

Digital Documentation of Data

Exploring the benefits of labfolder, a digital lab book, for scientific research



Source: labfolder GmbH

labfolder consists of specific software tools that present an interface similar to a page in the traditional, paper-based lab book

Documentation of valuable scientific data using paperbound lab books often poses several challenges to scientists. However, with the advent of digital lab books, for instance, the labfolder, record keeping for scientific research is no more an arduous task.

Even though electronic research tools are on the rise, traditional, paper-based lab books are still predominately used in laboratories to document scientific research. Consequently, researchers have to deal with a vast collection of unsearchable data documented on piles of paper, and unorganized track records that further complicate lab work, making scientific research even more complex and time consuming. Scattered data collection on paper and different digital storage locations bring in additional challenges while undertaking tasks related to data search, data reuse, and data exchange between scientists. In most cases, backups are also not available. So what are the viable alternatives to the traditional paper notebook?

The solution is simple: labfolder, a free digital lab book that enables documentation, organization and analysis of experimental scientific data in a digital format, accessible anytime and anywhere.

Secure digital notebook

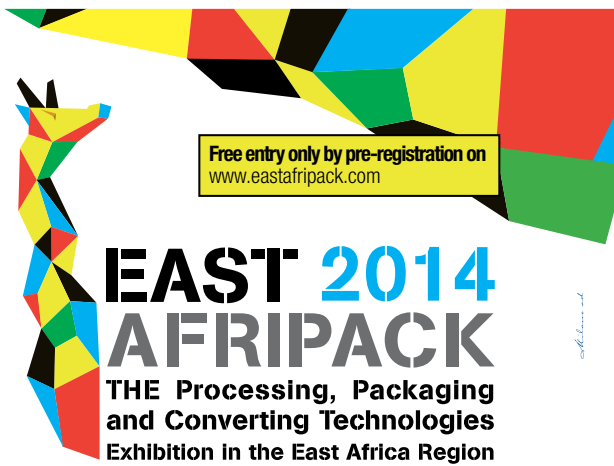
Being a cloud-based online platform, labfolder consists of specific software tools that present an interface similar to a page in the traditional, paper-based lab book. Without the nuisance of managing piles of paper and scribbled notes, this digital lab notebook allows its users to ensure a detailed documentation of scientific experiments, and maintain protocols, observations as well as data files all organized in one place. For individual scientists and small groups, labfolder is free; it offers advanced functions for the management of larger groups and enterprises for a monthly fee.

Easy to search, store and share online

The advantages of a digital lab book for scientists are obvious: experimental data in a digital format is searchable; it is easy to store



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Source: labfolder GmbH

Experimental data in a digital format is easy to store

and can be shared with colleagues effortlessly. In addition, the labfolder software promotes communication and collaboration amongst researchers. Furthermore, an integrated feature supports data linking and exchange with other platforms such as Mendeley and figshare.

The digital device, labfolder, simplifies record keeping for scientific research. As most scientific information and results come in a digital format, recording and managing research data on a digital platform facilitates research to a great extent. Just as the paperbound lab book, this digital version is also compliant to the rules of Good Scientific Practice (GxP), including full audit trail and digital signatures for maximum intellectual property protection. All entered information is instantly retained in a secure electronic archive, with all data being encrypted for maximum information security.

Digital data on the go

The electronic notebook is also available on all mobile devices operating under Android and iOS. With the free mobile app, scientists can use their iPhones, smartphones, tablets and iPads as digital lab notebooks, accessing and managing their data on the field, for instance at a conference or science fair. labfolder is constantly improving its user experience to simplify data management for scientific research.

SMART TECHNOLOGY

Advantages of labfolder over paper-based lab books

When handling paper-based lab books, scientists have to deal with piles of paper while searching for any specific data, making it a tedious process. Unorganized track records further complicate lab work, making scientific research even more complex and time consuming. On the contrary, labfolder enables the documentation, organization and analysis of experimental scientific data in a digital format, accessible anytime and anywhere. This simplifies record keeping for scientific research.