Library of Congress Digital Preservation Newsletter

Library Explores Ways to Release OS Software

In the spirit of transparency and community, the Library of Congress has established an internal process to create open source software. This will make it easier for software developers and sponsors within the Library to produce software that can be freely redistributed to users worldwide.

The Library has been active in developing tools that support digital preservation processes. This includes the release of a full suite of digital content transfer tools that support the Bagit specification.

```
package gov.lo
import gov.loc
import gov.loc
import gov.loc
import gov.loc
import gov.loc
import gov.loc
```

These tools marked the first release of Library-authored open source software to a public repository. The tools were first registered on SourceForge in December 2008 and are available at http://sourceforge.net/projects/loc-xferutils/. While Sourceforge was the first external repository to host Library code, other repositories may be used in the future.

Source code originating from the Library may only be distributed as open source if developed by Library staff or under a contract granting the Library the necessary distribution rights. Additionally, the code cannot be based or dependent on any proprietary software and must be releasable without restrictions or cost.

Read more about the open source works created at the Library at digitalpreservation.gov. •
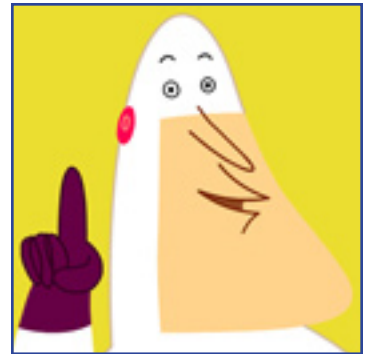
On the Leading Edge: DigitalPreservationEurope

The Library of Congress is focusing on organizations that are working on innovative approaches to digital preservation and access. A new series, "On the Leading Edge," kicks off with a story about DigitalPreservationEurope.

By now you may have gotten an email from a friend or colleague pointing you to the entertaining Team Digital Preservation animations, the Saturday morning-style cartoon whose heroes defend against the threats to digital preservation.

The cartoon series is one of the many innovative resources that DigitalPreservationEurope uses to boost public awareness of digital preservation. DPE's other outreach tools in-

Digiman from Team Digital Preservation.

clude international training events, instructional videos, reports, conferences and even a contest for cash prizes. But it's the cartoon that seems to have the farthest reach.

DPE is a consortium of European academic and cultural institutions dedicated to sharing their collective digital preservation expertise and resources. Funded by the European Commission under the sixth framework programme, DPE focuses on increasing digital preservation awareness among the general public, libraries, archives, museums, government bodies and institutions across Europe. They are also a resource for digital preservation tools such as DRAMBORA and PLATTER. The consortium is built on the work of the ERPANET.

DPE partners include leading cultural institutions from Scotland, Austria, Denmark, the Czech Republic, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands and Germany. Read more about DPE at digitalpreservation.gov. •

Digital Preservation Podcast Series Launched

The Library of Congress presents a new podcast series, featuring interviews with prominent digital preservation practitioners and thought leaders.

These podcasts offer a chance to hear experts talk about their lessons learned and goals for future projects. The debut podcasts are interviews with Patricia Cruse, Martin Halbert and Robert Horton.

The podcasts are available on the Library of Congress website and by subscription through iTunesU.

New NDIIPP Video Released

Today's teen-agers depend on digital information for education and entertainment, but may not know that digital information can easily be lost. What do

Screenshot from the video.

these "digital natives" think about the permanence – or impermanence – of digital content?

"Digital Natives Explore Digital Preservation" is the third release in the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program video series. The video features students participating in a recent workshop at the Library of Congress, where staff from NDIIPP and the Educational Outreach Division discussed why digital preservation is important.

The Library is interested in understanding how teens view digital information and their ideas about keeping digital content available for future generations. After all, they are the next generation responsible for caring for our digital heritage.

In addition to the previously released videos in the digital preservation series, the NDIIPP video collection features speakers and presentations at digital-preservation.gov/videos/. •

Web Archives Registry Launched

The International Internet Preservation Consortium recently released a web archives registry. The registry offers a single point of access to a comprehensive overview of member web archiving efforts and outputs. Twenty-one archives from around the world are currently included; updates will be added as additional archives are made accessible by IIPC members.

The registry was put in place by the IIPC Access Working Group, which focuses on initiatives, procedures and tools required to provide immediate and future to access archived web material.

Read more about the development of the registry at digitalpreservation.gov. •

Recent Meetings

The Winter 2010 meeting of the Federation of Earth Science Information Partners featured an extended conversation about keeping valuable geospatial data available over time.

Bill LeFurgy from the Library of Congress spoke about the recent meeting of national experts to explore framing a national preservation and access strategy for geospatial data.

Chris Greer from the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy discussed the Obama administration's priorities for providing transparent access to scientific data, making references to the group's January 2009 report *Harnessing the Power of Digital Data for Science and Society*.

Library staff also participated in a January webinar focusing on digital preservation and use of social

Library of Congress staff speaking at the webinar. Credit: Tchad Moore

media as part of a Federal Web 2.0 Webinars series.

Read more about the ESIP meeting and the webinar at digital-preservation.gov. •

Upcoming Events

- The Blue Ribbon Task Force on Sustainable Digital Preservation and Access will hold a one-day symposium on April 1, 2010, in Washington, D.C., to provide a forum for discussing recommendations of the task force final report (forthcoming).

- Preservation Week 2010. The American Library Association is launching its first Preservation Week on May 9 - 15, 2010. The Library of Congress is planning a number of public events, focusing on the long-term management of digital and analog information. Information about the events will be forthcoming.