

Figure 1. Architectural representation of the optional Agilent OL products for providing Technology Neutral Format (TNF) support for handling legacy data from older generation data systems.

Agilent OL, Operating System for the Laboratory, is the first .NET operating system that provides integrated instrument control, laboratory content management, and laboratory workflow automation. Incorporating the latest designs in Enterprise Content Management (ECM) technology, Agilent OL offers every laboratory the means to securely protect laboratory information, provide long term data archiving of all information, and safely share lab information with others. Agilent OL can manage all electronic content ranging from instrument results, user desktop content, email, graphic images, and other electronic documents.

Many older generation data systems are still used in companies today, even though the cost of maintenance of the hardware is reaching prohibitive levels. In addition, companies may have very key data from these systems so that they need to maintain these systems just for the sake of maintaining the ability to review and recall this information in various studies. Now, a new set of optional software is available for Agilent OL that allows legacy data systems to safely move their data into Agilent OL, allowing labs to retire the legacy system.

Key Benefits

- Provides a solution for managing and preserving legacy data from older generation data systems.
- Apply the power of Enterprise Content Management for long term data archiving and content searching to legacy data.
- View legacy data with a web-based Technology Neutral Format data viewer without using the native data system.



Agilent provides three service capabilities for dealing with legacy data from older systems — Technology Neutral Format (TNF) ECM Service, Technology Neutral Format Content Generators, and TNF data viewers. Together, these three Agilent OL services enable any laboratory to adopt a strategy to move their legacy data to the Agilent OL ECM and manage all legacy data.

Technology Neutral Format (TNF) ECM Service

The TNF ECM Service is an ECM service that generates an XML equivalent of the original legacy data with the original data XML equivalent based on the AnIML schema. AnIML is an emerging XML schema standard for representing analytical data. This standard has been developed by the ASTM Technical Committee E13.15, of which Agilent has been an active participant.

Based on Agilent's active participation and leadership in the ASTM committee, the AnIML XML standard is nearing completion. Agilent OL TNF data, based on the AnIML standard, is a practical way to ensure that the content remains accessible and usable long after the native CDS application that generated it is no longer active.

Technology Neutral Format (TNF) Content Generators

The TNF Content Generators are written specifically for the particular type of legacy data and are intended to extract specific information and communicate it to the TNF ECM Service.

Agilent plans to provide a series of TNF Content Generators so that laboratories can flexibly deploy a TNF Content Generator for their specific legacy data requirements and systems.

Currently, a TNF Content Generator is available for the Hewlett Packard LAS data system and works on HPLAS applications and processor types that are loop application and based on the 3357 Genie peak processor type of data.

Additionally, a TNF Content Generator is available for the PerkinElmer Turbochrom and TotalChrom Chromatography Data Systems. In the case of the TNF Content Generator for PerkinElmer Turbochrom or TotalChrom, these native applications are required to be resident for the actual TNF Content Generator to create the XML equivalent. Once the TNF XML equivalent is generated, however, the PerkinElmer native applications are no longer required. Additional TNF Content Generators will be announced by Agilent as they are developed and released.

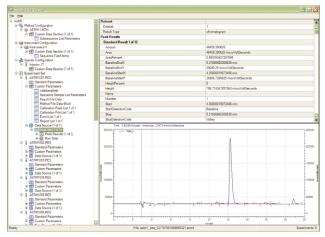


Figure 2. The TNF data viewers enable viewing of the TNF file from any Agilent OL web client. The data file as well as other file information are shown in a convenient single screen view.

Technology Neutral Format (TNF) data viewer

The TNF data viewer is an Agilent OL optional program for Agilent OL web clients. When installed on the web client, it allows the web client to view and display the TNF data file so that the native application that generated the original legacy data file is not used. The Agilent developed TNF data viewer displays XML equivalents of instrument configuration, sequence, method, raw data, and calculated results. See Figure 2.

Most Agilent OL deployments that wish to use these services would need to invest in one TNF ECM Service, the appropriate TNF Content Generator for the intended legacy data, and the appropriate number of TNF Viewers (a TNF data viewer would be required for each PC web client that is intended to view the TNF file).

Agilent OL's use of "technology-neutral" file generation is a forward-looking feature that ensures that all legacy data is usable in the future. The technology-neutral file generation can create an XML equivalent of common CDS data and store that along with the original data in the Agilent OL ECM repository. Once in the repository, Agilent OL's built in content management features to protect and organize electronic files can be applied to the legacy data along with any other content managed by Agilent OL. In addition, Agilent OL's full range of content support for record retention controls, collaboration protections, and active archiving provide laboratories with a means to apply long term storage to this legacy data.

Legacy Data System	Legacy Data System Versions Supported	TNF ECM Service	TNF Content Generator	TNF (AnIML Viewer)
HP LAS	HP LAS data systems based on HP LAS applications and processor types that are loop applications and 3357/Genie peak processor data types	Licensed per ECM service machine; ECM version 3.3.0 or greater is required; at least one TNF ECM service is required per system for any type of legacy data system	Licensed per type of legacy data system; ECM version 3.3.0 or greater is required	Licensed per web client PC; ECM version 3.3.0 or greater is required
PerkinElmer Turbochrom CDS	Turbochrom CDS version 4.0	Licensed per ECM service machine; ECM version 3.3.0 or greater is required; at least one TNF ECM service is required per system for any type of legacy data system	Licensed per type of legacy data system; ECM version 3.3.0 or greater is required	Licensed per web client PC; ECM version 3.3.0 or greater is required
PerkinElmer TotalChrom CDS	TotalChrom CDS version version 6.0 (subsequent versions have not been tested or verified by Agilent)	Licensed per ECM service machine; ECM version 3.3.0 or greater is required; at least one TNF ECM service is required per system for any type of legacy data system	Licensed per type of legacy data system; This TNF Content Generator requires the TotalChrom application to generate the XML equiv- alents.	Licensed per web client PC; ECM version 3.3.0 or greater is required

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