Overview

This release improves the CONTENTdm browsing experience by adding a series of user controls, such as switching between a list view and thumbnail grid view of results, choosing how many results to display per page, and jumping to a desired page directly. Users can now open collection and search results in a new tab or window. Also, in response to multiple user requests, you can now specify collection aliases when creating new collections.

Release overview recording

View a recording of the CONTENTdm release overview, March 2019.

Supporting Materials

CONTENTdm release overview presentation slides, March 2019.

Features and enhancements

This release added the following features and enhancements:

- When creating a new collection, specify a meaningful custom alias that reflects the content of the collection.
- Search/browse your collections more efficiently by switching between a list view and thumbnail grid view.
- Choose how many results to view per page (up to 200) to optimize your search experience.
- Save time by jumping directly to your desired page on the Home and Search & Browse pages.
- Right-click on collection and search results to open in a new tab or window.
- Zoom up to 200% when expanding images in OpenSeadragon viewer.
- There are also other miscellaneous fixes.

These features and enhancements are described in more detail below.

When creating a new collection, specify a meaningful custom alias that reflects the content of the collection.

The collection alias is used in the URL as a unique collection identifier. Previously, a system generated alias was automatically assigned to each new collection. For example, “p15700coll3” is the system alias for this
collection: https://cdmdemo.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p15700coll3. Now you have the ability to assign a meaningful alias for a new collection. For example, "oclcsample" is now the alias for this collection: https://cdmdemo.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/oclcsample.

There are rules that apply when creating aliases, such as what special characters are permitted, whether aliases are case-sensitive, etc. For details, read the on-screen instructions when assigning a new collection alias. The system generated alias will still be suggested for use; leave as is or overwrite it with a custom alias.

Also note, you cannot modify aliases for existing collections, only when creating new collections.

Search/browse your collections more efficiently by switching between a list view and thumbnail grid view.

This exciting feature has been a popular request: CONTENTdm now displays records in grid view. Use the two toggle buttons at the top of the Search & Browse page to switch between grid view and list view. List view displays a thumbnail accompanied by four display fields specified in the Website Configuration Tool; grid view displays a thumbnail and the title.

Grid view offers a much friendlier interface for image-focused sites, enabling you to better examine and browse results visually. It also helps to see more results per screen, especially on mobile devices.
CONTENTdm site admins can go to Website Configuration Tool > Global Settings > Search & Browse > Results > Default view of results, and choose either “Grid view” or “List view” to be the default view for users.

Configurations made on the “Global Settings” tab apply to all collections on the website. If you’d like to configure the results pages of specific collections, select the “Collection-level Settings” tab. Any collection-level settings will override global settings.
Choose how many results to view per page (up to 200) to optimize your search experience.

CONTENTdm website users can now choose how many results to view per page. The choices 10, 20, 50, 100, and 200, are available through a dropdown menu in the “user control bar” on top of the Search & Browse page. Pick a desired number depending on your local connection speed and personal preference.

CONTENTdm site admins should designate a “Default number of results per page” instead of the original “Number of results per page” for their sites (Website Configuration Tool > Global Settings > Search & Browse > Results > Default number of results per page).

Because the old set of choices, 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50, has three values that are the same and two values that are different from the new set, there are two possible behaviors with the transition: a) If the existing setting for “Number of results per page” is 10, 20, or 50, the new setting will automatically take these settings; b) if the existing setting is 30 or 40, the new setting in Website Configuration Tool (WCT) will become “10”, but 30 or 40 results will still display per page as default until the site admin changes it. So if your existing setting is 30 or 40, go to WCT and select a desired number for “Default number of results per page” from the new set of options.
Save time by jumping directly to your desired page on the Home and Search & Browse pages.

You can now jump directly to your desired page on the Home and Search & Browse pages. Type your desired page number in the new “Go to page” textbox to jump to it directly, as opposed to using the paginator to navigate to the page. This “Go to page” UI element only displays when there are more than 4 pages.
Right-click on collection and search results to open in a new tab or window.

Previously, CONTENTdm did not allow right-clicking or middle-clicking to open a collection or search result in a new tab (or window). Now you can do so with a collection card on the Home page, or with a search result on the Search & Browse page, to open in a new tab or window. This feature has been requested frequently, so we are excited to add it.
Zoom up to 200% when expanding images in OpenSeadragon viewer.

Sometimes images in CONTENTdm have very small text or details that can be challenging to discern even when zoomed to 100% resolution. Now you can zoom up to 200% of the original image size when expanding images in the OpenSeadragon viewer. This increased zoom capability does not increase the quality of the image but does make it display at a larger size. This change also improves accessibility around hard-to-read text.

Miscellaneous fixes

- CONTENTdm IIIF Image and Presentation APIs are upgraded to Version 2.1.x.
- WCT button color configurations made more consistent.
- Eliminate errors when working with custom Turkish or Vietnamese text in WCT.
- Screen reader improvements inaginator controls to improve accessibility.

Looking ahead

This list summarizes frequently requested enhancements that we consider to be high priority for upcoming releases:

- Automatic creation of IIIF collection manifests.
- IIIF Presentation manifests for monograph (hierarchical) compound objects.
- Support for printing record metadata (Transcript, Object/Item Description).
- Improvements to how search terms are passed through to the item pages for inline hit highlighting.
• Support home page bare domain URL (without appending /digital/ suffix).

We are always looking to you to help us determine the priority of new features, improvements, and fixes. If one of the above issues is urgent for your site, or if another issue not listed above is more important to you, please contact support and let us know. You are also invited to post your ideas to the CONTENTdm Community Center as a discussion thread or an enhancement suggestion.

CONTENTdm releases are scheduled to occur every 3 or 4 months. Not all of the above items are expected to be completed in that timeframe.

Upgrading to the new responsive website

The new CONTENTdm website is completely separate from the 6.x CONTENTdm website. When you are ready to publish the new website as your production website, contact OCLC Support to schedule your upgrade.

OCLC is continually improving the new website interface and is no longer enhancing the 6.x website. The CONTENTdm responsive website is now the default end-user website for about 225 active users.