



eCIRCLE-PIM

eCIRCLE-PIM from Tangentia Consulting is a PIM (Product Information Manager) created to address the needs of suppliers to some of the large retailers and automobile OEM's. Some FAQ's (Frequently asked questions) about PIM's in general and eCIRCLE-PIM are answered below.

❖ **Why do companies need a PIM?**

The retail/distribution/manufacturing business and business in general is becoming more dependant on collaboration and exchange of item information between trading partners. The item information being exchanged is also becoming more complex to meet the increasing demands of trading partners like Wal-Mart, Home Depot, General Motors as well as different data exchanges like ECCnet and UCCnet.

Today at most companies, this information is stored on paper or in a number of spreadsheets. Some of this information exists in the ERP/ Accounting application but there is no common repository or 'vault' for item information that is reliable, accurate and comprehensive.

A PIM does exactly that- *'Manage Item information in a central repository accurately and reliably with role based multiple access and data sync capabilities'*. A PIM is quickly becoming an important and critical component of the IT infrastructure at most progressive companies. PIM's have driven significant cost savings at companies



that used to rely on paper, spreadsheets and legacy databases to manage their item information.

❖ **How is eCIRCLE-PIM different from other PIM's?**

eCIRCLE-PIM was specifically designed to meet the needs of small and medium businesses. The features incorporated into eCIRCLE-PIM are most important and essential to any business. This has resulted in a lightweight PIM at an affordable price with the features that customers would use most frequently in a PIM.

❖ **Is eCIRCLE-PIM customizable to the unique characteristics of each industry and each business?**

Yes, eCIRCLE-PIM is easily customizable and can incorporate business processes and attributes that are unique to your business. A range of industry templates is also available which incorporate industry best practices and cut implementation times.



❖ **Can eCIRCLE-PIM integrate with the existing ERP/Accounting application?**

eCIRCLE-PIM provides the capability to export information in ASCII text file or XML. Most Accounting applications have the capability to import information in one of these formats. A database-to-database connection is also possible. Tangentia Consulting would provide integration support to make sure that data synchronization is managed well between applications.

❖ **Can eCIRCLE-PIM send item information to ECCnet?**

Yes, the eCIRCLE-PIM can send item information to ECCnet. eCIRCLE-PIM leverages the most cost effective way of exchanging data with ECCnet i.e. via EDI. eCIRCLE-PIM creates a flat file that is then translated by an EDI translator to create an 832 document required by ECCnet. The 832 documents are then sent to ECCnet to load new

items, modify items or delete items from the ECCnet repository. This can be done as many numbers of times as required with no restriction and no incremental costs.



eCIRCLE-PIM 'Item Data at your fingertips'

❖ **Can eCIRCLE-PIM create a Form 33 for Wal-Mart?**

Yes, eCIRCLE-PIM can create a FORM 33 as specified by Wal-Mart. Similar 'collaborations' are being planned for some of the leading retailers and automobile OEM's.

❖ **Can eCIRCLE-PIM synchronize item information with UCCnet?**



Provides support for different UCCnet Industry solutions like Hardlines etc. The industry templates come pre-packaged with the attributes for that specific industry. eCIRCLE-PIM does not manage the actual data upload but can support multiple

data upload options and products from leading providers like IBM, TR2 / Sterling, IPNET, Transnora, Commport, btrade etc.

❖ **Can eCIRCLE-PIM provide desktop publishing support?**

eCIRCLE-PIM provides the capability to export the data in various formats like MS-Excel, MS-Word and PDF. This allows product catalogs with images of the items created on the fly.

❖ **Item information and pricing is confidential. How secure is the data within eCIRCLE-PIM?**

eCIRCLE-PIM provides role-based access to the information. Role Based access means that users may access the valuable enterprise data only based on their pre-assigned privileges and roles. We are also working on creating a data encryption mechanism to ensure that even if somebody has access to the database tables they would not be able to access the data.



❖ **Who will manage the migration of data to eCIRCLE-PIM?**

Tangentia consultants will work closely with the customer to make sure that the data is available in the correct format and processes are put in place to ensure item data is managed in a proper collaborative manner across the enterprise. Our integration utilities would also allow seamless integration with back-end ERP applications or legacy databases.



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❖ **How can we get more information?**

Should you have further questions or would like a demonstration of the eCIRCLE-PIM please feel free to contact the eCIRCLE team at eCIRCLE-PIM@tangentia.com or at 416-238-7515



About Tangentia Consulting:

Tangentia Consulting was formed by merger of many independent consultants who had a common vision of a company dedicated to providing services/products to the Retail/Distribution & Manufacturing industries especially in the small and medium sectors.

Some of the trading partners we have helped our customers to successfully start doing business with are Amazon.com, Wal-Mart, Bay, Zellers, Sears, Target, Rite Aid, Shoppers Drug Mart, Rona, General Motors, Chrysler etc.

Tangentia Consulting is a partner of the IBM Software Group with specific focus on the WebSphere Business Integration (WBI) family of products. Tangentia Consulting is also a partner with EDS for their products like EDI*Asset and EDS*ELIT.

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