

A T O M W I D E

USO-AUTOUPDATE

Complying with Becta and DCSF guidelines regarding the importance of data security and data accuracy has become increasingly complex as the number of systems dependent on up-to-date school staff and student data has grown. Now, with USO authenticating ever more IT-based services, the advent of USO-AutoUpdate brings a comprehensive solution to the problem of keeping remote USO records in sync with schools' local MIS databases.

Key features:

- Easy to install, zero-maintenance application
- Reduces USO administration workload by synchronising user accounts directly with a school MIS
- Control over export content allows local Data Protection policies to be observed
- Capita-recognised and supported SIMS data extract process
- Wauton Samuel compatible
- Designed to comply with Becta & DCSF data security and accuracy guidelines
- Automatic or manually-initiated data exports



USO-AutoUpdate is an optional service available to USO-subscribing Local Authorities which enables the automated extraction of data from compatible school MIS packages.

Once extracted, the data is encrypted and securely sent to the central USO management system, where new USO accounts are automatically created and existing accounts are updated with any relevant changes made since the last extraction.

Extracted data is processed and released in accordance with a hierarchical set of policies: each LA defines defaults that are appropriate to most of their establishments, but Data Controllers at individual sites can refine these choices as required to meet local Data Protection needs, or request bespoke inclusions or exclusions to the exported data set.

Each instance of the USO-AutoUpdate application fetches its site's latest extraction policy whenever it runs, and also collects and installs any patches or enhancements for its own code. In this way, USO-AutoUpdate becomes a "fit and forget" utility which requires no routine management or maintenance.

Key features:

- Self-updating application ensures low management overhead
- Extensible design allows data exports to be directed to multiple targets
- Builds the foundation of future services like text messaging by populating USO with extended user attributes
- Helps with accurate user reporting that can bring consequent benefits in accurate software licensing or statistic gathering

Configuration options within USO-AutoUpdate are numerous, allowing the export of single or multiple data sets, on either a regularly-scheduled or manually-initiated basis.

There are no limits imposed on the number and the frequency of exports, so USO-AutoUpdate can handle the data requirements of forthcoming developments such as text messaging, VLE/MLE/LP synchronisation, Remote Access and reporting/authentication services for parents. Manually maintaining the range of user information needed to support these services - especially in near real-time - would be an unrealistic commitment for school Data Controllers to coordinate, so an automated yet controllable export mechanism like USO-AutoUpdate is fundamental to implementing these developments and bringing their benefits to users throughout the LA.

As an example of the potential for USO-AutoUpdate to streamline the flow of user data, if a third party (Learning Platform or VLE provider, for instance) were to specify a data extract requirement, and consent for the release of this data were to be obtained from the relevant Data Controller, then USO-AutoUpdate could be set up to export that data on a regular basis (subject to MIS capability). Similarly, a school could define and generate data extracts for its own internal use such as attendance and assessment tracking.

Currently compatible with SIMS and Wauton Samuels MIS systems, USO-AutoUpdate is planned to integrate with other MIS providers in the future.

All prices exclude VAT. Specifications are subject to change. E&OE. Revision 1

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