



ERPANET Workshop
Antwerpen, Belgium
April 14-16, 2004



The Role of Audit and Certification in Digital Preservation

Feedback Report

Participants were asked to fill in a feedback form and to make comments about their experiences of the workshop. In total **forty-four people** from **ten countries** attended the workshop. **Twenty-four** - more than half the participants - filled in the feedback forms.

Feedback about the Workshop

This section of the form asked participants to grade certain aspects of the workshop. They used a scale ranging one to five, where **one = Poor** and **five = Excellent**. The tables below show the percentage of participants ticking which rating. For each question a single weighted number indicates the participants' satisfaction.

1. Effectiveness of Speakers :

1	0.00
2	4.17
3	16.67
4	70.83
5	8.33

Participants considered the diverse backgrounds of the speakers particularly valuable. They also approved of the apparent expertise of each speaker. While being experts in their specific fields, the speakers tailored their presentations to the background knowledge of the participants and delivered understandable and valuable talks.

2. Structure of the workshop:

1	0.00
2	4.17
3	20.83
4	58.33
5	16.67

3. Background Documentation:

1	0.00
2	0.00
3	29.17
4	58.33
5	12.50

4. Organisation of the workshop:

1	0.00
2	0.00
3	4.17
4	62.50
5	33.33

5. Workshop Focus:

1	0.00
2	3.03
3	9.09
4	45.45
5	33.33
n/a	9.09

6. Was the cost acceptable?

yes	100 %
no	0 %
n/a	0 %

7. Did this workshop meet your expectations?

yes	92 %
no	8 %
n/a	0 %

8. What will you be able to take from this workshop back to your own organisations?

For many participants, the workshop provided an introduction into new concepts including maturity of organisations, risk assessment, and quality control. The big picture of audit and information management was very valuable to them. This will allow them to implement improved standard compliance in their organisation and probably advance it to the next maturity level.

9. What else would you liked to have seen covered at this workshop?

Those nine participants who answered this question found the discussions too general and abstract. Some suggested to focus more on case studies than on the theoretical framework behind those cases, to give the workshop a more practical orientation.

10. What did you like best about this workshop?

Similar to other ERPANET events, participants liked the break-out sessions and the interactive nature of the workshop. Not least they enjoyed the social programme (incl food, weather and location) and the opportunities for informal discussions. Particularly the interdisciplinary aspect of the workshop was underlined.

11. What did you like least?

Responses to this question mainly focused on the workshop structure:

- the workshop focus on the issues audit and digital preservation was unbalanced;
- the transferability of some of the presentations was limited;
- too much focus on archives, not well generalised to other organisations; and
- too many speakers.

A number of participants criticised the hot room temperature and the small sitting space.

About the Participants

This section was designed to gain insight into the participants themselves, focussing on their profession, affiliations, and reasons for attending the workshop.

12. Type of organisation (percentage of participants)

Public Sector	71
Academic	25
Commercial	4
Consultancy	0
Other	0

13. Position (number of participants)

Archivist	9
IT specialist	8
Other *	4
Information Professional	3
Programme Manager	2
Librarian	0
Consultant	0

* Other positions mentioned by workshop participants included auditor and lawyer.

14. How did you hear about this workshop?

(multiple answers were possible) (percentage of participants)

Colleague	33
Listserv	25
ERPANET website	25
Through Organisation	8
Web search	0

15. What motivated you to attend?

(multiple answers were possible) (percentage of participants)

Topic	75
Preservation	38
ERPANET	38
Speakers	25
Location	17

The Future

16. Are you likely to attend other ERPANET events in the future?

(percentage of participants)

yes	88 %
no	0 %
n/a	13 %

17. Are there any topics that you would like to see ERPANET provide training on?

Suggestions for future workshop topics included:

- preservation issues towards the greater public and humanities researchers (historians, sociologists, art historians);
- preservation of (scientific) data;
- standards for record keeping systems.