



OpenCourseWare (OCW)

MIT OpenCourseWare (MIT OCW) makes the course materials that are used in the teaching of almost all MIT's undergraduate and graduate subjects available on the Web, free of charge, to any user anywhere in the world. As of May 2004 over 900 courses have been published on MIT OCW. A state goal is to publish virtually all 2000 of MIT's undergraduate and graduate courses on MIT OCW by 2008.

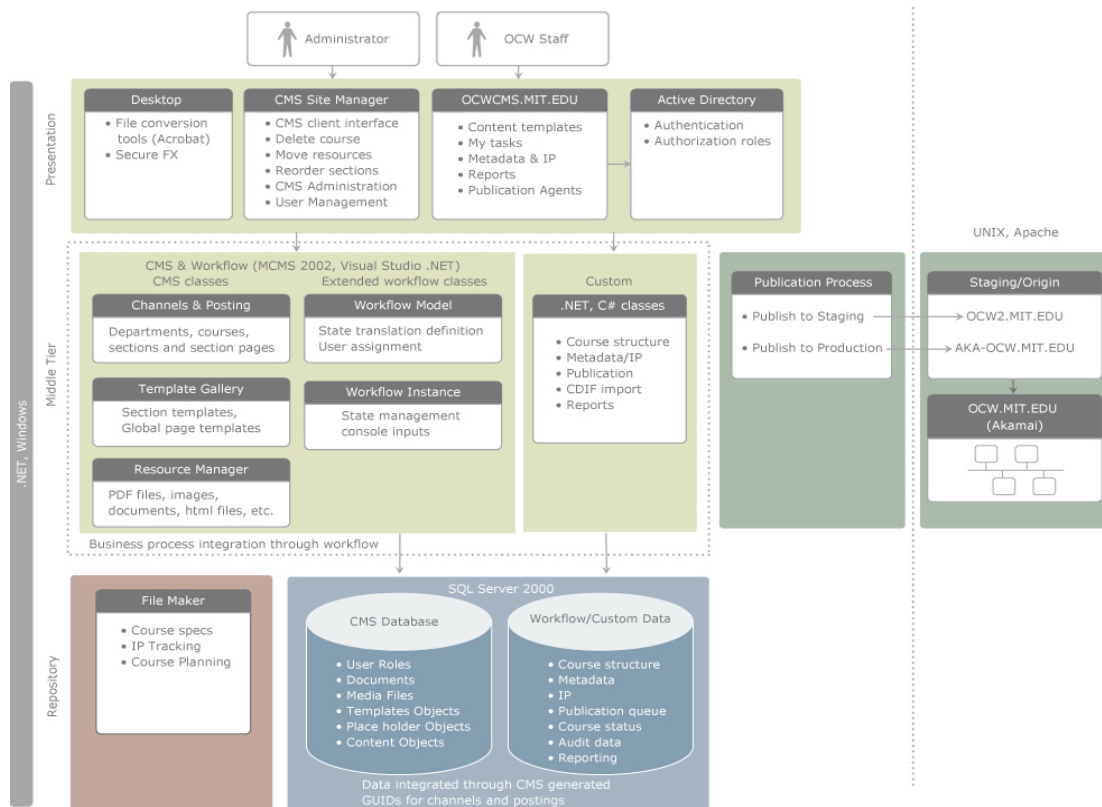
More broadly MIT OCW's goals are:

- Provide free, searchable, access to MIT's course materials for educators, students, and self-learners around the world
- Create an efficient, standards-based model that other institutions may emulate to openly share and publish their own course materials

The MIT OpenCourseWare (MIT OCW) technology solution supports a complex publishing process. This is a large-scale digital publishing infrastructure that consists of planning tools, a content management system (CMS), and the MIT OCW content distribution infrastructure. The current technical solution has been in use since April 2003 with a four-person technical support team managing all aspects of this infrastructure.

The planning tools used by the MIT OCW team to assist faculty in publishing their course materials include a custom application of FileMaker Pro, and several checklists and documents. For creating and managing content, we use several desktop tools (file conversion tools) as well as the CMS, an extensively customized version of Microsoft Content Management Server 2002 that fully supports our publishing process. Our content delivery infrastructure includes a sophisticated publishing engine, content staging server, and a content delivery network utilizing Akamai's EdgeSuite platform.

OCW Logical Architecture Diagram



OCW Physical Architecture Diagram

