Content Migration

Importing all the documents in the Windows share

Introduction

- Migrating existing documents into a new Alfresco installation is something that is part of pretty much all Alfresco projects
- The most common document migration case is to import documents from a Windows network drive
- When importing from the file system it is important to be able to do that with high speed and preservation of as much meta-data as possible
- A very good tool for file system import is the *Alfresco Bulk Import tool*

Available Tools

- **Alfresco Content Package (ACP)**
  - Keeps all metadata
  - Upper limit of 4GB of content
  - Quite slow
  - Best for Alfresco ↔ Alfresco migration
  - Needs training
- **Mapping Drive**
  - WebDAV or CIFS
  - Does not keep any metadata
  - Quite slow
  - Can be useful for smaller imports
  - Very easy to use
- **Folder ZIP**
  - Does not keep any metadata
  - Upper limit of 4GB of content
  - Quite slow
  - Easy to use
- **Alfresco Bulk Import Tool**
  - Keeps Last Modified Date (Created and Modified is set to this date)
  - Very fast
  - Can supply property files with metadata
  - Fairly easy to use with some training
- **ETL tools**
  - More complex but can do a lot more during the import process
  - Cost money

Alfresco Bulk Import Tool

- Available out of the box and integrated with the Alfresco server
- Loads folders & content as they appear on disk
- Content is imported in batches
- The "unit of work" is the directory
- Each directory is imported in at least one batch
- More if lots of content
- Batches within a directory are processed serially

The tool can be accessed from the Web Browser:
http://localhost:8080/alfresco/service/bulkfsimport