

**CONNECTOR FOR  
ADOBE CQ DIGITAL ASSET  
MANAGEMENT  
FOR ADOBE DRIVE 4:  
TECHNICAL NOTE**

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*Technical Note: Connector for Adobe CQ Digital Asset Management for Adobe Drive 4*

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# Connector for Adobe CQ Digital Asset Management for Adobe® Drive 4

## Overview

Adobe Drive 4 enables you to connect Creative Suite® 6 to Digital Asset Management (DAM) servers. The connected servers appear in your computer as a mounted hard drive or mapped network drive. Once connected, you can access server files through Windows Explorer or Mac OS Finder, as well as the platform-specific file-access dialogs, and directly through the UI of integrated applications.

Adobe Drive 4 is extensible; an SDK allows partners and third parties to create *connectors* for particular asset management systems. Adobe provides some ready-made connectors. The Adobe CQ Digital Asset Management Connector enables access to [Adobe CQ Digital Asset Management](#) (CQ DAM).

## Supported features

The connector supports these features:

- ▶ Connecting to and disconnecting from a server
- ▶ Browsing documents and folders.
- ▶ Creating and deleting documents and folders
- ▶ Moving and copying documents and folders
- ▶ Checking documents out and in
- ▶ Managing document versions
- ▶ Searching documents
- ▶ Thumbnails and preview icons in Adobe Bridge
- ▶ Thumbnails in the Show Versions dialog
- ▶ Viewing, editing, and searching XMP metadata in Adobe Bridge

## Using the Adobe CQ Digital Asset Management Connector

Before connecting, you must obtain the URL for the CQ DAM server from the server administrator, as well as a valid user ID and password.

This document uses the `localhost` server in examples; this works if you have default server installation on your local machine. You must replace `localhost` with the server URL when you connect to a remote server. For example, to access a CQ5 DAM server in a default installation on your local machine:

**SERVER URL:** `http://localhost:4502`

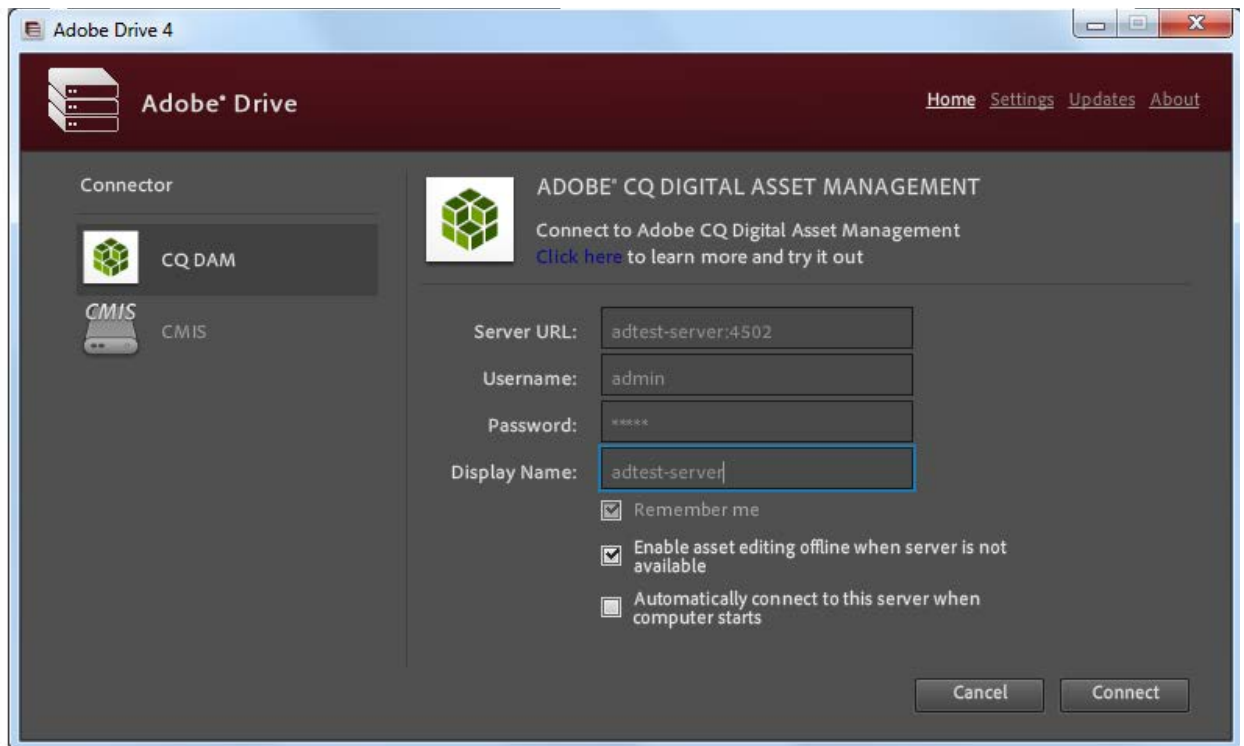
**USERNAME:** `admin`

**PASSWORD:** `admin`

## Connecting to a server

To connect to an CQ DAM server:

1. Start the Adobe Drive application.
  - ▷ In Windows Explorer, right-click a folder, a file, or your desktop, and choose **Adobe Drive 4 > Connect To** from the context menu.
  - ▷ In Mac OS, CTRL-click a folder or file in Finder or your desktop, and choose **More > Adobe Drive 4 > Connect To** from the context menu.



2. Click **Add Drive**.
3. If you have the name of a preset server, click it to display the Server URL. Otherwise enter the Server URL manually.
4. Enter your connection details. For example:  

```
Server URL: http://localhost:4502  
Name: admin  
Password: admin  
Display Name: adtest-server
```
5. Click **Connect**.
6. Check that the server has been mounted in the file browser:
  - ▷ In Windows Explorer, it should be under My Computer.
  - ▷ In Mac OS Finder, it should be under Devices.

## Troubleshooting

If connection fails, open a web browser and test whether the server is available using the server URL. For example, if you enter `http://localhost:4502` and authenticate with your credentials, you should see the CQ DAM login screen, and be able to navigate to and open DAM access to digital assets.

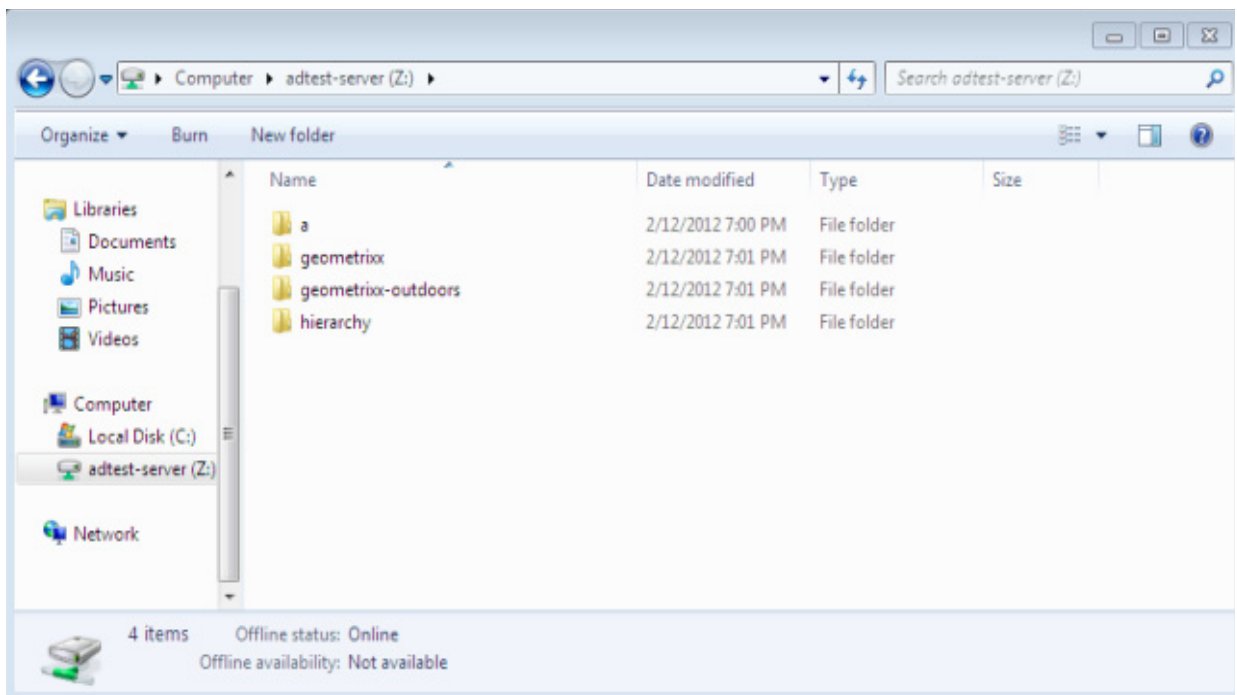
- ▶ If you receive no response or an empty response, your server might not be available or your credentials might be incorrect.
- ▶ If you do not have DAM access, check that you have the Digital Asset Management capability installed; the connector does not work with a DAM server that does not have this capability.

## Disconnecting

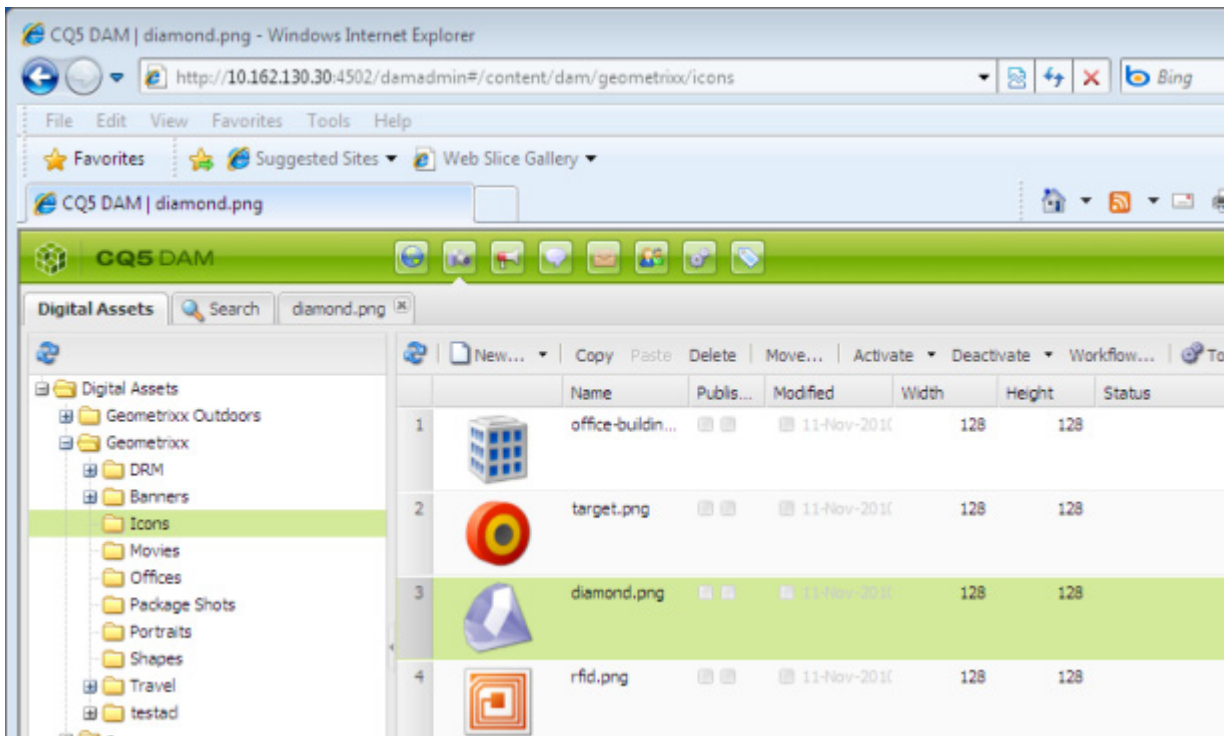
- ▶ **In Windows Explorer:** Right-click the CQ DAM drive and choose Disconnect from the context menu.
- ▶ **In Mac OS Finder:** CTRL-click the CQ DAM drive device and choose Eject from the context menu.
- ▶ **In Adobe Bridge:** Select Adobe Drive in the Favorites panel. Right-click (in Windows) or CTRL-click (in Mac OS) the CQ DAM drive and choose Disconnect from the context menu.
- ▶ **In Adobe Drive 4:** Select the server to be disconnected from Recent Connections and click Disconnect.

## Browsing and manipulating documents and folders.

Once you are connected, Adobe Drive 4 presents documents and folders from your CQ DAM server in a network drive on your computer. You can view the server's files in Windows Explorer or Mac OS Finder. You can also access these files in Open, Save As, and other file management dialog boxes.



You can also use the UI for your CQ DAM server to view and manipulate documents and folder.



## Creating and deleting documents and folders

CS6 applications Adobe Photoshop®, Adobe Illustrator®, Adobe InDesign®, and Adobe InCopy® allow you to check in documents directly to the CQ DAM server. In other applications you must save your document to the CQ DAM drive and use Windows Explorer, Mac OS Finder or Adobe Bridge to manually check in the file.

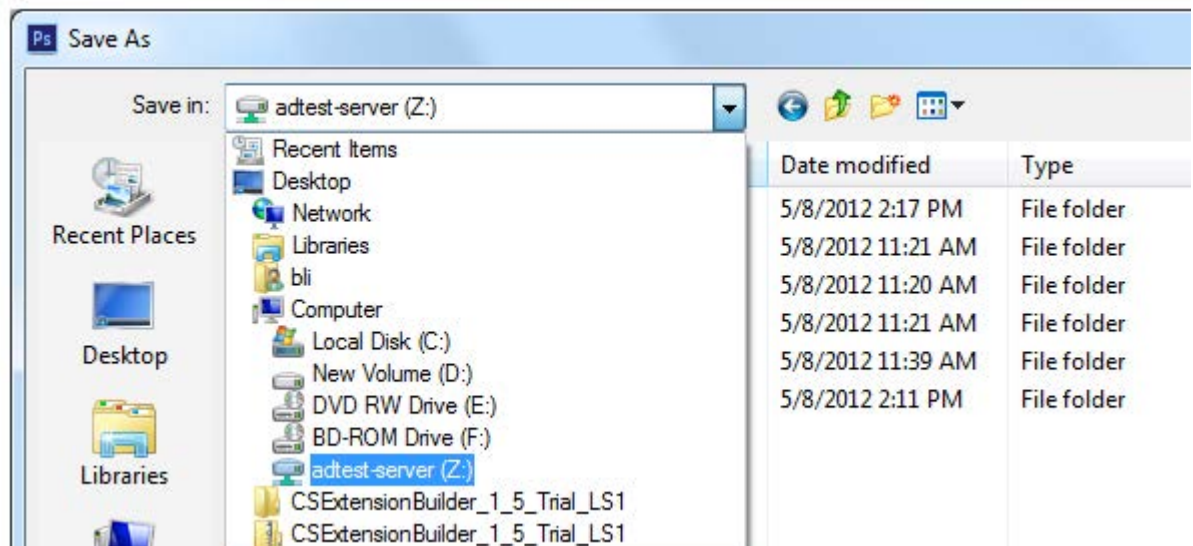
You can create new folders using Windows Explorer, Mac OS Finder or Adobe Bridge CS6 or using the Open, Save As, and other file management dialog boxes in an application.

You cannot create documents or folders at the root of the drive; you must save any new content under a folder in the root that already exists on the server. If you need to create new folders at the root location, you must use the UI provided by your CQ DAM server.

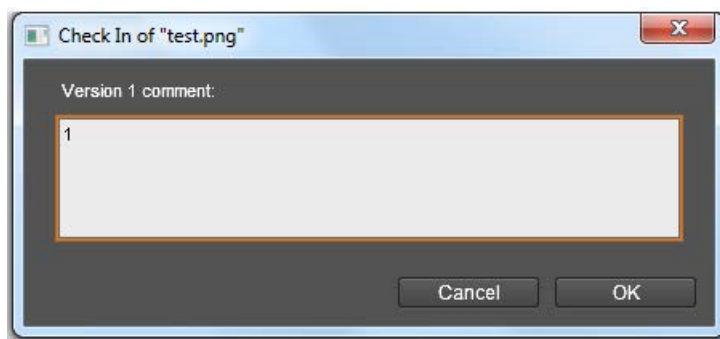
For example, to create a new document in the CQ DAM server from Photoshop:

1. Create a new document in Photoshop.
2. Choose **File > Check In**.

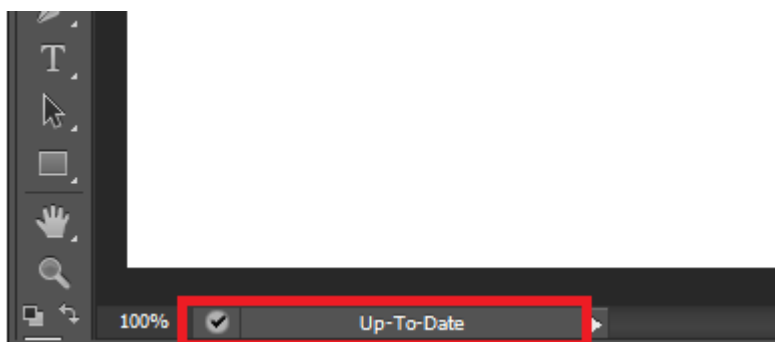
3. In the Save As dialog, navigate to the folder on the CQ DAM drive where you want to save the document.



4. Enter a check-in comment when prompted, and click **OK**.



Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, and InCopy display the file status in a status bar when you view or edit documents. Once the document is saved to the server, the file status changes to Up-to-Date.



## Automatic check-in for new documents added from file system

The Settings dialog includes the option "Enable automatic check-in for files added from Finder or Explorer". This option is selected by default; you can use the Settings dialog to add a default check-in comment.



If you do not disable the feature in the Settings dialog, new files that you create on a connected drive using Mac OS Finder or Windows Explorer are automatically checked in with the default comment.

Automatic check-in is not available for files added through Adobe Bridge, Adobe Photoshop, or Adobe InDesign or InCopy.

## Moving, copying documents and folders

To move or copy documents or folders on the CQ DAM server:

### In Adobe Bridge:

- ▶ Invoke the context menu (right-click in Windows or CTRL-click in Mac OS) for the document or folder.
- ▶ Choose **Move To** or **Copy To** from the context menu, then choose the destination folder.
  - ▷ Documents moved or copied in this way are automatically checked in.

### In Windows Explorer or Mac OS Finder:

- ▶ Drag a document or folder to move it to a different location.
- ▶ CTRL-drag (in Windows) or OPTION-drag (in Mac OS) to copy to a new location.
  - ▷ If you move a document from the desktop to a CQ DAM drive this way, or copy any document to a new location, you must check it in explicitly.
  - ▷ You cannot move or copy documents or folders to the root of a CQ DAM drive.

## Renaming documents and folders

In Adobe Bridge, Mac OS Finder or Windows Explorer, invoke the context menu (right-click in Windows or CTRL-click in Mac OS) for the document or folder, and choose **Rename**.

- ▶ You cannot rename documents or folders in the root of a CQ DAM drive.

## Deleting documents and folders

- ▶ In Adobe Bridge, Mac OS Finder, or Windows Explorer, invoke the context menu (right-click in Windows or CTRL-click in Mac OS) for the document or folder, and choose **Delete**.
- ▶ You cannot delete documents or folders in the root of a CQ DAM drive.
- ▶ Deletion from a CQ DAM DAM server is permanent; deleted files cannot be restored. The **Tools > Adobe Drive > Project Trash** option in Adobe Bridge, Recycle Bin in Windows, and Trash in Mac OS are not supported.

## Working with XMP metadata

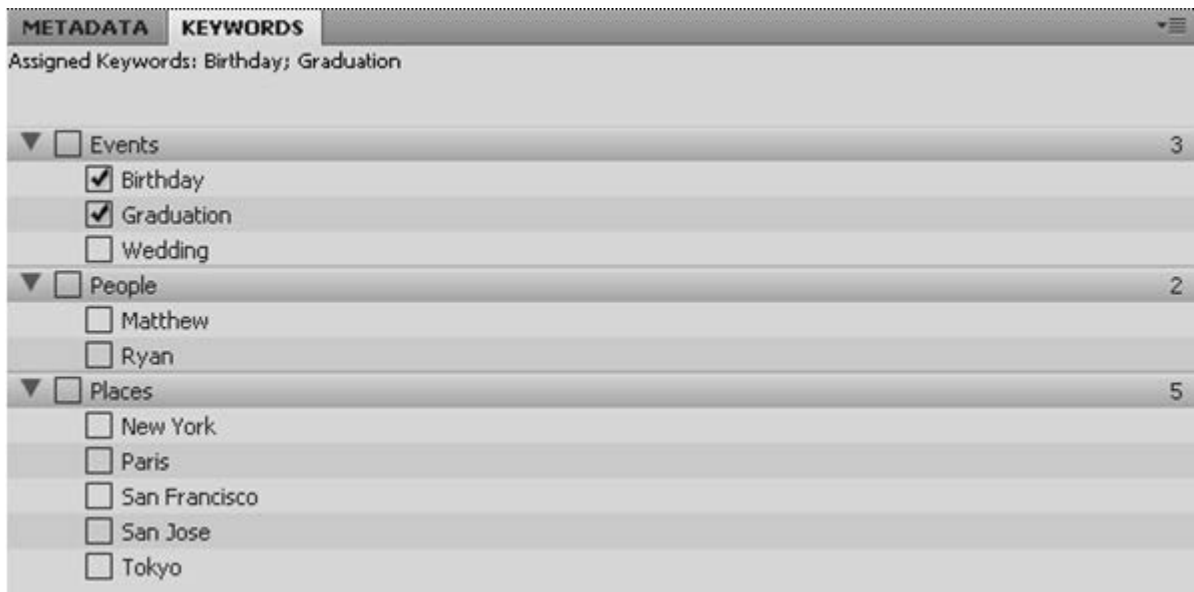
When you are connected to a CQ DAM server, you use Adobe Bridge to view, edit, and search XMP metadata in managed assets.

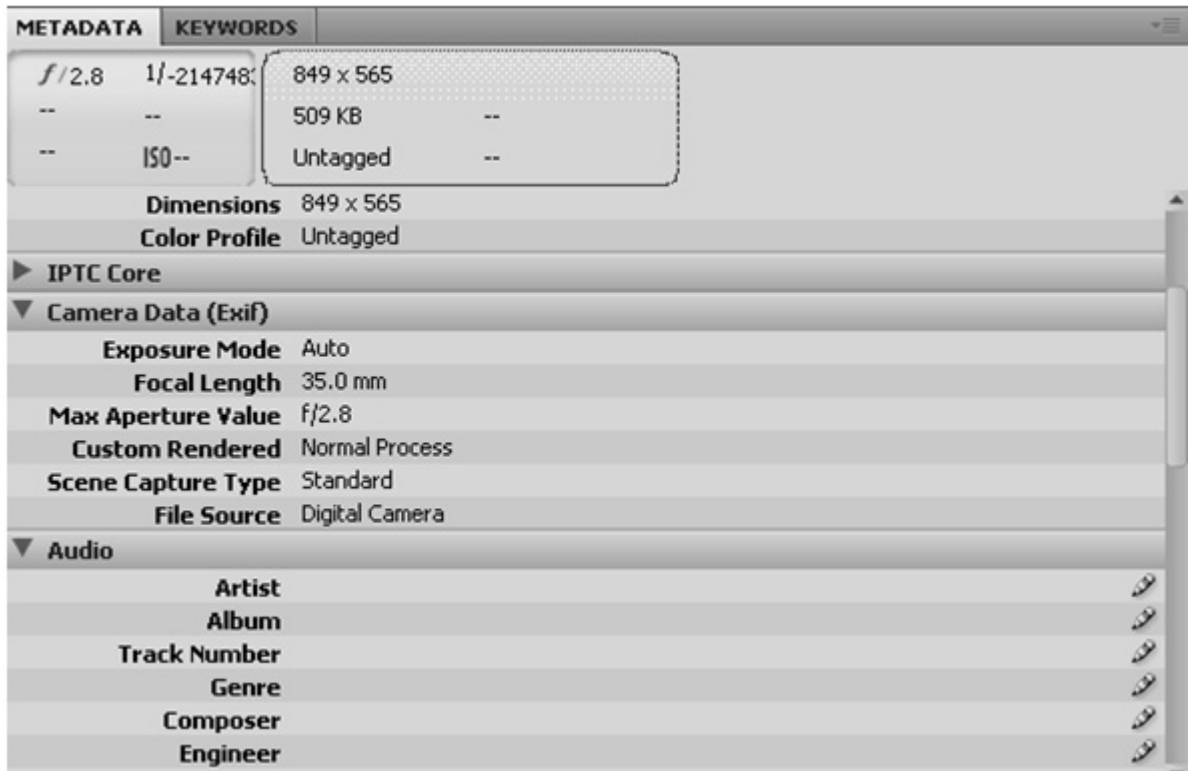
You can view metadata directly through the Adobe Bridge menus and panels, or you can right-click the asset and choose File Info.

The Adobe Bridge Label menu gives you access to the view and edit rating and label information:

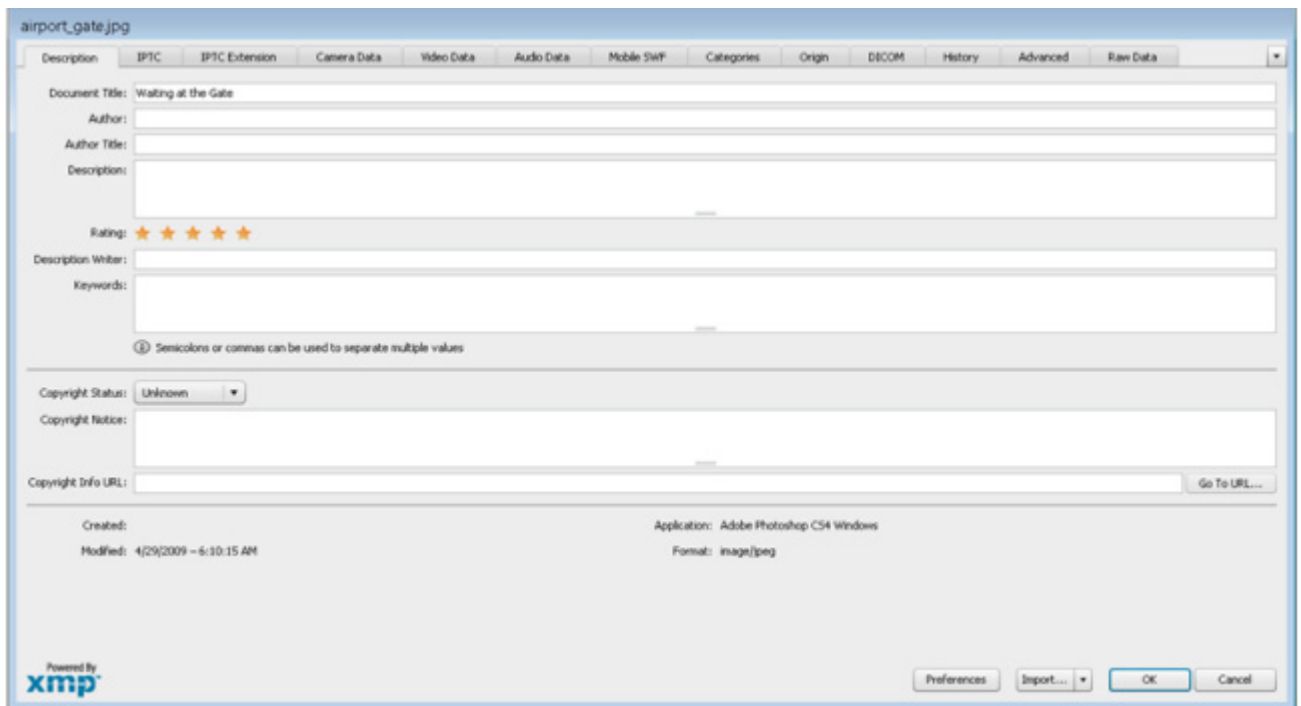


For other XMP properties, use the Adobe Bridge Metadata and Keywords panels:





The File Info dialog provides access to all XMP metadata properties:

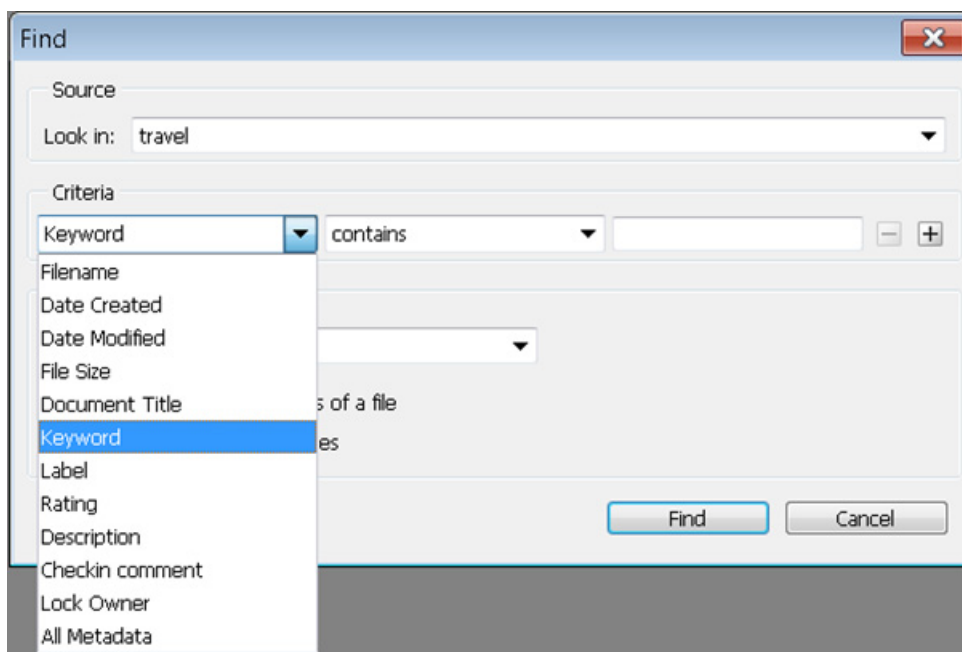


## Searching documents and folders

To search for a document or a folder on a CQ DAM server from Adobe Bridge:

1. Select Adobe Drive from the Favorites panel and open the folder in the CQ DAM drive you want to search.
2. Choose **Edit > Find**.
3. Choose search criteria by selecting options and limiters from the Criteria menus.
4. Enter search text in the box on the right. To add search criteria, click the plus sign (+). To remove search criteria, click the minus sign (-).
5. Choose an option from the Match menu to specify whether *any* or *all* criteria must be met.
6. Click **Find**.

The "Search includes all versions of a file" and "Search includes deleted files" options in the Find dialog are ignored.



**NOTE:** You can search assets based on any metadata information except "File size", "Check in comment", or "Lock owner" (although these are listed in the search criteria).

## Check-out and version management

Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, and Adobe InDesign or InCopy automatically check out a managed document when the first edit is made.

- ▶ Check the document in using the **File > Check In** menu.
- ▶ To cancel checkout, close the document and click **Don't Save** when prompted for whether changes should be saved.

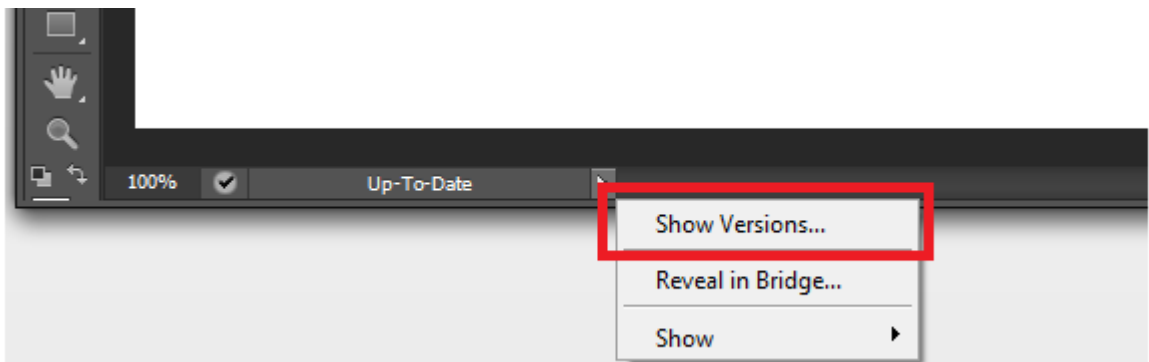
In other applications, you must check out manually, modify and save the document and then check in manually.

- ▶ In Mac OS Finder or Windows Explorer, invoke the context menu (right-click in Windows or CTRL-click in Mac OS) and choose the desired action from the **Adobe Drive 4** menu (**Check Out**, **Check In**, or **Cancel Check Out**).

## Managing document versions

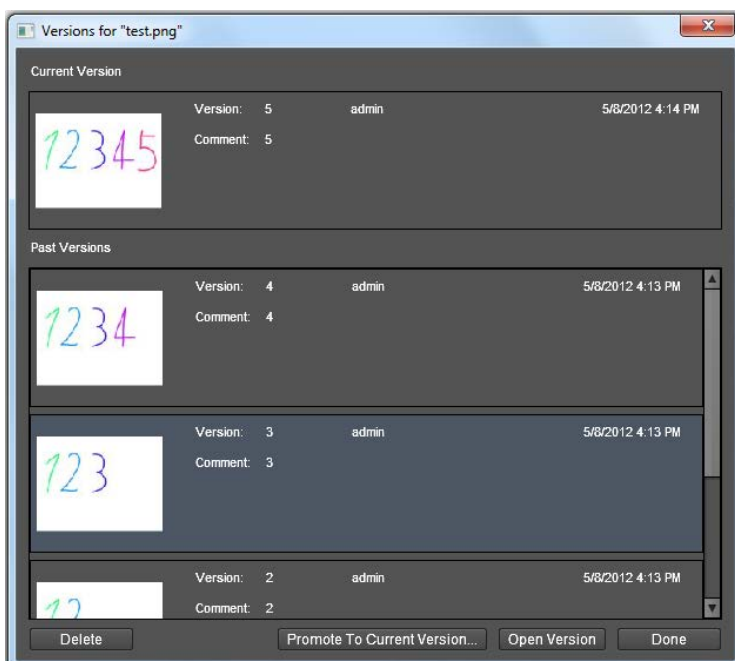
All documents created or modified via the Adobe CQ Digital Asset Management Connector are versioned. Versions track changes to a document. Each version is a snapshot of the document at a particular point in time. When you check a document in, you create a new version of the document on the CQ DAM server.

- ▶ In Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, and Adobe InDesign or InCopy, use the **Show Versions** popup menu on the status bar to display the versions of a document in the Versions dialog.



- ▶ In Mac OS Finder or Windows Explorer, invoke the context menu (right-click in Windows or CTRL-click in Mac OS) for the document or folder, and choose **Adobe Drive 4 > Show Versions**.

You can use this dialog to delete, promote and open selected versions.



You can also use the UI for the CQ DAM server to display versions of a document, or show different versions in Adobe Bridge. When multiple versions are shown in Adobe Bridge, the metadata associated with the currently selected version appears in the Metadata panel.

If you check out an unversioned document, checking in the edited document creates version 1 of that document. If you cancel the checkout, the document remains unversioned.

## Release notes

- ▶ Some special characters, such as / : [ ] \* | , are not supported in file and folder names. Avoid using them. [2918134].
- ▶ Adobe Drive cannot show version information for files that were not originally uploaded through Adobe Drive. Such files have no version in a CQ 5.4 DAM server. (They are shown correctly in CQ 5.5.) After you edit the files and check them in through Adobe Drive, the correct version information is shown. [2918182].
- ▶ Browsing or refreshing a folder containing many documents or sub-folders is slow. The recommended maximum number of documents and subfolders in a folder is 200.
- ▶ If an asset is renamed by another user in Adobe Bridge on another machine, its thumbnail and preview cannot be displayed or opened in Adobe Bridge on a local machine. To correct this, reconnect to the DAM server. [2908147]
- ▶ CQ DAM servers do not support the generation of renditions for 32bits/channel and Multichannel PSD files. Avoid checking files of these types. [2924780]
- ▶ When you check in an edited document from Photoshop or Illustrator, you are prompted to save it: "The disk copy of 'x' was changed since you last opened or saved it. Do you want to save anyway?" The confirmation should not appear.
- ▶ CQ DAM servers do not support event notifications for file and folder changes. If you are browsing in Adobe Bridge when another user deletes or moves a folder, your window does not automatically refresh to show the change. Display the parent folder to refresh manually, or clear the Adobe Bridge cache. [2921270]
- ▶ The Adobe CQ Digital Asset Management Connector does not support setting the last modification date of a file, which Adobe applications expect. You might see an alert in some cases; for example:
  - ▷ Open an InDesign file that links to other files, package the file to the server using File > Package, then open the packaged InDesign file. An alert warns "This document contains links to sources that have been modified. You can update the modified links now, or update them later using the Links Panel."
  - Choose Update Links to update the modification date.
  - ▷ Create a new file in Photoshop and check it in to the server, leaving it open in Photoshop. If you double-click the newly created file in Adobe Bridge or a platform file browser, an alert warns: "The disk copy of "xx" was changed since you last opened or saved it. Do you wish to update it?"
  - Choose Update to update the modification date.
- ▶ In Adobe Bridge, when you copy or move a file or check in a version after the first one, you cannot cancel the operation. If you click Cancel in the progress dialog, the operation continues. [2926863]

- ▶ Adobe Bridge does not correctly display the ColorMode and BitDepth XMP metadata values for a file that has been checked in to a CQ DAM server. [#3108447]
- ▶ When working with XMP metadata in managed files on a CQ 5.4 DAM server, the last keyword for a file cannot be removed using the Metadata panel in Adobe Bridge. [2918839]
- ▶ When you edit the metadata for a file that was previously checked in with a comment, then display the new version with the changed metadata in CQ 5.5, it shows the comment from the previous check-in, rather than a comment about the metadata change or an empty comment. [3119970]
- ▶ When you change some IPTC metadata values in the XMP metadata (such as City and Address), using Adobe Bridge or the CQ DAM server, the changes are not written correctly on save. If the values were edited in the server, the old value remains. If they were edited in Adobe Bridge, the fields are empty. [3119972]
- ▶ If you rename an asset in a CQ DAM server that has multiple versions, then promote an older version of the renamed file to be the head version, you can no longer check out the asset, and a new file is created with the original name. [3121197]
- ▶ If you use Adobe Bridge to move a file managed by a CQ 5.5 server to another folder, any additional versions of that file are lost. [3117902]
- ▶ If you promote an older version to be the head version of a file managed by CQ 5.5, the check-in comment for the previous head version is shown for the new head version. [3117901]
- ▶ If you open a file in a CQ DAM server and edit the metadata, then immediately open the file in a CS application, you can get an error message "This document may be damaged (the file may be truncated or incomplete)." This occurs when the DAM server has not finished writing the changed file before the CS application attempts to open it. The file is not damaged; you can close the error dialog and initiate the file-open operation again. [3119984]