Creating a Digital Smithsonian

Designing Storage Architectures for Digital Preservation
September 27-28 2010
Library of Congress

Martin R. Kalfatovic | Smithsonian Libraries | 27 Sep 2010
Digitization Mission

To digitize the resources of the Institution for the widest possible use by current and future generations.
What are we digitizing?

**SOUND**
Frog vocalizations

**HISTORICAL**

**MUSIC AND FILM**

**LIVING**

**AESTHETIC**

**VIDEO**
Jarocho musician studio recording by Folkways

**SCIENTIFIC**

**PERSONAL PAPERS**

**BOOKS, JOURNALS, CATALOGS**

**DATA SETS**
Data organized and treated as one unit
# Sketch of Reporting --Creating the Digital Smithsonian (May 2010)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Smithsonian Collections:</th>
<th>Photographs</th>
<th>Moving Images</th>
<th>Audio / Sound</th>
<th>Living Collection</th>
<th>Object-based Scientific Collections</th>
<th>Works of Art</th>
<th>Artifact textual</th>
<th>Artifact, non-textual</th>
<th>Mixed Collection</th>
<th>Datasets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># collection items</td>
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<td># we plan to digitize</td>
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<td>Level of Digitization**</td>
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<td>Publicly Available</td>
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<td>Level Zero (%)</td>
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<td>Level One (%)</td>
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<td>Level Two (%)</td>
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<td>Level Three (%)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

** Levels of digitization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 1, None</th>
<th>Information about the item/collection is not available in digital form.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 2, Minimal</td>
<td>Meets at least ONE of the following criteria: A) the item/collection has a basic or skeletal electronic record; B) some information has been converted to digital form (scanned catalog card, etc.); C) a digital surrogate of the item exists (has been digitally photographed, scanned, or transferred to digital media).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3, Acceptable</td>
<td>Information describing the item/collection meets unit/discipline standards and is in digital form. <strong>WHEN APPLICABLE</strong>, also includes an adequate digital surrogate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 4, Enhanced</td>
<td>Information describing the item/collection exceeds unit/discipline standards, but requires additional work, and is in digital form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 5, Superior</td>
<td>Information about the item/collection in digital form is optimum for the unit/discipline standards (information has been checked, vetted, or enhanced by curatorial staff).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Smithsonian Institution Digitization Program

Integrate Digitization
FY-2010 (refine FY11-14)
- Create pan-Institutional Policy
- Establish Smithsonian Digitization Program

Provide Access: Digital Asset Management
FY-2010 (apply FY10-14)
- Selection Criteria
- Prioritization Criteria
- Retention Schedules
- Counting Guidelines
- Rights, Restrictions, Security

Provide Access: Technology Infrastructure
FY-2010-2011 (build FY10-14)
- Establish standards and best practices
- Identify Centers of Excellence
- Define Trusted Digital Repository for SI
- Migrate to Enterprise Storage
- Determine Target IT Infrastructure

Secure Resources & Build Capacity
In concert with SI Capital Campaign
- Develop a Business Plan for Digitization, including templates for sponsorships and partnerships
- Incorporate digitization into the business plans of all activities that create, collect and use digital assets
- Ensure digitization skills and knowledge are appropriately integrated into employee personal development plans
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