**Technical Information**

Almagest was designed to be a web-accessible database for describing objects, places and people and linking these concepts to image files used in many different courses to provide course-related resources.

Images and their identifying information are delivered across the internet using standard web browsers. In addition to Almagest’s support of rich data structure, simple slide databases are supported in a simple manner. More complex uses of the database build on an interlinked set of tables designed to describe and hyperlink works of art and literature, sites, bibliography, glossary and all manner of attributes.

Almagest is built in an Oracle 9i database and delivered to the end user via Java and Java server pages using an Apache Web server with Macromedia’s JRUN 4.

For more information about the Almagest Database:

http://www.princeton.edu/~almagest/opensource/
Almagest is a relational database for the storage, cataloging and display of images, text, video, sound, and many other file types. The database is the result of more than a decade of development and has been used as a tool for teaching and scholarship at Princeton University for the past nine years.

Manages and Stores Media

Files cataloged in Almagest are linked to other data records. New images and documents can be linked to related art objects that are already cataloged, greatly facilitating data entry. Any number of new records can be added to the database. A variety of search tools can be used to retrieve files and their relationships to other objects in the database.

“Almagest gives faculty a tool for contextualizing, managing, and presenting digital media for teaching and research.”

— Kirk Alexander, Manager of Educational Technology/Faculty Support Groups IET Mediaworks, University of California, Davis

Creates and Displays Digital Lectures and Presentations

Got slides? Get digital! The structure of the Almagest database can give you a head-start in converting your slide library to a digital image collection. Almagest has a built-in display tool that uses a light-table analogy to sequence and save presentations. Because Almagest is web-based, saved lectures can be shown in the classroom, and used as an online review and study resource by your students. You are not limited to image files in making your presentations: video clips, e-texts, external web links, even existing Microsoft PowerPoint, Excel, or Word files can be organized and displayed using the Almagest lecture building tool. Offline presentations can be created by using the ‘Publish to PowerPoint’ tool.

Forget the tiresome prospect of reorganizing class presentations semester after semester. In Almagest, your lectures and presentations are preserved for the next time you need them. They can be edited and updated at any time.

“Almagest is both a digital image database and a sophisticated presentation tool, providing users with a powerful and elegant solution for teaching and study.”

— Trudy Jacoby, Director, Visual Resources Collection, Department of Art and Archaeology, Princeton University