MyDirectoryMaker™

Software Architecture and Transferring the database

MyDirectoryMaker was built with the understanding that directory volunteers change from year to year. Also, we understand that with the membership features, multiple people in the organization may need or wish to have access to the information.

The following document provides a description of how the system is structured and how you can work with others in your organization that wish to have access to the data.
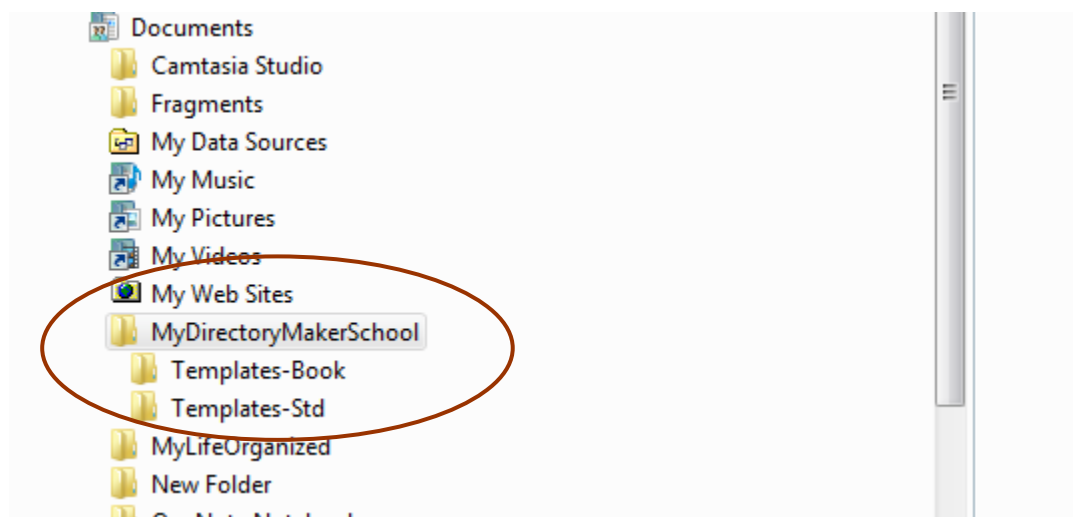
Architecture

Our software is a single user application. What this means is that the database can only be updated by one user at a time. However, with the ability to transfer the data, and our import function, other members of your organization can help with data entry as well as update the database.

The basic software consists of three files:

1. The software application: MyDirectoryMaker-School.accdr
2. The license: "your school name".lic
   (In the example below it's Hill Valley Elementary School.lic)
3. The data file: MyDirectoryMaker_Data.accdb

These files reside in the following directory on your computer: \mydocuments\MyDirectoryMakerSchool. Additional supporting files and templates also reside in this directory. Here is an example of what the file directory structure looks like on your computer:
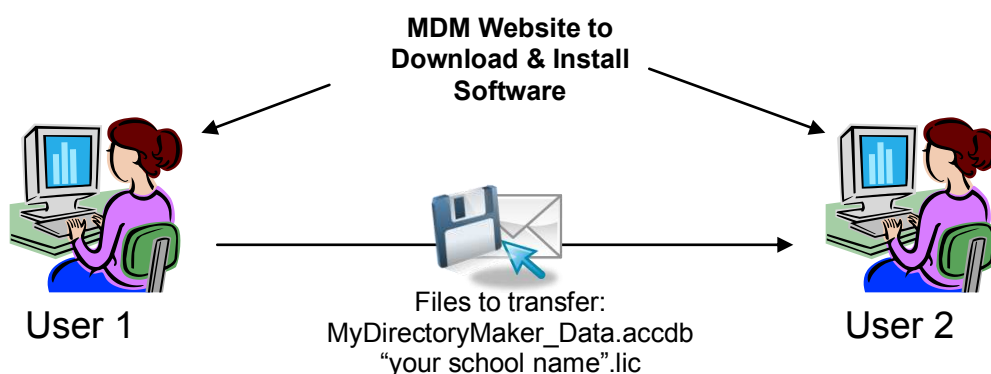

Transferring the database

When another member of your organization wishes to have access to the data, you will need to transfer both the data file and the license file to the other user. This can be done via email, disk or zip drive.

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The following picture describes the transfer process:

1. User 1 downloads and installs the software from the MyDirectoryMaker.com website and inputs the family directory data. When they are done with their task, or wish to transfer the task to another user, they transfer the following files from their computer: the data file: MyDirectoryMaker_Data.accdb and the license file, "your school name". lic.

2. User 2 downloads and install the software from the website. They save the files from User 1 in the \mydocuments\MyDirectoryMakerSchool folder, overriding the empty database file installed with the software. They will update the license with the license file provided by going to the Administration form and clicking on the License button. They will then click on the Install License button and a dialog box will ask for the file name, which is the .lic file provided by User 1. User 2 can now continue to update the data.

MDM Website to Download & Install Software

User 1

Files to transfer:
MyDirectoryMaker_Data.accdb
"your school name".lic

User 2

IMPORTANT NOTE: As mentioned above, the software is a "one user at a time" application. If User 1 continues to update the database after they have transferred the data, that information will remain with User 1. If User 2 updates and changes the data and transfers the database back to User 1, any data on User 1's computer will be overridden.

User 1 and User 2 will need to coordinate their efforts if they both wish to continue to update the database. If it's a simple one way transfer, as is the case in a new Directory Coordinator, this should not be a problem.