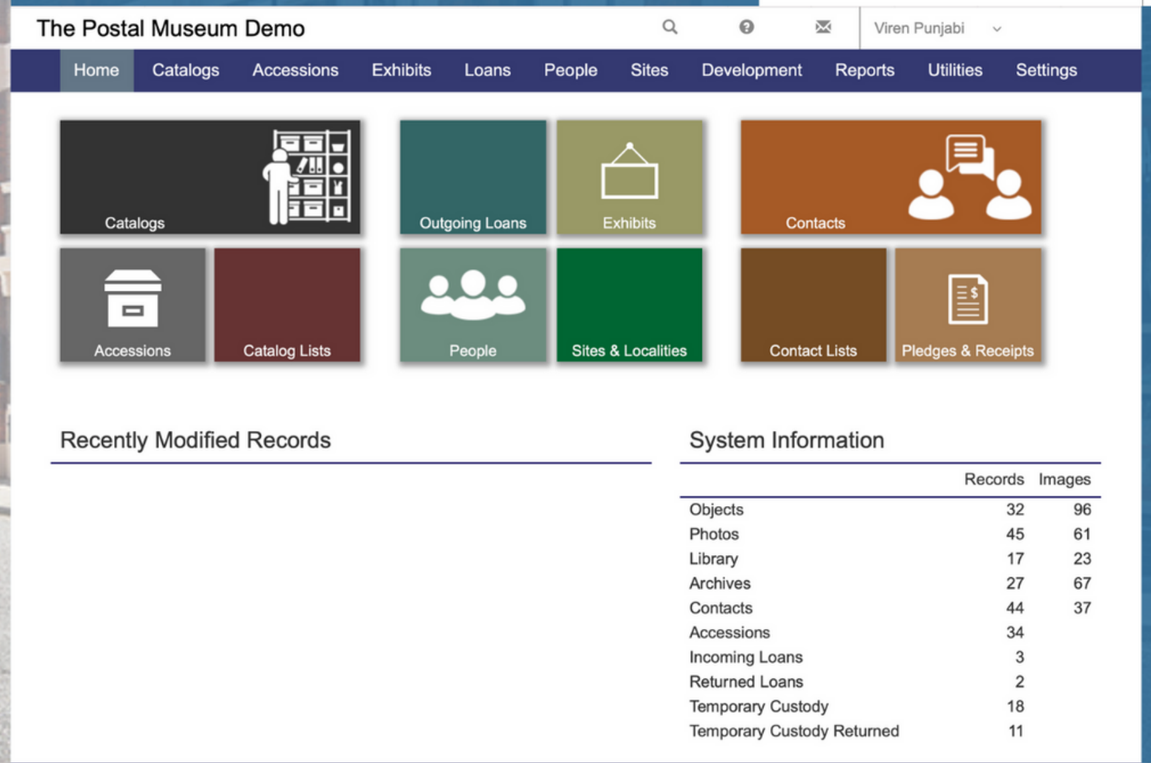

Content/Record

Keepthinking® / Q

Pricing

- £8000 per year
  - unlimited licenses, maintenance, and updates
  - 100 GB storage
- Does not include data migration

Support

Email:

- sales@keepthinking.it
- developer@keepthinking.it

Website: https://www.qi-cms.com/

Features

Pros

- Unlimited licenses
- Customisable search fields
- Uploads over 400 file formats
- Support for SSO & MFA
- IIIF Ready
  - High-resolution images
- Able to grant user permission to specific departments

Cons

- On the higher end of the budget

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Keepthinking® / Q

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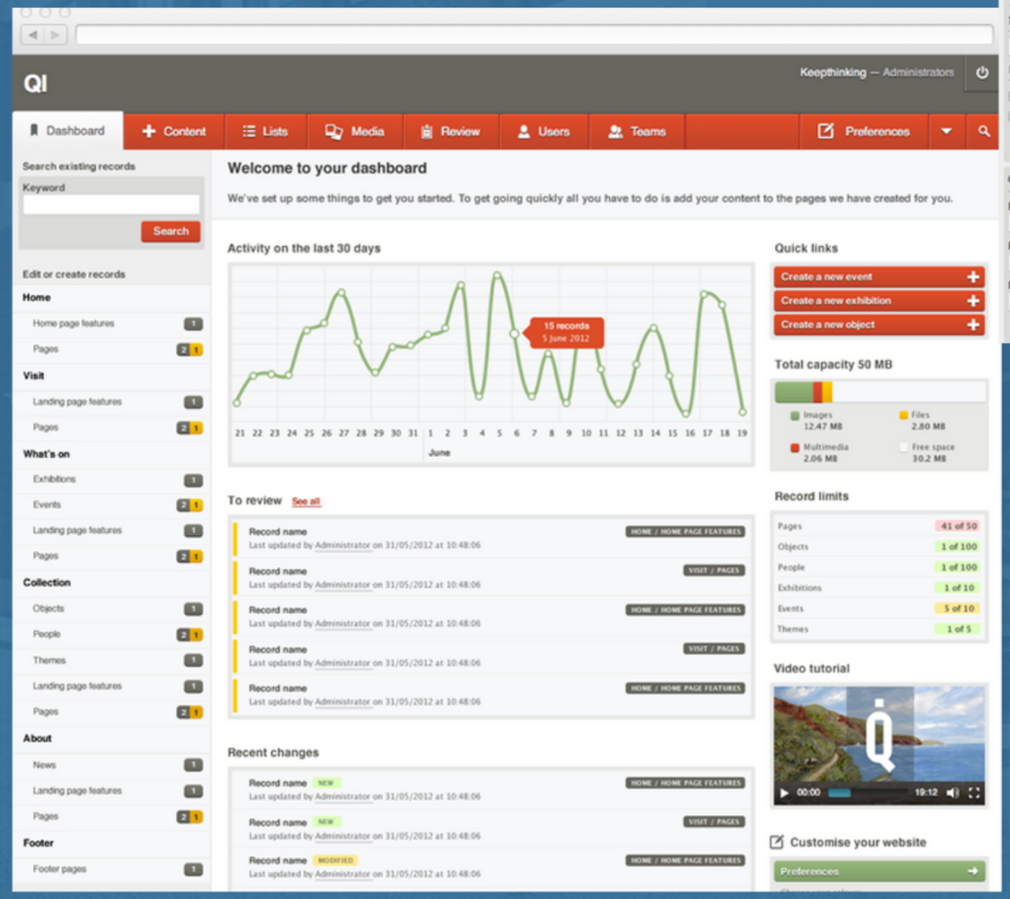
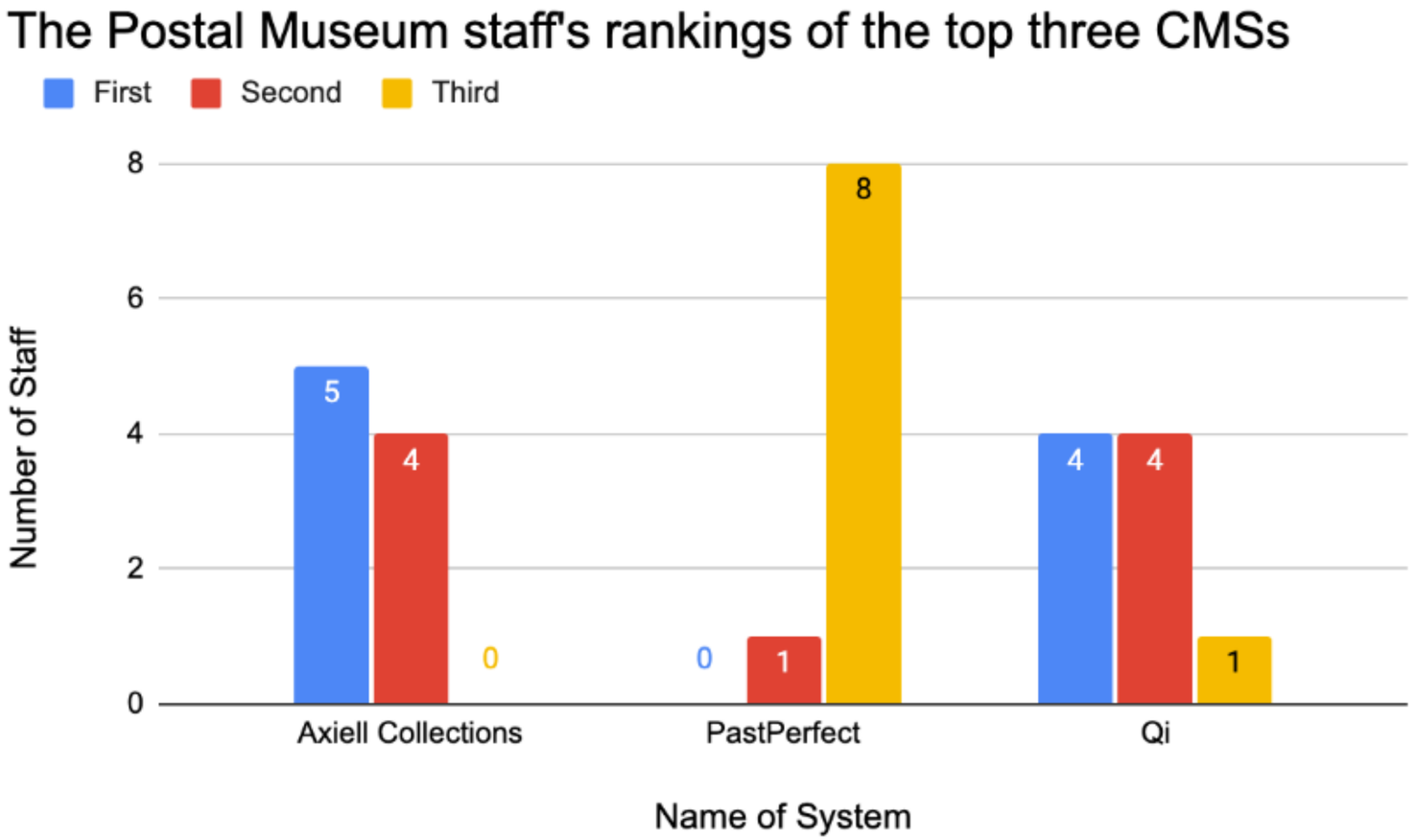


Content/Record

Survey Results



Staff concerns

- Axiell Collections: Price
- PastPerfect: US-based
- Qi: Unfamiliar (archive knowledge)

Conclusion

- Choose between Axiell Collections and Qi
  - Axiell Collections has a more familiar brand, but costs more
  - Qi is a more economic alternative, and still meets staff needs

The Postal Museum

Thank you!

Thank you to our host Rose Brown and TPM staff that took the time to help with our project. Thank you to John-Michael Davis and Jason Davis, our advisors, for guidance throughout the project.