



Evaluation of: Hummingbird Portal

Software Supplier: Hummingbird Ltd.

Web site:	www.hummingbird.com
Main phone:	(416) 496-2200
Name of Current Release:	Hummingbird Portal 5.0
Date of Current Release:	1Q02
Date of Next Release:	N/A

Strengths:

- Hummingbird Portal possesses very good security features, including document- and index-level security, password aging, password re-try attempts, index-level security, data encryption, and the ability to assume existing security control lists.
- The product possesses excellent native search and discovery features, including concept-based searches, full-text searches, single and multiple content server search, parametric searches, fuzzy logic capabilities, etc.
- Hummingbird is one of a relatively small group of vendors that integrates collaborative capabilities within their portal product. Portal users can create teams of other portal users or extend functionality to external users.
- Hummingbird Portal includes a GUI builder that provides point-and-click personalization. The interface can be customized to provide different visual views, such as displays of Web sites.
- Hummingbird messaging delivers content using Me-Clip Mobile e-Clip) plug-ins with SMTP and SMS.
- The product supports native automatic file type conversion for more than 200 file formats.
- Good development features and standards support: XML, HTML, EJB, COM, CORBA, and most scripting languages, including JPython.

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- The product provides very good integration capability — direct access to several OLAP servers, access to external metadata (including two-way exchanges). It also supports data access interfaces for data marts, business intelligence, and knowledge management.

Limitations:

- The product cannot perform suggestive searching for additional information that may have value to the original search.
- Hummingbird Portal lacks wizards to assist with GUI development.
- Lacks administration capability via intelligent agents.

Evaluation Summary:

Hummingbird Portal is a full-featured enterprise portal with strong security features, good scalability, and very good search capability. The GUI is easy to understand and navigate. The product is also strong in the development area, though the incorporation of wizards to support GUI development would be a desirable feature, because it limits its personalization capabilities. Limitations include lack of suggestive searching, no administration support by the use of intelligent agents, and lack of wizards to assist with development. Hummingbird Portal is a very solid product from a mature company.

SPEXmarks

Functionality	✓✓✓✓✓-
Usability	✓✓✓✓+
Technology	✓✓✓✓+
Market Strength	✓✓✓✓-
Overall	✓✓✓✓+

✓✓✓✓✓ : Outstanding ✓✓✓✓ : Excellent ✓✓✓ : Good ✓✓ : Fair ✓ : Poor

Vendor Background:

Hummingbird was founded in 1984 and went public in Canada in 1993 on the Toronto Stock Exchange (HUM). It was listed on Nasdaq (HUMC) in 1994. Originally concentrating on PC-Unix connectivity. The company released its enterprise portal

offering in 1Q00. Headquartered in Toronto, Canada, Hummingbird has approximately 1,300 employees. Hummingbird posted net income of \$28.2M on sales of \$165.9M in 1999 and reported sales of \$237M in 2000 with adjusted net income of \$35M for 2000. Current annual growth is approximately 43%. The company has undertaken a number of acquisitions: Beame & Whiteside, Datenrevision, Andyne, Leonard's Logic, PC DOCS Group International and PeopleDoc. Hummingbird has a presence in more than 50 countries.

Other Hummingbird products include:

Document and Content Management - provides organizations with the ability to create centralized repositories, or libraries, containing all of the unstructured data they generate. Imaging, Routing and Records Management services round out Hummingbird's offering.

Business Intelligence – users can access, analyze and report on their entire spectrum of data sources, including data marts and data warehouses, Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) applications, Customer Relationship Management (CRM) applications, and other operational systems.

Data Integration – allows enterprises to integrate the information from enterprise applications such as ERP, CRM, and legacy applications, and populate enterprise data warehouses and data marts with clean, actionable information.

Host Publishing - allows administrators to publish rejuvenated host applications to the Web as fully customized graphical user interfaces (GUIs).

Package Background:

Hummingbird Portal was launched in 2000. As with many portal vendors, its portal product is quite new. Hummingbird's expertise is in document/knowledge management, data integration, reporting solutions, and host connectivity. Data exchange led it to enter the portal space. The product is one of the major contenders in the portal space, backed by a company with a solid history.

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