

Digitize pathology slides

Iron Mountain Digital Pathology On Demand

Challenge

Lab managers and pathologists are challenged to manage an ever-growing volume of slides and blocks while maintaining inventory integrity and on-demand physical access. Digital pathology can help solve some of these issues, but that comes with its own challenges. This creates an explosion of data that needs to be secured, stored, managed, and preserved in addition to the physical slides, which need to be stored for at least 10 years to meet FDA regulations.

Impact

Managing physical slides is a labor-intensive and time-consuming activity that slows time to retrieval. There are risks of damage from shipping and sharing. Many labs store slides and blocks in suboptimal locations, or in high-value real estate, placing slides and blocks at risk of degradation and/or unauthorized access, while impeding pathologists' ability to find what they need, when they need it.

With physical slides, sharing requires the person, the microscope, and the slide to be in the same place at the same time. However, procuring high-volume scanners to digitize data represents a capital investment of hundreds of thousands of dollars. The scanners can be slow and tedious to use.

Large pathology centers might need to produce around 1 million digital slides, resulting in 1PB of uncompressed

data each year.¹ Lab managers would need to maintain data security and personal healthcare information (PHI) compliance requirements along with managing storage costs and complexity for this avalanche of data.

What if you could...

Digitize slides and entrust digital and physical storage to an experienced partner who can help you:

- Streamline lab workflows by providing rapid retrieval of images.
- Facilitate collaboration with the ability to view and mark up slide images in real time.
- Leverage a holistic service spanning the entire physical-to-digital pathology lifecycle.

¹ *Journal of Pathology Informatics, Whole slide image data utilization informed by digital diagnosis patterns, 2022.*



Industry fact

Large pathology centers might need to produce around **1 million digital slides**, resulting in **1 PB of uncompressed data** each year.

Journal of pathology informatics



Digital Pathology On demand

Healthcare and life sciences organizations trust Iron Mountain, a global business dedicated to the storage, protection, and management of information and assets, to provide a digital pathology ecosystem that meets your needs. Iron Mountain Digital Pathology On Demand transforms your lab with the ability to:



Get the images you need when you need them: Cut the wait time for slides by replacing physical slide retrievals with on-demand whole slide imaging, online viewing via a secure online portal, and a pathway to artificial intelligence (AI) for smarter searching and faster insights.



Share and collaborate easily: Leverage on-demand scanning and the ability to easily access and search slides from anywhere on our secure platform via a single web-based portal. Speed collaboration with colleagues down the hall, or throughout the organization, to minimize time to insight. Authorized users can search, annotate, and share images to facilitate research while protecting protected health information.



Stop worrying about digital image storage and management: Offload slide and image storage and management to professionals experienced in asset preservation and data protection. Iron Mountain has experience managing more than one billion slides and blocks in more than 150 temperature-monitored facilities meeting the 2021 US College of American Pathologists recommendations. Secure and scalable cloud storage solves data management issues and provides an auditable chain of custody, data encryption, access restriction, and role-based permissions to keep data safe.



Speed research results

Contact Iron Mountain to learn how we can help you streamline lab workflows, improve collaboration, and securely offload long-term slide and digital image storage.

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About Iron Mountain

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