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Almis International
Bespoke Node.JS Software, Polymer, Management

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BACKGROUND

ALMIS International are a leading provider of software to the UK's Building Societies. They wanted a world class client support system.

The ALMIS software is very complex and ALMIS were finding that their existing, limited support solution was resulting in client frustration and a high volume of avoidable support queries.

We developed a web application framework that provides key functional components to build upon; secure software downloads, support tickets and a full end-2-end documentation management system.

The application links to a variety of ALMIS systems so that their existing investment in technology and expertise can continue to be leveraged.

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clients.almis.co.uk
ALMIS
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Aldermore Bank PLC
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Documentation
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INTERNATIONAL
DOWNLOAD
Solvency Report
1 Solvency Report
The Solvency Report shows the organisation's lending and credit exposures, and any non-interest items included in capital calculations. The capital holding requirement for each is also given. In addition to top level numbers, the report gives users the ability to drill-down on each field- when highlighting fields of the report, the cursor may display as a small magnifying glass. Clicking on any of these fields will produce a drill-down into the report giving detail at a transaction level.
An example report is shown and each of the columns briefly described below, covering first columns 1 to 5, then columns 6 to 11. Subsequently, more detail is given for calculations of Specific Provisions and Capital Holding Requirements.
If a Lending exposure has an associated specific provision, these are shown in the value adjustments.
Total original exposure for this line. For swaps this is Positive Fair Value + Weighted Nominal. For everything else this is the Accounting Balance.
Original Exposure
Value Adjustments
Lending Exposures – Broken down by Lending Risk Code in column 1, then by Arrears, Forward Commitments, and Loan-to-Value threshold in columns 2 and 3

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TECHNOLOGY

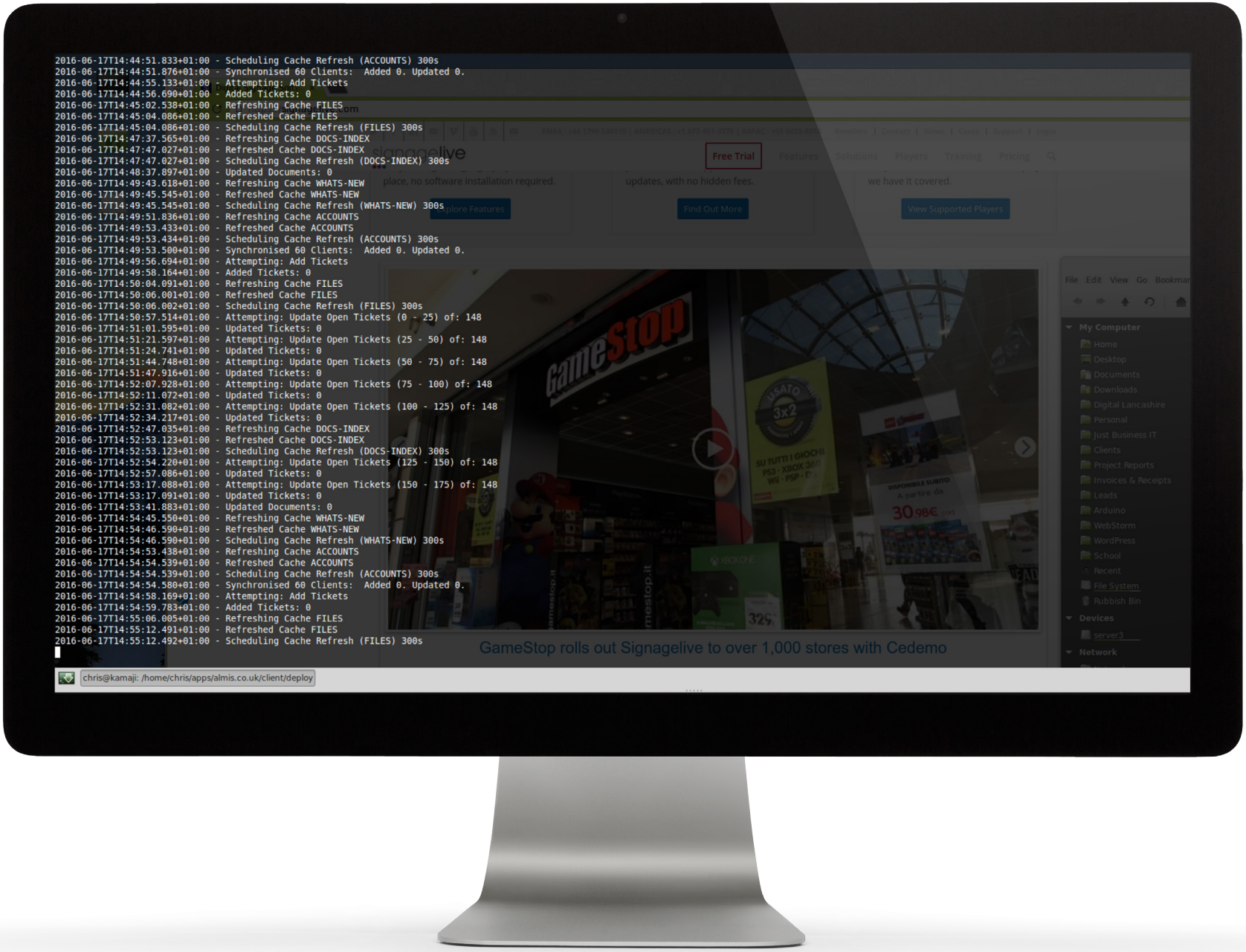
We uses a hybrid approach of Cloud, Node.JS and Polymer to deliver a simple to use, powerful solution.

The client-facing software is browser-based, delivered by a Node.JS process (sitting behind an nginx front-end). We use Polymer on the client-side because it is powerful and makes us more productive.

The Node.JS server is responsible for serving the app, responding to API requests and synchronising data between the cloud infrastructure and Sugar CRM.

Polymer lets us build gorgeous user-interfaces simply and in a fully object-orientated, web-standards way.

As a financial software company, ALMIS are very familiar with Spreadsheets so what better tool to use for the management of the software than a powerful cloud-based spreadsheet?


2016-06-17T14:44:51.833+01:00 - Scheduling Cache Refresh (ACCOUNTS) 300s
2016-06-17T14:44:51.876+01:00 - Synchronised 60 Clients: Added 0. Updated 0.
2016-06-17T14:44:55.133+01:00 - Attempting: Add Tickets
2016-06-17T14:44:56.690+01:00 - Added Tickets: 0
2016-06-17T14:45:02.538+01:00 - Refreshing Cache FILES
2016-06-17T14:45:04.086+01:00 - Refreshed Cache FILES
2016-06-17T14:45:04.086+01:00 - Scheduling Cache Refresh (FILES) 300s
2016-06-17T14:47:37.565+01:00 - Refreshing Cache DOCS-INDEX
2016-06-17T14:47:47.027+01:00 - Refreshed Cache DOCS-INDEX
2016-06-17T14:47:47.027+01:00 - Scheduling Cache Refresh (DOCS-INDEX) 300s
2016-06-17T14:48:37.897+01:00 - Updated Documents: 0
2016-06-17T14:49:43.618+01:00 - Refreshing Cache WHATS-NEW
2016-06-17T14:49:45.545+01:00 - Refreshed Cache WHATS-NEW
2016-06-17T14:49:45.545+01:00 - Scheduling Cache Refresh (WHATS-NEW) 300s
2016-06-17T14:49:51.836+01:00 - Refreshing Cache ACCOUNTS
2016-06-17T14:49:53.433+01:00 - Refreshed Cache ACCOUNTS
2016-06-17T14:49:53.434+01:00 - Scheduling Cache Refresh (ACCOUNTS) 300s
2016-06-17T14:49:53.500+01:00 - Synchronised 60 Clients: Added 0. Updated 0.
2016-06-17T14:49:56.694+01:00 - Attempting: Add Tickets
2016-06-17T14:49:58.164+01:00 - Added Tickets: 0
2016-06-17T14:50:04.091+01:00 - Refreshing Cache FILES
2016-06-17T14:50:06.001+01:00 - Refreshed Cache FILES
2016-06-17T14:50:06.002+01:00 - Scheduling Cache Refresh (FILES) 300s
2016-06-17T14:50:57.514+01:00 - Attempting: Update Open Tickets (0 - 25) of: 148
2016-06-17T14:51:01.595+01:00 - Updated Tickets: 0
2016-06-17T14:51:21.597+01:00 - Attempting: Update Open Tickets (25 - 50) of: 148
2016-06-17T14:51:24.741+01:00 - Updated Tickets: 0
2016-06-17T14:51:44.748+01:00 - Attempting: Update Open Tickets (50 - 75) of: 148
2016-06-17T14:51:47.916+01:00 - Updated Tickets: 0
2016-06-17T14:52:07.928+01:00 - Attempting: Update Open Tickets (75 - 100) of: 148
2016-06-17T14:52:11.072+01:00 - Updated Tickets: 0
2016-06-17T14:52:31.082+01:00 - Attempting: Update Open Tickets (100 - 125) of: 148
2016-06-17T14:52:34.217+01:00 - Updated Tickets: 0
2016-06-17T14:52:47.035+01:00 - Refreshing Cache DOCS-INDEX
2016-06-17T14:52:53.123+01:00 - Refreshed Cache DOCS-INDEX
2016-06-17T14:52:53.123+01:00 - Scheduling Cache Refresh (DOCS-INDEX) 300s
2016-06-17T14:52:54.220+01:00 - Attempting: Update Open Tickets (125 - 150) of: 148
2016-06-17T14:52:57.086+01:00 - Updated Tickets: 0
2016-06-17T14:53:17.088+01:00 - Attempting: Update Open Tickets (150 - 175) of: 148
2016-06-17T14:53:17.091+01:00 - Updated Tickets: 0
2016-06-17T14:53:41.883+01:00 - Updated Documents: 0
2016-06-17T14:54:45.550+01:00 - Refreshing Cache WHATS-NEW
2016-06-17T14:54:46.590+01:00 - Refreshed Cache WHATS-NEW
2016-06-17T14:54:46.590+01:00 - Scheduling Cache Refresh (WHATS-NEW) 300s
2016-06-17T14:54:53.438+01:00 - Refreshing Cache ACCOUNTS
2016-06-17T14:54:54.539+01:00 - Refreshed Cache ACCOUNTS
2016-06-17T14:54:54.539+01:00 - Scheduling Cache Refresh (ACCOUNTS) 300s
2016-06-17T14:54:54.580+01:00 - Synchronised 60 Clients: Added 0. Updated 0.
2016-06-17T14:54:58.169+01:00 - Attempting: Add Tickets
2016-06-17T14:54:59.783+01:00 - Added Tickets: 0
2016-06-17T14:55:06.005+01:00 - Refreshing Cache FILES
2016-06-17T14:55:12.491+01:00 - Refreshed Cache FILES
2016-06-17T14:55:12.492+01:00 - Scheduling Cache Refresh (FILES) 300s
GameStop rolls out Signagelive to over 1,000 stores with Cedemo
chris@kamaji: /home/chris/apps/almis.co.uk/client/deploy

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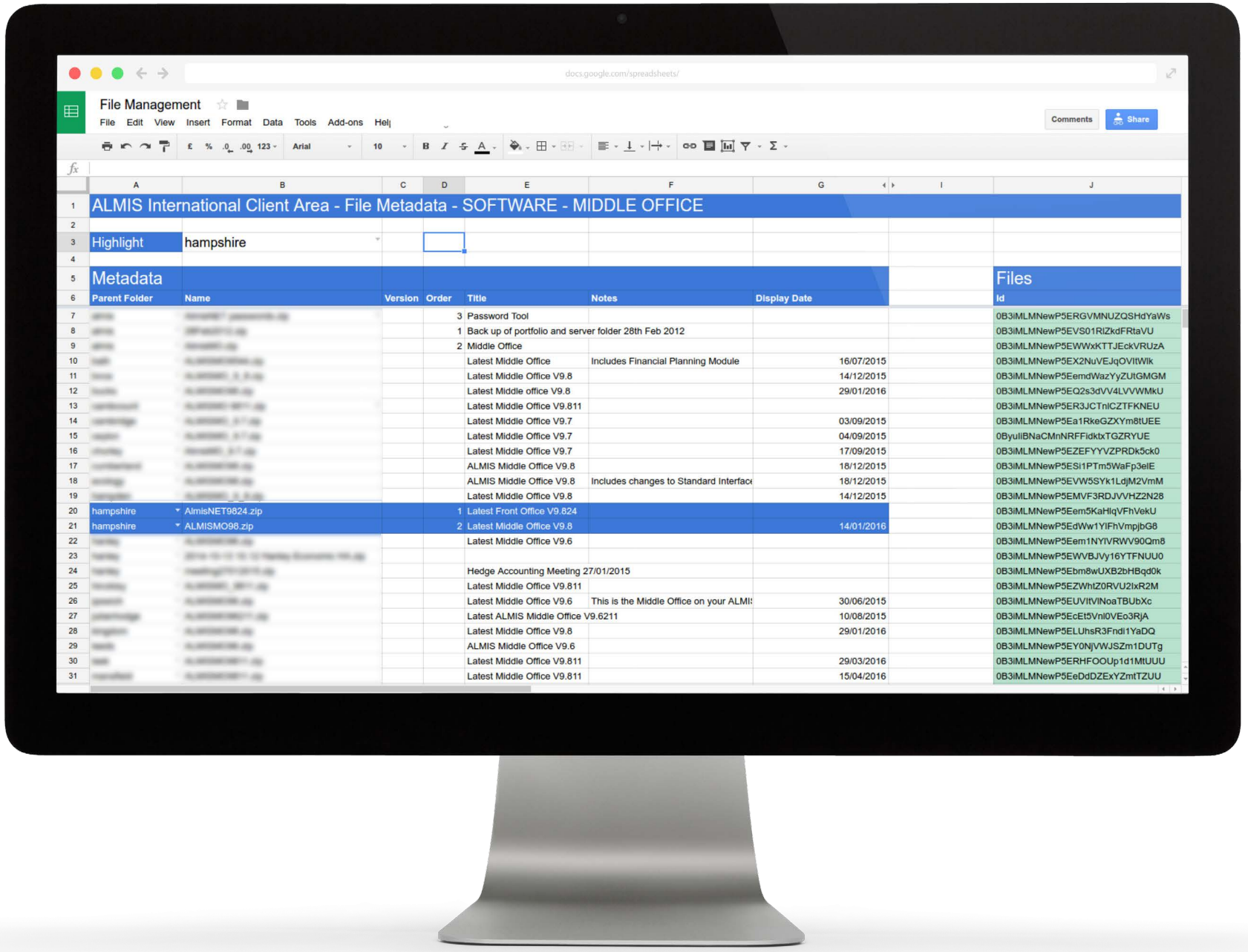
INTEGRATION

The system is fully integrated with Sugar CRM, Cloud-Storage and Document Management.

ALMIS has used Sugar CRM for many years and the business' sales and support processes are tightly integrated. But Sugar CRM is old and creaking so the Node.JS server acts as a buffer between it and the end-user. Which allows ALMIS to deliver a great end-user experience while maintaining their tried and tested work-flows.

We also utilise a cloud-storage (Google Drive) solution to make managing their client deployment files as easy as copying and pasting on their local file system. The clever spreadsheet tech then manages the metadata, giving them fine control over.


docs.google.com/spreadsheets/
File Management
File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Add-ons Help
Comments
Share
Arial
10
ALMIS International Client Area - File Metadata - SOFTWARE - MIDDLE OFFICE
Highlight
hampshire
Metadata
Files
Parent Folder
Name
Version
Order
Title
Notes
Display Date
Id
3 Password Tool 0B3iMLMNewP5ERGVMNUZQSHdYaWs
1 Back up of portfolio and server folder 28th Feb 2012 0B3iMLMNewP5EVS01RlZkdFRtaVU
2 Middle Office 0B3iMLMNewP5EWWxKTTJEckVRUzA
Latest Middle Office Includes Financial Planning Module 16/07/2015 0B3iMLMNewP5EX2NuVEJqOVltWlk
Latest Middle Office V9.8 14/12/2015 0B3iMLMNewP5EemdWazYyZUtGMGM
Latest Middle office V9.8 29/01/2016 0B3iMLMNewP5EQ2s3dVV4LVVWMkU
Latest Middle Office V9.811 0B3iMLMNewP5ER3JCTnlCZTFKNEU
Latest Middle Office V9.7 03/09/2015 0B3iMLMNewP5Ea1RkeGZXYm8tUEE
Latest Middle Office V9.7 04/09/2015 0ByuliBNaCMnNRFFidktxTGZRYUE
Latest Middle Office V9.7 17/09/2015 0B3iMLMNewP5EZEFYYVZPRDk5ck0
ALMIS Middle Office V9.8 18/12/2015 0B3iMLMNewP5ESi1PTm5WaFp3elE
ALMIS Middle Office V9.8 Includes changes to Standard Interface 18/12/2015 0B3iMLMNewP5EVW5SYk1LdjM2VmM
Latest Middle Office V9.8 14/12/2015 0B3iMLMNewP5EMVF3RDJVVHZ2N28
hampshire AlmisNET9824.zip 1 Latest Front Office V9.824 0B3iMLMNewP5Eem5KaHlqVFhVekU
hampshire ALMISMO98.zip 2 Latest Middle Office V9.8 14/01/2016 0B3iMLMNewP5EdWw1YlFhVmpjbG8
Latest Middle Office V9.6 0B3iMLMNewP5Eem1NYlVRWV90Qm8
0B3iMLMNewP5EWVBJVy16YTFNUU0
Hedge Accounting Meeting 27/01/2015 0B3iMLMNewP5Ebm8wUXB2bHBqd0k
Latest Middle Office V9.811 0B3iMLMNewP5EZWhtZ0RVU2lxR2M
Latest Middle Office V9.6 This is the Middle Office on your ALMIS 30/06/2015 0B3iMLMNewP5EUVltVlNoaTBUbXc
Latest ALMIS Middle Office V9.6211 10/08/2015 0B3iMLMNewP5EcEt5Vnl0VEo3RjA
Latest Middle Office V9.8 29/01/2016 0B3iMLMNewP5ELUhsR3Fndi1YaDQ
ALMIS Middle Office V9.6 0B3iMLMNewP5EY0NjVWJSZm1DUTg
Latest Middle Office V9.811 29/03/2016 0B3iMLMNewP5ERHFOOUp1d1MtUUU
Latest Middle Office V9.811 15/04/2016 0B3iMLMNewP5EeDdDZExYZmtTZUU

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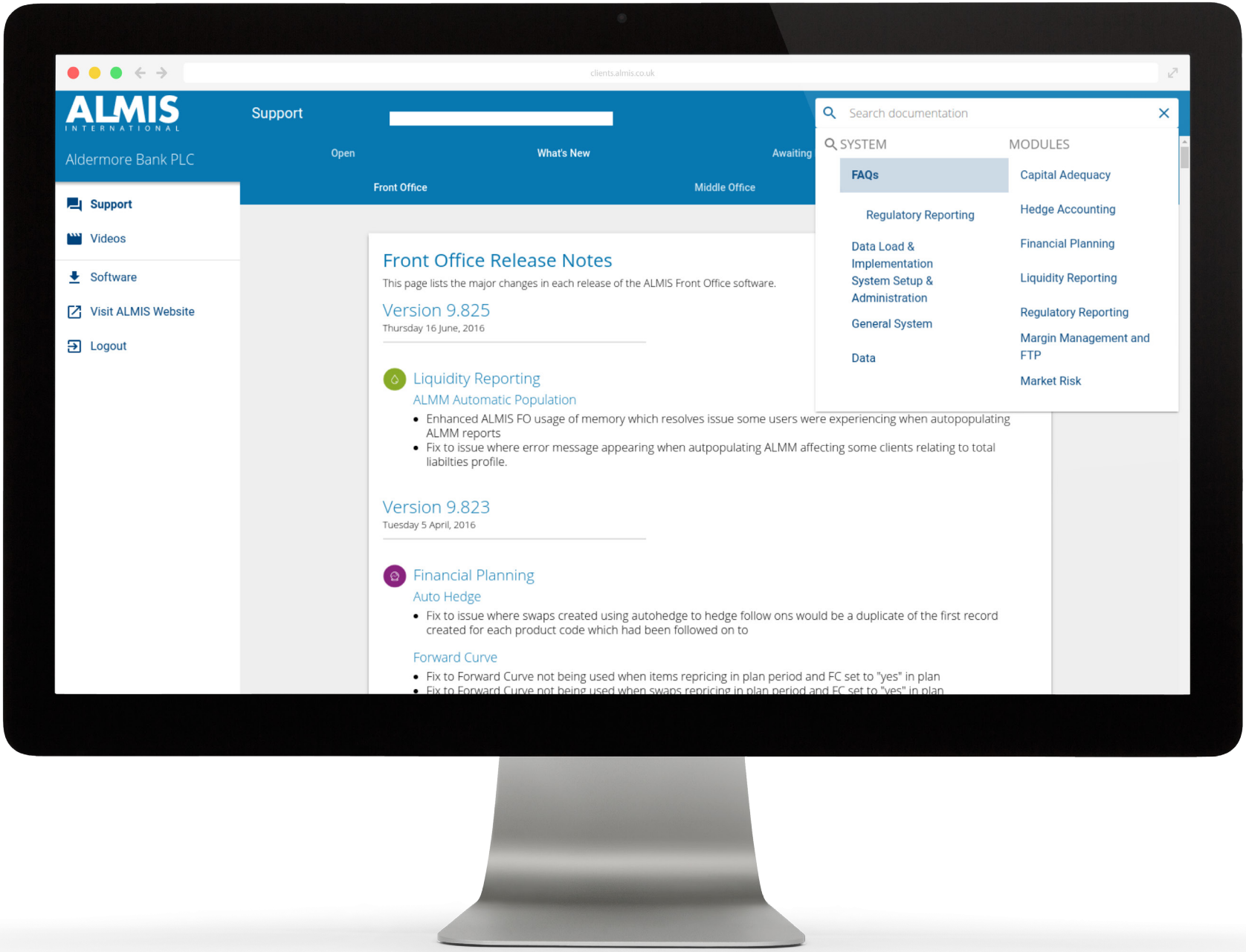
DOCUMENTATION

The documentation system supports automatic index generation, real-time propagation, automatic PDF generation and approvals.

Documents are edited in a cloud-based editor (Google Docs), which supports all the collaborative and editorial tools you need.

The documents are pulled in and converted to html by the Node.JS server and cached locally for maximum performance for the end user (<25ms to download). To keep intra-document linking working we use a “markdown” format in the documents that is converted by the server. Next the index is updated and PDFs are re-generated based on the latest approved version.

Changes are propagated to the server automatically every hour but in an orderly fashion.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ALMIS
INTERNATIONAL
Support
Aldermore Bank PLC
Open
What's New
Awaiting
Front Office
Middle Office
Support
Videos
Software
Visit ALMIS Website
Logout
Search documentation
SYSTEM
MODULES
FAQs
Regulatory Reporting
Data Load & Implementation
System Setup & Administration
General System
Data
Capital Adequacy
Hedge Accounting
Financial Planning
Liquidity Reporting
Regulatory Reporting
Margin Management and FTP
Market Risk
Front Office Release Notes
This page lists the major changes in each release of the ALMIS Front Office software.
Version 9.825
Thursday 16 June, 2016
Liquidity Reporting
ALMM Automatic Population
Enhanced ALMIS FO usage of memory which resolves issue some users were experiencing when autopopulating ALMM reports
Fix to issue where error message appearing when autpopulating ALMM affecting some clients relating to total liabilties profile.
Version 9.823
Tuesday 5 April, 2016
Financial Planning
Auto Hedge
Fix to issue where swaps created using autohedge to hedge follow ons would be a duplicate of the first record created for each product code which had been followed on to
Forward Curve
Fix to Forward Curve not being used when items repricing in plan period and FC set to "yes" in plan

“Working with Lighten was a delight from start to finish. They worked hard to fulfil our requests and are a great team to work with.”

Joe DiRollo

Founder & Managing Director