

Preserve Audiovisual Materials

Table of contents

- Activity Definition(s)
- Scholars' Stories (scenarios)
- Tools (examples)
- Related Collections/Content (examples)
- Applicable Standards or Standards Bodies
- Notes, comments, related activities, concerns

go back to Activity Definitions page

Preserve Audiovisual Materials

Keywords: Preserve

Activity Definition(s)

Multimedia materials of various types may need to be stored and preserved. These may be relatively simple objects like a single image or set of images, a sound recording, a video recording, and the like. These also may be compound objects composed of a number of simple objects, with complex relationships among the components; an example would be a rich multimedia web site, or an electronic journal article. Each object in a set of simple objects, and each component of a compound object, may have its own set of metadata (for example, data about the media type of each object), as may the set or the compound object itself. Finally, relationship data may also need to be captured to allow preservation of the rich structure of a compound object.

- Determine scope of preservation - is it only the overall set or compound object and its metadata (treating the entire object as a complex "black box" bitstream), or is it all individual component objects and their metadata, and the relationships associated with them?
- Identify the necessary components to be captured and how to capture them.
- Obtain copies of all the necessary components.
 - Overall metadata for the set or compound object
 - Component digital objects and associated metadata
 - Relationship metadata as appropriate
 - Is there need for identification of the software used in generating the objects, if the media formats are non-standard?
- Perform any media or format conversion as needed.
- Establish the intellectual-property rights situation over the various objects, if necessary.
- Obtain any necessary third-party permissions.
- If appropriate, assemble, edit and verify the components to insure the resultant set or compound object is properly recreated.
- Migrate components to more durable formats as needed.
- [Preserve materials in a digital storage facility.](#)

Scholars' Stories (scenarios)

- *SN-0035 Extended Development Project- Online Database on the History of Evolutionary and Developmental Biology*

Tools (examples)

---- Optional: examples of tools that perform some part or all of the defined activity, ideally with links to relevant project or vendor web sites

Tool name	What it does	Relevant links
DROID	Digital Record Object Identification	http://droid.sourceforge.net/wiki/index.php/Introduction
Pronom	File format registry for digital content review	http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pronom/

--	--	--

Related Collections/Content (examples)

---- *Optional: examples of collections / digital content / digital resources that could be involved in part or all of the defined activity, with links to relevant repository or site where available*

Collection/content name	Collection/content description	Relevant links

Applicable Standards or Standards Bodies

---- *Optional: examples of standards or standards-bodies applicable to the defined activity*

Standard name / body	What it governs/regulates/standardizes - What it's for	Relevant links
MPEG 21	"Multimedia Framework initiative that aims to enable the transparent and augmented use of multimedia resources across a wide range of networks and devices."	http://www.chiariglione.org/mpeg/standards/mpeg-21/mpeg-21.htm
OAI-ORE	How to package/express the contents of compound information objects	http://www.openarchives.org/ore/
METS	"The METS schema is a standard for encoding descriptive, administrative, and structural metadata regarding objects within a digital library, expressed using the XML schema language of the World Wide Web Consortium"	http://www.loc.gov/standards/mets/
PREMIS (PREservation Metadata Implementation Strategies)	Metadata standard for encoding preservation Information	http://www.loc.gov/standards/premis/

Notes, comments, related activities, concerns

Note: this activity definition was merged from three original candidates:

- Store audio recordings
- Store video recordings
- Store images.

Video presents special challenges, as it consumes astounding amounts of disk space when uncompressed. Under most circumstances, high-quality, lossless formats are preferred for preservation; for video, however, space constraints can make such preservation impractical.

The New Jersey Digital Highway presents [a set of suggested quality standards](#) and appropriate formats for image, audio, and video preservation.

[go back to Activity Definitions page](#)