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Questia the Online Library

- The world's largest online library of over 45,000 books and 360,000 journal, magazine, and newspaper articles
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Questia Overview:

Questia, based in Houston, Texas is the first website that provides 24/7 access to the world's largest online collection of books and journal articles in the humanities and social sciences, plus magazine and newspaper articles. This rich, scholarly content -- selected by professional collection development librarians -- is not available elsewhere on the Internet. Undergraduate, high school, graduate students, and Internet users of all ages have found Questia to be an invaluable online resource. Questia provides a comprehensive research environment to meet students' academic needs with more than 45,000 books (13.5 million pages), 360,000 articles (1.5 million pages), and almost 2 million images available for viewing.

The Challenge:

Questia was looking to offer added value and additional features to their library members. Adding interactive zoom and pan functionality to almost 2 million static images was the goal. It was very important that this feature be offered without any plug-in downloads and be accessible to low bandwidth users. Furthermore, with over 100,000 unique visitors per day during the school year Questia needed an Enterprise Solution that could handle this load.

Solution:

Upon investigation of the Image Server marketplace, and testing various Image Server solutions, Questia selected the iseemedia Zoom Image Server which provided the most bandwidth efficient, scalable, and plug-in less solution available in the market. The Universal Viewer, which works with any web browser and requires no client-side installation was chosen as the client viewer.

Results:

- Installation of the Zoom Image Server for the production environment completed within a few hours
- Enriched media experience for Questia monthly subscribers
- Robust, scalable solution that can handle Enterprise level traffic patterns

Key Technologies:

- iseemedia Zoom Image Server Enterprise Edition
- Sun E220 Hardware (1GB RAM; 2CPU)
- Sun Solaris 8 Operating System
- iseemedia Universal Viewer



The Bottom Line:

“iseemedia’s Zoom Image Server solution allows our users to instantly enhance their online learning experience by being able to zoom and pan the subject image materials that they are researching. The product was easy to integrate into our infrastructure and we are very pleased with it’s performance in meeting our web traffic demands.” **Jim Hallers – VP Technical Operations, Questia Media**