New Features in Zarafa Collaboration Platform 7.0

Zarafa has continued to work on the feature richness and total overall quality of its Zarafa Collaboration Platform. (ZCP) for both administrators and end-users. ZCP 7.0 delivers enterprise features like integration options with the Zarafa Archiver and performance improvements which helps to lower total cost of ownership.

ZCP 7.0 and the Zarafa Archiver are the first releases in a series of product innovations that will be launched in the upcoming 6 months. Another innovation will be Z-Admin.

Features and benefits

Unicode support for international and non-European organisations
The largest change in ZCP 7.0 is the full support for UTF-8 (unicode) in all components. Unicode enables ZCP to be used in Eastern Europe, Asia and other parts of the world.

Performance improvements for lower TCO
ZCP 7.0 includes some major database changes to realise higher IO performance and support more concurrent users on a single ZCP server. This results in lower costs per mailbox as more users can be served from one server.

Improved IMAP gateway for Mac Mail and Thunderbird
To offer better compatibility for users with generic IMAP clients like Mac Mail and Thunderbird, a new Zarafa Gateway has been implemented in ZCP 7.0. Not only a major speed improvement was realized with this option, but also support for S/SIME-encrypted emails and quota support to view your mailbox size and quota in your IMAP client.

Integration with Zarafa Archiver for the largest inboxes
Zarafa Archiver enables heavy users to optimize storage capacity. Mail store sizes are minimized by moving old messages to slower -- and therefore cheaper -- storage. All Professional and Enterprise customers will receive 20 Zarafa Archiver users free of charge.

Zarafa Archiver

Zarafa Archiver minimizes mail store sizes by moving old messages to slower -- and therefore cheaper -- storage. This means that these older messages can be removed completely from the more expensive primary storage servers -- increasing their performance. Optionally, a stub to the archive can be created, to allow the user to view the archived email and to open it as if it were a normal message. When a stubbed message is opened, the body and attachments are retrieved from the archive server on the fly.
You can find all details about the Zarafa Archiver on www.zarafa.com/archiver.

Other changes for users

Send from OpenOffice

ZCP 7.0 offers a direct integration with OpenOffice/LibreOffice. With this feature, WebAccess users can configure their WebAccess inbox as the default email client in OpenOffice. When sending a document per email directly from OpenOffice, Zarafa WebAccess will be automatically opened and the document will be uploaded to a new e-mail window. Installers for this feature have been created for both Windows and Linux desktops.

WebAccess 'message in message'

Zarafa WebAccess has been extended with the option to add items from the mailbox to a new email, the so called 'message in message' feature.

Changes for Administrators

Audit logging

To track users accessing mailboxes in the organization, and users performing certain actions such as deleting mailbox items. ZCP 7.0 offers audit logging. The option is disabled by default, but can be enabled for those organisations where mailbox accessibility is considered sensitive or any where access needs to be logged and audited.

User access control

The ZCP user plugins have been extended with user access control. At the moment the POP3 and IMAP service can be enabled and disabled on a per-user basis.

Python MAPI binding

Various tools and utilities can be created using the new python interfaces, allowing for interfacing, extensions and custom applications.

Lucene indexer improvements

The Zarafa server's Lucene indexer has been extended to support search in public stores and delegate stores. Using these Improvements faster searches can be achieved and users will have the ability to search within attachments in stores.

Synchronise GAB realtime

To optimise performance with large Global Address Books in LDAP configurations, an optional setting has been added to the server.cfg configuration file.

New packaging layout for more easier maintenance

To make it easier for administrators to deploy specific components of ZCP on different types of servers, the packaging layout has been changed in
ZCP 7.0. In the new packaging layout every Zarafa server component is available in a seperate RPM or DEB package.

More information

- Release Notes
- Zarafa Featurelist