digital preservation projects

Electronic Resource Preservation and Access Network

Further information on ERPANET and access to its other products is available at http://www.erpanet.org.

A great deal of additional information on the European Union is available on the Internet. It can be accessed through the Europa server (http://europa.eu.int).

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Activate

URL http://www.activate.ie

The ACTIVATE EU project is testing the use of new technology to open new modes of access to cultural content. Existing content is being digitised, and a thematic network built. Virtual access is being opened to conservation sites of cultural and historical importance. The project builds templates for thematic network portals and content sites, using recent advances in Internet technologies. It is also building a virtual reality model of a historic landscape, (Scattery Island in County Clare) to provide a new way of accessing existing rich stores of cultural content concerning the landscape. Each step of the process is documented and the appropriate templates and tools provided, to produce an out-of-the-box solution for cultural providers across Europe who wish to replicate the project's work. The project results and product are being disseminated in a focussed manner to cultural providers. The ultimate aim of the project is to produce downloadable templates for creating your own thematic network. As a pilot test project a local history thematic network is being created. An Chomhairle Leabharlanna is working in partnership with Clare County Library, Cork City Library, Silverstorm Ltd. and The Digital Media Centre, Dublin Institute of Technology.

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(in Spanish)

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AHDS (Arts and Humanities Data Service)

URL http://ahds.ac.uk/digital.htm

The Arts and Humanities Data Service is a UK national service funded by the JISC and AHRB to collect, preserve and promote the electronic resources which result from research and teaching in the arts and humanities. It encourages research and educational use of its collections and makes information about them available through online catalogues. The identification and promotion of shared standards is critical to the AHDS's work. Preserving and exchanging digital information relies upon their widespread adoption and so does a more integrated approach to resource discovery which may help our users to find the resources they require irrespective of where they are located or how they are stored. The AHDS is composed by 5 subject teams: Archaeology Data Service, Visual Arts Data Service, Oxford Text Archive, Performing Arts Data Service, History Data Service that deal with different kinds of digital data.

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ARCHISIG (Conclusive and Secure long-term archiving of digitally)

URL http://www.archisig.de

In the 'ArchiSig' project, archiving concepts and technologies are taken up and extended in a way that will allow secure and conclusive long-term archiving of digitally generated and signed data for 30 years or more. This involves the development of system architectures with new technical components and organizational concepts to guarantee the security of digital signatures. The solutions have to be practical, cost effective and in accordance to legislation in order to allow their deployment in various areas of the society.

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The Archives of France is developing guidelines for electronic archives. The Archives of France control the National Archives and the regional, departmental, and municipal archive agencies, as well as the archive agencies of organizations that are authorized, by way of derogation, to manage their permanent archives. The Archives of France is exploring the possibility of cooperating with BnF on archiving government Web sites. Such collaboration would have significant technical benefits, because French archives are decentralized and central IT support is limited. It is anticipated that the Archives will want to process Web sites differently than the BnF does, given archival interests in the hierarchy and administrative context of the documents.

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Archives Hub (gateway to archives at universities and colleges in UK)

URL http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk

The Archives Hub provides a single point of access to descriptions of archives held in UK universities and colleges. At present these are primarily at collection-level, although where possible they are linked to complete catalogue descriptions. The Archives Hub forms one part of the UK's National Archives Network, alongside related networking projects. A Steering Committee which includes representatives of the Public Record Office, the Historical Manuscripts Commission and the other archive networks guides the progress of the project. There is also a Contributors' and Users' Forum which provides feedback to aid the development of the service.

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**ARELDA Project of the Swiss Federal Archives**

**URL**  
http://www.bundesarchiv.ch/

The Swiss Federal Archives is responsible for the safe-keeping of their records. Concepts and techniques are developed and realized to preserve the documents which are a part of Switzerland's cultural assets. The preservation of records comprises 3 phases: preventative conservation of all documents, bulk conservation of individual fonds and restoration of endangered or damaged documents. The Swiss Federal Archives aim is to prevent damage through use backup copies (microfilm, digital copies) of records are made. Acidic paper is treated in bulk within the framework of Papersave Swiss. The preservation of new forms of media presents the archives with a great challenge. The Swiss Federal Archives participates in the archiving of audio-visual media with an in-house group of specialists FAGAM and as a member of Memoriav. The Swiss Federal Archives has been recording digital data since 1982. The special department ARELDA is entrusted with such recordkeeping and supports or advises the records management team of the Federal Archives as well as the departments of the Federal Administration. In addition, this special department strives for long-term solutions for permanent archiving within the framework of the e-government-project ARELDA.

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Ariadne

URL http://www.ariadne.ac.uk

Ariadne is a magazine targeted principally at information science professionals in academia, and also to interested lay people both in and beyond the Higher Education community. Its main geographic focus is the UK, but it is widely read in the US and worldwide. The magazine has as its principal goal: to report on information service developments and information networking issues worldwide, keeping up with the current digital library initiatives. It has reported in depth to the information community at large on progress and developments within the UK Electronic Libraries Programme since its inception, and now additionally reports on newer JISC-funded programmes and services, including the DNER, the JISC Information Environment, and the RDN.

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The ARNO project (Academic Research in the Netherlands Online) aims to develop and implement university document servers to make available the scientific output of participating institutions. The ARNO project is funded by IWI (Innovation in Scientific Information Supply). Project participants are the Universiteit van Amsterdam, Tilburg University and the University of Twente. The project continues to build on earlier IWI projects in the area of electronic publishing and on international initiatives such as "The Open Archives Initiative".

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ARTISTE

URL http://www.it-innovation.soton.ac.uk/artiste/

ARTISTE (http://www.artisteweb.org/) is a European Commission supported project that has developed integrated content and metadata-based image retrieval across several major art galleries in Europe. Collaborating galleries include the Louvre in Paris, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Uffizi Gallery in Florence and the National Gallery in London.

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Audata (Consultancy in Information Management)

URL http://www.audata.co.uk

Audata Ltd. is a unique consultancy working at strategic and practical levels to provide Information Management solutions, ranging from professional Records Management through development of policies and procedures, to EDMS, biometric solutions and digital preservation. Audata Ltd. was founded in April 1998.

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BETADE- DIOC Building blocks for Effective Telematics Application Development and Evaluation

URL http://www.betade.tudelft.nl/

BETADE is dealing with the modelling, analysis, design, implementation, and operation of different aspects of distributed processes that can be done using the same set of components or building blocks. The main idea is to first model the processes using a consistent (simulation) library of building blocks, and then use a completely similar structured set of building blocks for implementing the organizational structure, ICT support, and document flows. Taking into account these different aspects of complex systems design gives the BETADE program a broad research focus. Researchers pay for instance attention to: information exchange and document standards using e.g. XML, libraries of components and building blocks for modelling and simulation, applications in document management and longevity of documents and metamodels for component based design and repositories to store and maintain models. The project is based in the Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management, which is part of the Delft University of Technology.

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The Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF) is funded through the French Ministry of Culture and has a staff of 2,800. It has an annual budget of 1 billion French francs for operating costs. This sum excludes salaries, which are controlled by and paid for separately by the Ministry of Education (the librarians) or the Ministry of Culture (other staff). Six hundred staff members are on short-term contracts funded from the operating costs. The library does not lend materials or supply documents. It is solely a library of last resort with on-site access to any material in copyright that has been deposited.

Digitisation of collections started in 1992 and includes materials in the national library and in associated library collections. There has been a strong focus on digitizing public-domain print collections, and they are made available through the Gallica Web site. The digitized collection consists of homogenous documented formats and has already been migrated once. A large program for digitizing video as well as digital preservation has just started.

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BND - Biblioteca Nacional Digital

URL http://bnd.bn.pt

BND is a project of the National Library of Portugal covering the deposit of digital publications, digitisation, digital publishing, digital preservation and the development of technology for all the related areas.

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Budapest Open Access Initiative

URL  http://www.osi.hu

The Budapest Open Access Initiative arises from a small but lively meeting convened in Budapest by the Open Society Institute (OSI) on December 1-2, 2001. The purpose of the meeting was to accelerate progress in the international effort to make research articles in all academic fields freely available on the internet. The participants represented many points of view, many academic disciplines, and many nations, and had experience with many of the ongoing initiatives that make up the open access movement. In Budapest they explored how the separate initiatives could work together to achieve broader, deeper, and faster success. They explored the most effective and affordable strategies for serving the interests of research, researchers, and the institutions and societies that support research. Finally, they explored how OSI and other foundations could use their resources most productively to aid the transition to open access and to make open-access publishing economically self-sustaining. The result is the Budapest Open Access Initiative. It is at once a statement of principle, a statement of strategy, and a statement of commitment.

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The CAMiLEON Project is developing and evaluating a range of technical strategies for the long term preservation of digital materials. User evaluation studies and a preservation cost analysis are providing answers as to when and where these strategies will be used. The project is a joint undertaking between the Universities of Michigan (USA) and Leeds (UK) and is funded by JISC and NSF. CAMiLEON stands for Creative Archiving at Michigan & Leeds: Emulating the Old on the New. Emulation has been proposed as a digital preservation strategy that would enable obsolete systems to be run on future unknown systems, making it possible to retrieve, display and use digital documents with their original software. An apparent advantage of this approach is its potential to capture the ‘look and feel’ of digital objects as well as their intellectual content. Emulation as a preservation strategy raises many issues that the project will evaluate.

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The Cedars project began in April 1998 and was initially funded for three years. It began as a collaboration between three CURL institutions, the universities of Leeds, Cambridge and Oxford. The increasing investment in and dependence on digital resources makes it crucially important that greater attention is given to how those resources are going to remain accessible beyond the very short term if there are not to be severe consequences for scholarly research. The original project proposal stated that the main objective of the project was ‘to address strategic, methodological and practical issues and provide guidance in best practice for digital preservation. The Preservation 2000 Conference was hosted by Cedars to highlight international progress in digital preservation and was originally intended to mark the end of the project. A second project proposal for additional JISC funding for an additional year was successful. The extension year, to run from April 2001 to March 2001, sought to focus primarily to consolidate and disseminate the work of the previous three years.
CILIP (Chartered Institute of Libraries and Information Professionals)

URL http://www.cilip.org.uk

CILIP is the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, a new professional body formed following the unification of the Institute of Information Scientists (IIS) and The Library Association (LA). CILIP's Mission is to: • set, maintain, monitor and promote standards of excellence in the creation, management, exploitation and sharing of information and knowledge resources; • support the principle of equality of access to information, ideas and works of the imagination which it affirms is fundamental to a thriving economy, democracy, culture and civilisation; • enable its Members to achieve and maintain the highest professional standards in all aspects of delivering an information service, both for the professional and the public good. CILIP’S new project is to identify copyright and licensing issues that currently hinder digital preservation and looks at whether new legislation will help.

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04 March 2004
The Ministry of Culture has funded coordinated research on technology, including research on producing archival-quality CDs. The Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES) has led the development of the OAIS reference model standard in France and has coordinated development of an informal group, Pérennisation des Informations Numériques (PIN), that is working on this and other standards and guidelines.

Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales, 18 Avenue Edouard Belin, Toulouse Cedex 4, 31401 France
CORDIS, the European Commission's Research and Development Information Service

URL http://www.cordis.lu

CORDIS, the European Commission's Research and Development Information Service, is providing a new Guidance interface to help explain the wide range of information available on its key services. One of the projects that deal with Digital Preservation is the Computerised Bibliographic Record Actions Plus Preservation and Service Developments for Electronic Publications. This is a concerted action, involving national libraries in Europe. Its main goals are to build on a concertation activity (CoBRA) set up in 1993 to promote initiatives and actions in the area of national bibliographic services at a European level. CoBRA+ consolidates previous work while widening its focus beyond national bibliographic services to include collection based issues particularly those concerned with electronic publications and related service developments in national libraries. Particular emphasis is placed on resource access and sharing, user needs and the use of communications networks to achieve these aims.

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The Consortium Universitaire des Périodiques Numériques (COUPERIN), the main purchasing consortium for university libraries, is concerned about the archiving of and future access to the journals to which it subscribes. COUPERIN is reluctant to rely solely on publishers for these long-term arrangements. It has begun discussing with the BnF arrangements under which BnF would archive electronic journals that fall outside of legal deposit. BnF would wish to seek payment for this; however, because the costs of digital preservation are uncertain, BnF cannot now make contractual commitments to third parties.

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CULTIVATE is a pan European network for the Digital Cultural Heritage community including IT staff, information professionals, researchers, managers, policy makers, libraries, museums, archives, galleries, non-profit making organisations, etc. CULTIVATE is the answer to the need for a newly structured network supporting the co-operation of all memory institutions (e.g. archives, libraries and museums) under the European Commission's Information Society Technologies (IST) Programme. Most partners are national nodes for Cultural Heritage Applications in their countries and co-ordinates activities in their national network. They are also active in the co-operation at European level. Some of the national nodes have also undertaken tasks of European dimension.

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CURL (Consortium of University Research Libraries)

URL http://www.curl.ac.uk

CURL was formed in 1983 to bring together the larger research-based university libraries in the UK and Ireland, to share resources and to foster collaboration for the mutual benefit of the CURL libraries and the users of their collections. During the 1990s CURL's membership expanded, and by the beginning of 2000 there were twenty-one university libraries in full membership of the consortium. The shared interests of university research libraries with the national libraries and other institutions with major research collections, is recognised by including these libraries as associate members of CURL. It’s mission is to promote, maintain and improve library resources for research, learning and teaching in research-led universities, as well as develop co-operative and consortial solutions to the challenges faced by members, in the acquisition, processing, storage, preservation, exploitation, dissemination and delivery of information and library materials, for the benefit of their institutions.

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CYCLADES is developing an open collaborative virtual archive service environment supporting both single scholars as well as scholarly communities in carrying out their work. In particular, it will provide functionality to access large, heterogeneous, multidisciplinary archives distributed over the Web and to support remote collaboration among the members of communities of interest. CYCLADES will run on the data environment composed by the archives that adhere to the Open Archives Initiatives harvesting protocol specifications (http://www.openarchives.org). From the technical point of view, CYCLADES will consist of the following federation of independent but interoperable services characterised by the following key features: Access (harvest-based information gathering, plus indexing and storage of gathered information in a local database) and Digital Preservation.

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The processing of information is more and more a matter of computers and electronic files. The question how these electronic files can be archived in a secure and lasting way, is keeping the world of archives busy since many years. Everyone can see that digital archiving offers many advantages, also if traditional paper documents are concerned. Digital archives are more accessible and they take up less room. Digital archiving is however rather new and full of uncertainties. How can one guarantee the integrity of electronic archives? An electronic file can be changed rather easily. And how can one assure that an electronic file stays legible in the long term, considering the fast evolution in hardware and software? There are no standards yet and there are still many questions about the "digital durability" of electronic archival material. DAVID’s aim is to ensure the long-term preservation of the electronic records.

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DELOS

URL http://delos-noe.iei.pi.cnr.it

The Network activities of DELOS are organized into five Forums, each consisting of a set of actions. This organization has been chosen to stress an important feature of DELOS, i.e. its openness to the Digital Library research world and the relevant user communities (libraries, archives, museums, electronic publishing, broadcasting, etc.). DELOS’ mission is:

• To accelerate and enhance research into digital libraries; to provide appropriate testbeds for evaluating research in the digital library domain.
• To follow, participate in and contribute to on-going activities on relevant standards by creating appropriate working groups with the task of examining a specific cluster of relevant standards; to effect the transfer of research results into implementation while providing researchers with feedback on practical problems of deployment; to disseminate the results of working group activities in the form of white papers, workshop proceedings and reports.

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DIAMM (Digital Image Archive of Medieval Music)

URL  http://www.diamm.ac.uk

The purpose of the Digital Image Archive of Medieval Music (DIAMM) is to obtain, archive and, where necessary, enhance digital images of European sources of medieval polyphonic music. These include a relatively small number of complete manuscripts, found throughout Britain and continental Europe which have been widely studied since their discovery by scholars at various times over the past century. They also include the much more numerous manuscript fragments, often barely legible and hard to place and interpret, which amount to a rich but widely scattered resource that has been relatively neglected, partly because of the difficulty of access, legibility and comparison of widely scattered materials that are at the same time vulnerable to damage and loss. The project has created a new permanent electronic archive of these images, both to facilitate detailed study of this music and its sources, and to assure their permanent preservation.

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04 March 2004
DigiBib HBZ – Digitale Bibliothek Hochschulzentrum Nordrhein-Westfalen.

URL http://www hbz-nrw.de/DigiBib/

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Digicult

URL   http://www.digicult.info

DigiCULT draws on the results of the strategic study "Technological Landscapes for Tomorrow's Cultural Economy - DigiCULT", that was initiated by the European Commission, DG Information Society (Unit D2: Cultural Heritage Applications) in 2000 and completed in 2001.

Guntram Geser

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Digital Archive

URL  http://www.pro.gov.uk/about/preservation/digital/archive/default

Digital Archive that stores computer records transferred from UK Government departments

Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Surrey
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The National Archives

tel: 0208 392 5257
fax: 
email: digitalarchive@nationalarchives.gov.uk
Digital Information Office

URL http://dio.cdlr.strath.ac.uk/

The Strathclyde University Digital Information Office provides advice and guidelines for the management of electronic teaching, learning and research resources within the University, and services for access to Strathclyde-produced electronic resources. The Digital Information Office develops standards and guidelines on digital preservation issues.

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Digital Preservation project

URL http://www.lib.ed.ac.uk/speccoll/

The Special Collections Department in the University Library has initiated a Digital Preservation project which aims to provide advice and act as a focus to raise awareness, university-wide, of Digital Preservation issues. For any organisation or department that produces electronic information, a strategic preservation plan is vital to ensure the physical reliability, continued usability, and intellectual integrity of their files. The project aims to recommend and produce guidelines for the future publishing of University web sites and electronic materials, and will produce a comprehensive strategy for the permanent preservation of the University's core electronic publications.

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This DLM Forum covers several areas of interest, (national policies & initiatives, organisational change, exploitation, and ICT) and formulates a series of recommendations. In particular, it provides a roadmap of how cultural heritage technologies will or could develop in the near future (until 2006).
digital preservation initiatives

DNEP: Digital Archive Store Project

URL http://www.kb.nl/kb/dnp/dnep-en.html

The National Library of the Netherlands (KB) collects the published and literary heritage of the country. KB initiatives include developing the Digital Archive Store Project (DNEP), a national agreement on voluntary deposit with publishers, a long-term digital preservation study with IBM, and many digitisation projects, including the Memory of the Netherlands and Treasures of the National Library. The latter two projects focus on improving access and interoperability with other collections. In its capacity as National Library of the Netherlands the KB is responsible for the Dutch deposit library. The aim of the deposit library is to collect, catalogue and preserve all publications appearing in the Netherlands. As the number of electronic publications is on the rise, the KB has embraced the important task of preserving and providing long-term access to Dutch electronic publications. It has developed a digital information archiving system which is the technical heart of the ‘e-Depot’ project. It is primarily intended for archiving publications by Dutch publishers. In addition, the KB’s research initiatives are geared towards ensuring long-term access.

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04 March 2004
DNER (Distributed National Electronic Resource)

URL http://www.jisc.ac.uk.dner

The Distributed National Electronic Resource (DNER) is a managed environment for accessing quality assured information resources on the Internet which are available from many sources. These resources include scholarly journals, monographs, textbooks, abstracts, manuscripts, maps, music scores, still images, geospatial images and other kinds of vector and numeric data, as well as moving picture and sound collections. The DNER team no longer exists as an administrative entity, and the new JISC executive structure means that team members are distributed throughout all 4 branches of the JISC executive. The documents accessible from the list on the left are retained for historical interest.

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digital preservation initiatives

DOMEA: Dokumentenmanagement und elektronische Archivierung

URL http://www.uni-koblenz.de/fvi/projekte/domea.html

(In German)

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Domesday for Windows

URL http://www.pro.gov.uk/about/preservation/digital/domesday/def

The National Archives has recently unveiled a new version of the 1986 BBC Domesday Project in the archives library at Kew. Together with LongLife Data Ltd, ATSF and the BBC, the National Archives have rescued data from the famous Domesday discs and made it available through a new Windows PC interface.
Cambridge University Library, in association with the University Computing Service, has formulated a major project to provide the University with an institutional digital repository, ‘DSpace@Cambridge’. This repository will provide a home for the increasing amount of material that is being digitised from the University Library’s own printed and manuscript collections. It also has the ability to capture, index, store, disseminate and preserve digital materials created in any part of the University. These will potentially include scholarly communications (articles and pre-prints), theses, technical reports, archives of departments and the University as a whole, and other textual material, together with different formats such as multimedia clips, interactive teaching programmes, data sets and databases.

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The European Commission on Preservation and Access (ECPA) was established in 1994 to promote activities aimed at keeping collections in European archives and libraries accessible over time. Books, documents, photographs, films, tapes and disks are all subject to decay. The digital revolution has introduced new problems of obsolescence of soft- and hardware. In order to keep our documentary heritage available for future generations of users, large-scale programmes must be developed for its preservation. The ECPA aims to raise public awareness of this issue and to impress the urgency of the situation on policy makers, funding agents, and users. The ECPA acts as a European platform for discussion and cooperation of heritage organizations in areas of preservation and access. The publications of the Commission are widely distributed to institutions throughout Europe. To promote the exchange of knowledge and experience, the ECPA organizes conferences, meetings and workshops.

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Edina Digital Conservatory

URL http://edina.ac.uk/

The purpose of this section of the EDINA project (Digital Conservatory) is to assist staff and users in finding information about digital preservation and related issues. EDINA is a JISC funded national Data Centre. It offers the UK education and research community networked access to a library of data, information and research resources. EDINA is also undertaking a number of projects that will provide useful learning and teaching resources to the UK tertiary education community. Whilst EDINA does not hold archival responsibility for many of the resources it hosts, staff are looking into best practice for identifying the locus of archival responsibility for each resource, as well as identifying issues of preservation for digital materials.

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URL  http://www.cio.gv.at/elektronischerAkt/

(In German only)
Elektra collects, publishes and archives the articles of the leading Finnish scientific journals in electronic form. It is a joint project between Helsinki University Library, The Federation of Finnish Learned Societies and Kopiosto. Elektra aims at enhancing both the services and the technical and contractual conditions of electronic publishing and network access of electronic publications in Finland. The Elektra material can be found via the Finnish national Arto article database. The use of the material is restricted to those institutions which have paid for it. Currently these institutions include all Finnish public libraries, all vocational high schools and most Finnish universities. At the moment the Elektra material consists of more than 8000 full-text articles (mostly in pdf format) from circa 30 scientific journals. In addition to this, there are also 57 academic dissertations. The articles can be viewed on the screen or printed out on paper.

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**English Heritage**

**URL** http://www.english-heritage.org.uk

English Heritage aims to help people understand and appreciate why the historic buildings and landscapes around them matter. From the first traces of civilisation, to the most significant buildings of the 20th century, they want every important historic site to get the care and attention it deserves. English Heritage is composed by different subject areas, one of them, the Centre for Archaeology has developed strategies for managing its digital archives. The strategy is intended to establish best practice for the preservation of, and provision of access to, the full range of digital archaeological data of long-term value for which CfA is responsible.

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EPICUR (Enhancement of Persistent Identifier Services - Comprehensive Method for unequivocal Resource Identification)

URL http://www.persistent-identifier.de

Persistent Identifiers are essential conditions for an effective management of digital resources and reliable access to electronic documents. Currently several Persistent Identifiers services have been established. But there is a general demand concerning the active introduction of Persistent Identifiers, further development of technical components of Persistent Identifier services and the establishment of an organisational infrastructure regarding Persistent Identifiers. In the framework of the project CARMEN-AP4 Die Deutsche Bibliothek implemented a Uniform Resource Name (URN) Management. The objective of the EPICUR project is to expand the existing PI-service to enable complementary application of several PI systems. At international level a URN Information Centre shall be establishes in co-operation with the national library of Finland

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EROS: Electronic Records in Office Systems

URL http://www.pro.gov.uk/recordsmanagement/eros/overview.htm

This is one of a series of guidance documents on the management, appraisal and preservation of electronic records in government, produced under the auspices of the Electronic Records from Office Systems (EROS) Programme of the Public Record Office. This guidance document sets out the principles of electronic records management and outlines broad strategies for translating the principles into practice. Related guidance documents will describe appropriate records and information practice and procedures in more detail, including: best practice in records management procedures for capturing, keeping and making available electronic records, the development of inventories and the process of appraisal and disposal of electronic records, strategies for permanent preservation, and the current requirements for transfer of records in electronic form to the Public Record Office.

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England
tel: 020 8392 5330, extension 2670
fax: 020 8392 5283
email: records-management@nationalarchives.gov.uk
In November 2000 the Director General of Research Councils, Dr John Taylor, announced £98M funding for a new UK e-Science programme. The JISC and the Research Council’s e-Science Core Programme are inviting bids to establish a national Digital Curation Centre (DCC) to lead research and development into key areas of digital curation for data and publications, and to pilot the development of generic support services for maintaining digital data and research results over their entire life-cycle for current and future users. The DCC is intended to provide a national focus for research into curation issues and expertise in the processes of digital archiving, preservation and management.

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European Centre for Digital Culture, Knowledge Organisation and Learning Technology

URL http://www.mmi.unimaas.nl
The Maastricht McLuhan Institute (MMI), European Centre for Digital Culture, Knowledge Organisation and Learning Technology, was officially opened by Dr Eric McLuhan in November, 1998 and began its formal activities in January, 1999 at the Grote Gracht 82 in Maastricht. MMI is an initiative of the Universiteit Maastricht, the Hogeschool Maastricht, the Hogeschool Limburg, the Limburgs Universitair Centrum (Diepenbeek), the LIOF Industriebank N.V. and the Province of Limburg. The mission of the Research Unit on Digital Culture is twofold: • to study the implications of ICT developments for culture and knowledge organisation. Academic research entails postgraduate students and visiting scholars. • to create comprehensive strategies for searching, structuring, using and presenting digital resources more coherently and efficiently; to integrate past knowledge and produce ordered knowledge that leads to new understanding and insights. To achieve the latter, the research unit is developing an existing software, SUMS, in conjunction with a prototype of a Virtual Reference Room. The implications of this work for education and business are being developed by the Learning Lab and Competence Centre respectively. MMI was chosen as a first node of a European Network of Centres of Excellence in Cultural Heritage. Through this network MMI will contribute to an intellectual framework for interoperability. This work has grown out of the personal research of the director on Leonardo da Vinci and on the history of linear perspective, which was carried out in the Perspective Unit at the McLuhan Program in the University of Toronto from 1991 to 1996. The research section appointed two new members in 2000 and is intended to grow to a team of 20 within six years. The research unit has its own advisory board to guide it on matters of content.
EVA

URL http://www.lib.helsinki.fi/eva/

EVA is a joint project by libraries, publishers and expert organizations, being part of the strategy program Education, Training and Research in the Information Society by the Finnish Ministry of Education. The central aim of the project is to create methods and tools to collect, register and archive electronic publications distributed on the Internet and to investigate conditions for long-term preservation of them in libraries. The objectives of EVA are to:  

- enhance criteria for selecting electronic documents,  
- create channels and mechanisms for acquiring electronic publications directly from publishers,  
- create mechanisms for collecting "grey" literature from Finnish Web-servers,  
- describe publications bibliographically using Finmarc, Dublin Core and other metadata formats,  
- create an archive for collected documents and software needed to maintain this kind of archive,  
- enhance mechanisms to ensure the authenticity of the collected material and to structure it for search facilities,  
- investigate means for long-term archiving,  
- review the development of norms of legal deposit and copyright concerning electronic material.

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04 March 2004
FEAP – Forum Européen pour les Arts et le Patrimoine

URL http://www.eurplace.org/orga/icc/feap.html

The European Forum for the Arts and Heritage (EFAH/FEAP) was created to develop the dialogue between the European cultural sector and the institutions of the European Union. EFAH brings together over sixty European associations, federations, networks and other organisations from the arts and heritage representing many thousands of artists, cultural administrations and heritage professionals across Europe, focusing on digital preservation. This transnational and multi-disciplinary forum offers its members a platform for dialogue and discussion on issues related to cultural policy at a European level. It allows members to develop common positions on common issues of concern and inform the European institutions with one voice.

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d i g i t a l   p r e s e r v a t i o n   i n i t i a t i v e s

GEVER net

URL http://www.admin.ch/bar/aida/w1_6.htm

(link doesn't work)

tel:  
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email:  

HDC (Hellenic Digitisation Committee)

URL http://www.hdpweb.org

Hellenic digitisation Committee (HDC) is aiming at the creation of the priceless, in terms of cultural value, Hellenic digital repository. At the same time, the project aims to be a tool of coordination and cooperation among institutions and organizations that will actively participate in the creation of the digital HCC and will form the digitisation Network. Moreover, this Internet portal is an information source for every institution that is interested in issues regarding cultural content digitisation. The project's operation is being funded by the Hellenic Ministry of Culture, while its development, maintenance and constant updating are being carried out by the High Performance Computing Laboratory, at the University of Patras.

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ICA: International Council on Archives

URL http://www.ica.org

The International Council on Archives (ICA) is dedicated to the advancement of archives worldwide. Archives, by providing evidence of human activities and transactions, underlie the rights of individuals and states, and are fundamental to democracy and good governance. Archives safeguard the memory of mankind by preserving records of its past. In pursuing the advancement of archives, ICA works for the protection and enhancement of the memory of the world. • ICA is the professional organisation for the world archival community, dedicated to promoting the preservation, development, and use of the world's archival heritage. • It brings together national archive administrations, professional associations of archivists, regional and local archives and archives of other organisations as well as individual archivists. • ICA has more than 1,500 members in over 170 countries and territories, making it truly international. • It is a non-governmental organisation, which means that it maintains an independence from the political process and that its members include public and private archive institutions and individuals. • ICA works closely with inter-governmental organisations such as UNESCO and the Council of Europe. It also has strong links with other non-governmental organisations.

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04 March 2004  www.erp.net.org  Page 53 of 99
The International Council of Museums (ICOM) is an international organisation of museums and museum professionals which is committed to the conservation, continuation and communication to society of the world's natural and cultural heritage, present and future, tangible and intangible. Created in 1946, ICOM is a non-governmental organisation maintaining formal relations with UNESCO and having a consultative status with the United Nations' Economic and Social Council. ICOM helps the cultural centres and other entities that facilitate the preservation, continuation and management of tangible or intangible heritage resources (living heritage and digital creative activity).

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URL http://www.icom.org
ICS-FORTH

URL http://www.ics.forth.gr
Since its establishment in 1983, the Institute of Computer Science of the Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas (ICS-FORTH) has a relatively long history and an established tradition of internationally acknowledged excellence in conducting basic and applied research, developing innovative applications and products, and providing services in the fields of information and telecommunications technologies. ICS-FORTH is highly competitive at an international level, and many of its activities are carried out in the context of European collaborative R&D projects, which emphasize the development of Information Society Technologies and infrastructures in a number of domains of national importance and regional interest. On-going research and development (R&D) efforts focus on: information systems; data and knowledge-based systems; information retrieval, including content-based approaches; cultural informatics; digital preservation; image processing and pattern recognition; computer vision; sensor technologies; robotics; mobile and wireless (tele-)communications; network management; computer architectures; VLSI design; computer aided design; human-computer interaction; virtual reality; universal access and usability; information and communication technologies in Healthcare; and assistive technologies for people with disabilities. Current research efforts in emerging areas of interest, include bio-informatics, web systems and technologies, embedded systems, GRID and large-scale computing.

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digital preservation initiatives

ICSTI-International Council for Scientific and Technical Information

URL http://www.icsti.org

ICSTI, The International Council for Scientific and Technical Information, offers a unique forum for interaction between organizations that create, disseminate and use scientific and technical information. ICSTI's mission cuts across scientific and technical disciplines, as well as international borders, to give member organizations the benefit of a truly global community. ICSTI aims to:

• Provide leadership in promoting recognition of the value of scientific and technical information to the world's economic, research, scholarly and social progress,
• Enhance access to and delivery of information for all constituencies in business, industry, academia, government and the public through the exchange of information and the sharing of experience among international peers,
• Be a forum for interaction among all participants in information flow.

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04 March 2004
IFLA: International Federation of Library Associations

URL http://www.ifla.org

IFLA (The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. It is the global voice of the library and information profession. IFLA’s Core Activity on "Preservation and Conservation" (PAC) was officially created during the IFLA annual conference in Nairobi in 1984 to focus efforts on issues of preservation and initiate worldwide cooperation for the preservation of library materials. But the PAC programme was effectively launched in Vienna during the 1986 Conference on the Preservation of Library Materials sponsored by the Conference of the Directors of National Libraries, with IFLA and UNESCO.

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The INA is responsible for France's cultural audiovisual heritage. Under legal deposit legislation, INA is responsible for deposits from the country's six national television channels (public and commercial) and five public radio channels. Under the French communications law, INA is also responsible for maintaining the archive for public radio and television. INA is one of the three major partners in the PRESTO project. It is making heavy use of digitisation for preservation and also taking more material in born-digital form. INA wants to extend its mission to the French Web and is developing a harvester with the École Nationale Supérieure.

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INFER (Italian National Forum on Electronic Resources)

**URL**  http://www.infer.it

INFER is a co-ordinating group set up to co-operate in promoting access to electronic information resources in Italian libraries. INFER seeks to further the efficient use of electronic information in libraries and to facilitate access by the public. To this end it encourages libraries to set up consortia and other types of agreement on acquisition and management of electronic resources and access to them. INFER acts as a reference and linkage point and develops initiatives to promote activities and programmes in the area of library electronic resource-sharing. In this connection it gathers and disseminates information on co-operation efforts under way in Italy and abroad, and suggests ideas and guidelines. INFER seeks to enhance awareness both at institutional political level and among librarians and end users. In this context INFER sees its most direct interlocutors as the central and local administrations libraries are dependent on (ministries, universities, local authorities, etc.), research institutions, the Italian Library Association (AIB) and other organisations in the sector.

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The Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) supports further and higher education by providing strategic guidance, advice and opportunities to use Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to support teaching, learning, research and administration. JISC is funded by all the UK post-16 and higher education funding councils. JISC works with further and higher education by providing strategic guidance, advice and opportunities to use ICT to support teaching, learning, research and administration. Preservation of digital resources will be of increasing importance for a wide range of activities and materials within UK further and higher education. The sector invests substantial sums in subscriptions to e-journals and in addition is investing heavily in digitisation and in arts and scientific data in digital form. The JISC aims to provide a strategy and a range of information and advice sources that assist in the wider process of digital preservation.

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digital preservation initiatives

kulturarw3 heritage


The Royal Library (KB), Sweden's National Library has acquired, described, preserved and made available printed publications since the 17th century. This makes for long-established customs and knowledge in areas such as acquisition, preservation and accessibility to printed matter. Nevertheless, texts published electronically still remain, to a great extent, uncharted territory in relation to acquisition, preservation and accessibility. There are numerous points of issue that need to be considered, such as how to define selection standards, how to collect, preserve and finally present it to the public. There is little or no knowledge at all in understanding a number of these aspects. Therefore, Kulturarw3 is, in many respects, a project in constant progress.

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04 March 2004
Long term archiving of digital documents in Germany: initiative for the construction of a draft valid for the whole of Germany

The aim of the project was the preparation of a conception for the topic "Long term archiving and long term availability of digital documents in Germany": + initiative for the construction of a draft valid for the whole of Germany, + to avoid individual actions and isolated solutions, + dealing with the subject and far-reaching discussion of principal questions, + coordination and planning of shared activities regarding long term archiving and long term availability of digital documents in Germany, + for the cooperative covering of tasks, + installation of a communication network among the participants, The conceptional draft was presented to the circle of specialists during two workshops on October 29 to October 30, 2002 and on November 14, 2002 and discussed. The priority of the workshops was not only to give information but to lead to first agreements for the construction of a national concept for long term archiving and long term availability. During the workshops a final resolution was adopted, serving as a basis for further activities and projects.

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Lund University Library - Preservation and Access

URL http://www.lub.lu.se
The project Medieval Manuscripts at Lund University Library - Preservation and Access intends to digitize, to catalogue and to make the integrated database (pictures and catalogue entries) accessible on-line. The project, apart from making accessible the collection to the scholarly and general public, also has the character of a pilot project in the context of TEI (Text Encoding Initiative) in which a group of manuscript librarians are engaged in formulating general principles for the cataloguing of medieval and Renaissance material and of a set of rules for the creation and exchange of electronic texts for scholarly use. Another important dimension of the project is the creation of a permanent archival copy of the entire collection in the university server focusing on its digital preservation, one of the functions of which, not least, is to protect the fragile originals which suffer from manual handling, lighting, climatic fluctuations etc. Thus, the project will achieve its twofold aim of Preservation and Access. The project is sponsored by The Bank of Sweden, Tercentenary Foundation, the Crafoord Foundation, the Kungl. Humanistiska Vetenskapssamfundet and Vetenskapssocieteten in Lund, the Ebbe Kock Foundation, the Ridderstad Foundation for Historical and Graphic Research and the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation. Other projects that the library is engaged in are: DOAJ - Directory of Open Access Journals, DoD - Database of databases, Elin - electronic journals article search, About Elin@, MyLibrary, St. Laurentius digital manuscript library, Access to databases outside LU/LTH, News - E-resources, Test of electronic resources, Doctoral Dissertations.

Lund University Libraries, Head Office

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Sweden
MET Ae (The Metadata Engine Project)

URL http://meta-e.uibk.ac.at/

MET Ae will develop application software focusing on: the automatic recognition and extraction of metadata from printed material, especially books and journals, an omnifont OCR-engine for the recognition of "Fraktur" (a German style of black-letter text type) and other seldom type faces used in European printing history, on the development of five historical dictionaries supporting the OCR-engine, on an XML/SGML search engine and on an open source library for a simple web-application for presenting digitised printed material.

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META-LIB (Metadaten-Initiative deutscher Bibliotheken)

URL http://www.ddb.de/index_e.htm

The aim of the project had been to develop guidelines for the use of metadata, especially the Dublin Core Set for the indexation of born-digital and digitised resources in academic libraries. Die Deutsche Bibliothek in its project part had taken over responsibility of developing and testing conventions for the indexing of electronic resources in national bibliographies with utilisation of Dublin Core metadata including authority files. The project ended in January 2002. Die Deutsche Bibliothek continues engaging in the area of the standardization of metadata also after the end of the project and carries on the working field "Metadata" by its Office for Library Standards (AfS). On October 21/22th, 2002 the first metadata workshop of the AfS will take place at Die Deutsche Bibliothek being the final workshop of the META-LIB project at the same time.

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MetaNet

URL  http://www.eprs.ed.ac.uk/metanet/index.html

MetaNet is a network of excellence for harmonising and synthesising the development of statistical metadata, part of the European Union Fifth framework Research and Development program. Specifically it is part of the information Society Technology strand, number IST-1999-29093, to develop proposals for standards in the methodology used for describing statistical metadata and statistical information systems, to develop proposals for recommendations on the metadata objects in a common conceptual model of statistical metadata in order to preserve the digital data in the long-term. Metanet is based in the University of Edinburgh.

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MIMAS (Manchester InforMation and Associated Services)

URL  http://www.mimas.ac.uk/

MIMAS (Manchester InforMation and Associated Services) is a JISC-supported national data centre run by Manchester Computing at the University of Manchester. MIMAS, formerly known as MIDAS, was designated a JISC National Data Centre in 1994 thus building upon a long record of providing computing services for UK academics. Since then the service has grown substantially both in terms of its portfolio of datasets and in its user base. As well as MIMAS being relevant to the work of individual researchers there is an increasing interest in the use of online datasets for learning and teaching. MIMAS has users from over 240 higher and further education institutions. Establish a role in the area of digital preservation. Look at the digital preservation requirements of the JISC and eScience to see how MIMAS might contribute to the solution of this growing need.

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MINERVA

URL http://www.amitie.it/minerva/index.html

MINERVA is a network of Member States' Ministries to discuss, correlate and harmonise activities carried out in digitisation of cultural and scientific content for creating an agreed European common platform, recommendations and guidelines about digitisation, metadata, long-term accessibility and preservation. Due to the high level of commitment assured by the involvement of EU governments, it aims to co-ordinate national programmes, and its approach is strongly based on the principle of embeddedness in national digitisation activities. It will also establish contacts with other European countries, international organisations, associations, networks, international and national projects involved in this sector, with a special focus on actions carried out in the DigiCult action of IST.

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04 March 2004
National Library of Germany: Authority network long term Archiving project

URL http://www.nl-forum.de/Foren/Langzeitverfügbarkeit/index.as
The aim of the project is an authority network long term archiving and a long term availability of digital resources in Germany. The authority network is meant to assure that digital resources in Germany are being archived, secured and made available on a long term. Through national and international collaboration a contribution shall be made to secure the global cultural heritage. Within the project among other things following services are being worked out: + a web-based German language information forum with various supplies, for long term archiving and long term availability of digital resources in Germany as regards content, + criteria for trustworthy digital archives, + recommendations for procedures for the certification of digital archives, + recommendations for directives for the collection and criteria for the selection for the archiving of digital resources, + policies for the long term archiving of digital resources, + a work structure for the long-term availability of digital resources in museums, + a concept for a lasting organisational shape of the authority network, and of the information forum, + co-ordination of the division of responsibilities and of the takeover of permanent tasks, particularly in the demarcation between the ambits of libraries, archives and museums, The project is being carried out under the leadership of Die Deutsche Bibliothek in collaboration with five partners: Bayerische Staatsbibliothek München, Computer- und Medienservice / Universitätsbibliothek der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Generaldirektion der Staatlichen Archive Bayerns, Institut für Museumskunde, Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen.

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**digital preservation initiatives**

**National Library of Germany: Co-ordination Agency for online dissertations and post-doctoral theses**

**URL**  http://www.dissonline.de/

During the project "Dissertation Online", the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft supported the development of solutions and assistances for the production, retrieval and long-term availability of digital dissertations. To keep the outcome of that project state-of-the-art, to initiate necessary further developments, and to build up a network of competence, the project "Build up of a Co-ordination Agency for online dissertations and post-doctoral theses" has been set up to expand the Co-ordination Agency DissOnline. The project comprises an analysis of the current infrastructure concerning online dissertations at German universities, including a comparison of the different promotion regulations, workflows, online support systems and portal software. The FAQ system is being built up in revised form, and the recommendations for doctoral candidates, libraries and universities will be replenished and enhanced. Legal issues are being dealt with in collateral service contracts. The outcome of the project shall be proposals to a uniform, workable procedure DissOnline in Germany that are to be discussed and harmonized with universities, computer centres and libraries.

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National Library Spain

URL

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The Digital Preservation Department at The National Archives is responsible for the programme for archiving and preservation of government electronic records of which NDAD is a part. The Records Management Department at the National Archives works with Departmental Records Officers in central government departments and other public bodies to select and transfer records to NDAD. NDAD operates within the ULCC facilities. ULCC has more than 25 years' expertise in the management and preservation of large quantities of digital data, particularly in hierarchical storage management systems. ULCC offers a National Data Repository service offering fast network access to extremely large amounts of data (up to 300 Terabytes).

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NEDLIB CONSORTIUM

URL http://www.kb.nl/coop/nedlib/

NEDLIB is a collaborative project of European national libraries. It aims to construct the basic infrastructure upon which a networked European deposit library can be built. The objectives of NEDLIB concur with the mission of national deposit libraries to ensure that electronic publications of the present can be used now and in the future. The NEDLIB project has ended as of 31st January 2001. NEDLIB produced guidelines, standards and glossaries on digital preservation. Two of the main projects on Digital preservation were: An Experiment in Using Emulation to preserve Digital Publications and Metadata for Long Term Preservation. PDF versions of the reports are available from the website.

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digital preservation initiatives

Netherlands Institute for Scientific Information Services

URL http://www.niwi.knaw.nl

NIWI aims at providing scientific information on the influence of digital networks and on the practice of science in multiple fields. In the domain of research on the Dutch language and culture, the institute encourages the use and the availability of digital information, digitalisation projects, data archives and bibliographical databanks. NIWI is the library for the KNAW, and consists of a large collection biomedical journals and a historical collection. NIWI provides information about research and researchers in The Netherlands, in all scientific fields. Its current projects include one pilot effort in digital preservation. Titled Archiving Digital Academic Heritage, the project is exploring the feasibility of setting up digital archiving services for scientific or scholarly research material in the Dutch academic sector.

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The Nordic Web Archive (NWA) is the Nordic National Libraries' forum for co-ordination and exchange of experience in the fields of harvesting and archiving web documents. Since November 2000 until July 2002 the NWA cooperation were focused on developing software for accessing archived web documents. This activity was organized as a project with software developers at every Nordic National Library and a Project Manager at the National Library of Norway. The project was funded by Nordunet2 and the Nordic National Libraries. The outcome of the project, a solution for searching and navigating archived web document collections, was named "the NWA toolset". The NWA toolset was built using PHP and Perl. It utilizes open standards like the http protocol and XML extensively for communication between different parts of the system.
NORDinfo

URL  http://www.nordinfo.helsinki.fi

(In Finnish)

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NPO (National Preservation Office)

URL http://bl.uk/services/preservation/national.html

The British Library houses the National Preservation Office, which is jointly funded by the Library and other major national institutions. The aim of the National Preservation Office is to provide an independent focus for ensuring the preservation and continued accessibility of library and archive material held in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

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This led to initial contact from BnF with staff at the CNES who had been part of the international earth observation and space data community that worked on developing the standard. Organizations interested in discussing the OAIS model met in June 2000, and PIN was then established as an informal forum and discussion list administered by CNES. The purpose of the forum is to contribute to work on developing the OAIS standard and on standards and practices for its implementation, and to share information between organizations. Participation is voluntary and PIN relies on the contribution of effort by the individuals and organizations that attend. Members take turns hosting meetings.
PRESTO Preservation Technologies

PRESTO aims to develop state of the art technology in the preservation of film, video and audio media. The principle partners reflect the largest archives in Europe: BBC (UK), INA (FRANCE) and RAI (ITALY). Information has been collected from other major European archives. Although not focused on digital preservation specifically (it is primarily concerned with the preservation of analog material), PRESTO addresses questions that are relevant to the issue. Audiovisual material is one of the few areas where digitisation is considered to be the main option for preservation, because the originals are unstable or locked into obsolete technology. Resolving digital preservation issues has a major bearing on the long-term preservation of these materials.

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The records of government are increasingly created in electronic form and the National Archives are playing an active role in storing and preserving digital material. The diversity of electronic records and frequent changes in computer technology present a range of challenges that need to be tackled in order to ensure that these records remain accessible over the long-term.

Work in this area is undertaken at the National Archives by the Digital Preservation Department. The National Archives (PRO) provides advice and guidance to records managers across central government. This covers the entire life cycle of public records, in whatever format, from creation through to destruction or transfer to the National Archives. This work is undertaken in the National Archives by the Records Management Department.

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04 March 2004
**PRONOM**

**URL**  http://www.pro.gov.uk/about/preservation/digital/pronom/

PRONOM is an application developed by the Digital Preservation Department at the National Archives for managing information about the file formats used to store electronic records, and the software applications needed to render these formats. PRONOM is intended for use by anyone needing to preserve electronic records over the long term. The task of preserving digital objects requires the kind of reliable, sustained repository of file format information that PRONOM can provide.

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File format reference database that stores information about software products, their versions, file formats and their versions in an easy friendly web interface. Accessible from the internet, the system allows downloading of XML or CSV reports.
The RoMEO Project (Rights MEtadata for Open archiving) is funded by the Joint Information Systems Committee for one year (1 August 2002 - 31 July 2003) to investigate the rights issues surrounding the 'self-archiving' of research in the UK academic community under the Open Archive Initiative's Protocol for Metadata Harvesting. It will perform a series of stakeholder surveys to ascertain how 'give-away' research literature (and metadata) is used, and how it should be protected. Building on existing schemas and vocabularies (such as Open Digital Rights Language) a series of rights elements will be developed. A solution for the protection of the IPR in metadata itself will also be created.

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Three Dutch university libraries were partners in the Roquade project: Utrecht University Library, Delft University of Technology Library, and the NIWI. The project researched development of electronic archives to enhance scientific communication in the academic sector. The project estimated the cost of metadata assignment, administration and quality control, and technical infrastructure for an electronic archive accepting 5,000 items per year to be 29 euros per item.
Russian Information Society

URL http://www.iis.ru
Safeguarding European Photographic Images for Access (SEPIA)

URL  http://www.knaw.nl/ecpa/sepia/

In 1999 the European Commission on Preservation and Access (ECPA) initiated a project aimed at the long-term preservation of all kinds of photographic materials and defining the role of new technology in collection management. SEPIA (Safeguarding European Photographic Images for Access) is a EU-funded project focusing on preservation of photographic materials. The project was set up explicitly to bring together representatives from different types of institutions that hold photographs: libraries, archives and museums, as well as from research institutes. This followed from a basic principle in the work of the ECPA, to create a platform to exchange ideas and experiences of preservation issues that break through the traditional division into sectors. The project was funded by the European Union under the Culture 2000 programme for one year.

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SHERPA project

URL http://www.sherpa.ac.uk

SHERPA aims to investigate issues to do with the future of scholarly communication and publishing. In particular, it is initiating the development of openly accessible institutional digital repositories of research output in a number of research universities. These so-called 'e-print archives' will contain papers by researchers from the participating institutions. The project will investigate the IPR, quality control and other key management issues associated with making the research literature freely available to the research community. It will also investigate technical questions, including interoperability between repositories and digital preservation of e-prints.

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Testbed Digitale Bewaring (Digitale Duurzaamheid / Digital Preservation Testbed)

URL http://www.digitaleduurzaamheid.nl

The Testbed is experimenting with different types of digital files and records in order to determine the best approaches to long-term preservation. The project began in October 2000 and will conclude in September 2003. The testbed was preceded by a research study by Rothenberg and Bikson (1999). The digital preservation testbed is carrying out experiments according to defined research questions. It is researching three approaches to long-term digital preservation: migration, emulation, and XML. It is experimenting with text documents, spreadsheets, e-mail messages, and databases of different size, format, complexity, and nature. The effectiveness of each approach for different material is being evaluated, as are their limitations, costs, and application potential. The Testbed is focusing on three different methods of preserving digital information: migration; emulation; and XML. The Testbed will assess the pros and cons of the three approaches, their effectiveness, and their costs.

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The Austrian Society for History of Computer Science (OeGIG)-Oesterreichische Gesellschaft fuer Informatikgeschichte

URL: http://www.oegig.at/

The Austrian Society for History of Computer Science (OeGIG) is documenting the development of informatics in Austria and trying to make the results available to the general public and especially to schools. This center is subdivided into four departments: Archive, Museum, Library and the Documentation Center. The archive is collecting and analyzing papers, records and documents of leading Austrian scientists. The museum is divided into a real museum and a virtual museum. The real museum contains a collection of fully operational historical objects documenting and representing the history of informatics. The virtual museum in the Internet provides the possibility to follow the development of informatics and information technology in Austria. The library encloses a collection of media concerning the history of computer science and a special library. The documentation informs about current projects and their results. It also briefs about ongoing activities in the field of history of computer science in Austria and other countries. One of the main goals of the project is the long-term preservation of their digital material.

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The Digital Preservation Coalition

URL http://www.dpconline.org
The Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC) was established in 2001 to foster joint action to address the urgent challenges of securing the preservation of digital resources in the UK and to work with others internationally to secure our global digital memory and knowledge base. The aim of the Digital Preservation Coalition is to secure the preservation of digital resources in the UK and to work with others internationally to secure our global digital memory and knowledge base. Initial support for the DPC came from JISC through part-time involvement of a JISC-funded program director and funds from membership contributions. The coalition is a limited company. The DPC has the following long-term goals: producing, providing, and disseminating information on current research and practice and building expertise among its members to accelerate their learning and to widen the pool of professionals skilled in digital preservation; instituting a concerted and coordinated effort to get digital preservation on the agenda of stakeholders in terms that they will understand and find persuasive; acting in concert to make arguments for appropriate and adequate funding to secure the nation's investment in digital resources and ensure an enduring global digital memory; providing a common forum for the development and coordination of digital preservation strategies in the United Kingdom and placing them within an international context; promoting and developing services, technology, and standards for digital preservation; forging strategic alliances with relevant agencies nationally and internationally and working together and with industry and research organizations to address shared challenges in digital preservation; and attracting funding to support achievement of DPC goals and programs.


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UK Govt Web Site Archive

URL http://www.pro.gov.uk/about/preservation/digital/default.htm

50 selected UK government websites captured by the Internet Archive and made available on the Wayback machine

Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Surrey
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The National Archives
tel: 0208 392 5257
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email: digitalarchive@nationalarchives.gov.uk
UKOLN Interoperability Focus

URL http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/interop-focus/

Centre of expertise in digital information management, providing advice and services to the library, information, education and cultural heritage communities. Interoperability Focus is a national activity, jointly funded by the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) of the Further and Higher Education Funding Councils and Resource: the Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries. Based within UKOLN, Interoperability Focus works closely with other staff on a range of issues including metadata, distributed systems and public library networking. Interoperability Focus also has a special interest in moving beyond the library sphere, specifically encompassing museums, archives, and other aspects of the cultural heritage, as well as Government and community information.

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The Archives Service was established in 1947. It operates as the archives repository of the Organization, the archives and records management unit of the Secretariat and as an information and reference service. The mission of the Archives is twofold: to document the history and activities of the Organization since 1945 to the present day and to help the Secretariat to manage its records today in order to ensure their preservation and accessibility. UNESCO has launched the Memory of the World Programme to guard against collective amnesia calling upon the preservation of the valuable archive holdings and library collections all over the world ensuring their wide dissemination. The first and most urgent need is to ensure the preservation, by the most appropriate means, of documentary heritage that has world significance. It is also important to make this heritage accessible to as many people as possible, using the most appropriate technology, both inside and outside the countries in which it is located. High quality text, sound and image banks could be compiled and made available on local and global networks, and reproductions made in all possible forms including compact discs, albums, books, postcards and microfilms. The proceeds from the sale of related products would then be ploughed back into preservation work.

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The VIRLIB project's focus is on the development of a real delivery service of electronic documents added to Impala, i.e. the Belgian system of managing and transmitting interlibrary requests for loan. In other words, the system VIRLIB II will enable the interlibrary loan department of any scientific library affiliated to the Impala network to deliver directly to the users' workpost, in electronic format, any article asked for by the user in question. More precisely, VirLib II will consolidate and improve the Acquisition module of the electronic documents (when a paper document is digitized, it is automatically converted into an electronic document which the user can read) and develop a PDF server in order to deliver the documents to the user.

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digital preservation initiatives