Planetarium

The News Bulletin of the
Planets Programme
Issue 6 – February 2009
www.planets-project.eu/publications

EMPHASIS SHIFTS FROM RESEARCH TO ENGINEERING

Dr. Adam Farquhar, Planets Project Coordinator

The Planets project is now well into its third year and we have been seeing a natural shift in activities that comes with this.

Recent conferences have featured publications and presentations based on the exciting and innovative research work done by Planets partners that continues to push out the boundaries of how we think about digital preservation and our approaches to solving the major problems (see Page 9).

Efforts within the project focus increasingly on solid engineering and delivery to ensure that the software products that we build and the services that we provide will meet community needs. For some time now, we have used the gForge system to support collaborative development. We have now augmented this with a continuous integration approach for the entire Planets software suite. This helps us to ensure that the quality of the software remains high through automated test execution and nightly builds. This discipline is important in a project like Planets where development takes place at several partner sites across Europe. It is even more critical as we move from building components, each of which addresses part of the overall problem, to integrating components into a single distributable software package.

I was fortunate to be able attend a meeting this January, hosted by the Royal Library of the Netherlands, at which three National Libraries participating in the Planets project discussed their own internal projects to implement Planets technology. This is an important vote of confidence in the outcomes of the project, and a critical step in making sure that the software products and processes meet the needs of the broader preservation community.

The archival community continues to have strong expectations for Planets outcomes. Martin Berendse, the Director of the National Archive of the Netherlands, addressed the tenth meeting of the Planets Scientific Board.

He stressed his high expectations for the outputs of Planets and emphasized the value of providing access to project results that was as open as possible. He also welcomed the real value of libraries and archives working together to address the challenges of digital preservation. I strongly agree him on all three of these points.

Finally, as discussed at some length in this issue, Planets is giving some serious attention to ensuring that the concrete results of the project such as software, services, protocols, and methods can be sustained well beyond the project closure in 2010. The stakeholders, including project partners, but also the broader community of institutions that are responsible stewards of digital content for the long term, need to be able to adopt Planets technology with confidence.

You can be confident that we are taking active steps to ensure the on-going deployment and development of Planets digital preservation technology.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Information Society Technologies

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE DIGITAL PRESERVATION KIND: Spotlight on the Planets Testbed

Have you ever wondered how long your digital files will last? Or which tool you may need to preserve them? Or which of the many file formats available would be the best one for the content you wish to preserve and what you will use it for?

Planets will introduce a new kind of digital preservation application which will make it possible to gather valuable data based on experience about the different ways to preserve digital content and to compare them as a basis to make decisions: The Planets Testbed.

The Testbed will provide a controlled environment where preservation tools can be tested and evaluated and where the results of experiments can be compared. It will enable users to understand which tools will best serve their digital preservation needs.

Institutions wishing to experience the Testbed before Planets is released in 2010 will be able to take part in trials of the Planets' Testbed later this year. The beta version of the Testbed will be opened up to a small number of institutions which have expressed interest in conducting experiments and feeding back results and their experiences.

What will the Planets Testbed allow the user to do?

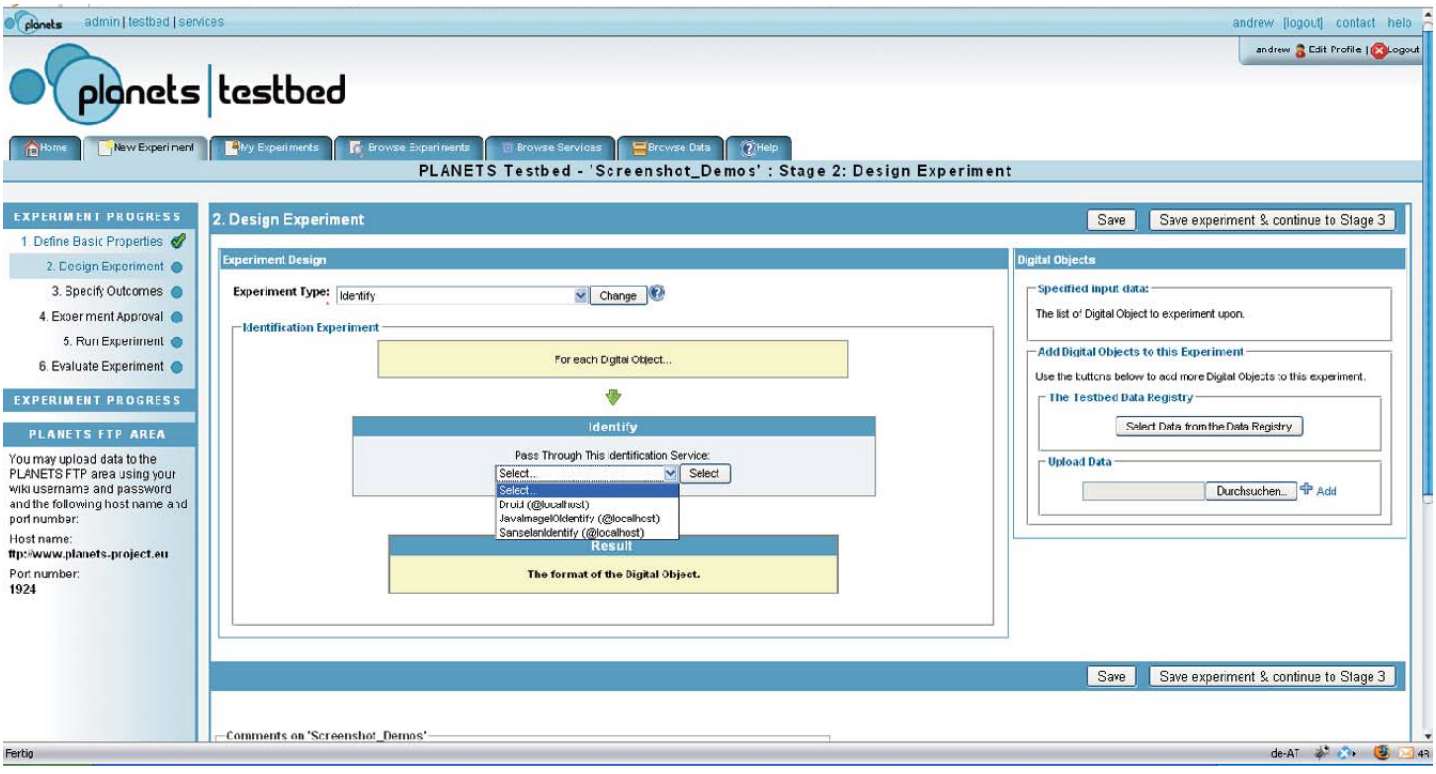
The Planets Testbed will become a freely available web-application. It will give its users a controlled and easy-to-explore environment for experimentation and will allow them to:

- analyse systematically and verify, based on evidence, different digital preservation strategies such as: characterisation of digital objects, migration and emulation.
- run a range of digital preservation tools such as JHOVE, PS2PDF, ImageMagik, Sanselan, MSWord migration, HTMLCleaner.
- test various combinations of preservation workflows such as migration of DOC to PDF or PDF/A.
- test preservation strategies on different types of digital objects such as text, image, audio and video.
- measure and compare the results against pre-defined benchmarks.

The information gathered in the Planets' Testbed is independent of the institution that is undertaking the experiment. Consequently, the results are available for use by different types of organisation.

Experimentation will be supported by automatic extraction and comparison of the technical properties of input and output files using Planets' XCDL characterisation language (see http://planetarium.hki.uni-koeln.de/public/XCL). This makes it possible to compare particular objects before and after treatment and to assess the impact.

For example: you may want to migrate a .doc file of a thesis which contains a footnote to PDF/A. Some programmes will lose the relationship between the text and the footer and footer marker. In the Planets Testbed, you can migrate the file through pre-installed tools and characterise the result to find out whether the properties you are interested in, including the footnote, are preserved.



The Planets Testbed and the User
The Planets Testbed offers different features to different users:

Testbed for Heritage institutions and content holders
The Planets Testbed will allow content holders to use a set of readily available digital content for experiments (corpora, structured and well known content sets) or to upload their own files. If experimenters do choose to use their own files, they should be aware that these will be stored in the Testbed after experimentation so that the results can be reproduced by other institutions.

By using pre-defined corpora, the experimenter has a representative simulation of problems occurring within their own files. They can execute the experiments without exposing their own material.

Additionally, researchers and decision makers do not need to visit a dozen or more sites to learn which institutions use which tools and how they perform under various conditions.

Testbed for Tool and service providers:
The Testbed will help the service provider or tool developer to understand the needs of the user community. They can test their tool to see whether it produces the expected behaviour. It allows them to limit functionality to that which matters most.

The Planets Testbed is a virtual digital preservation playground and digital information management tool. The community aspect of the Testbed makes it easier to find knowledge, expertise and people involved in digital preservation. The Testbed allows participants to become part of a practical and active preservation community. It has the potential to be a continually updated, real-time 'academic journal', based on direct sharing of data rather than written-up papers.

When will the Planets Testbed be available to trial?
The Planets Testbed will go public in its beta version from early Summer 2009. Planets will issue mailings and post news about the start of the trials on the Planets website. External institutions will be invited to start conducting experiments and give feedback on the application for the first time. A second testing slot is planned for Autumn 2009 where we will invite the execution of mass-experiments by a handful of institutions.

Why take part in Testbed trials?
Trials will allow the institutions that take part to preview and use the beta version of the Planets Testbed and to experience these potential benefits. The screens are straightforward and simple to navigate and it should be possible for users to familiarise themselves with the application in under ten minutes. Feedback from experimenters will be used to inform the final phase of Testbed development. The results will be available to future experimenters.

Who may want to consider taking part?
Anyone with an interest in digital preservation issues and tools will be able to participate: content holders, museums, archives, documentations centres, libraries, service providers, software developers etc. Even if they don't have large amounts of data available, they will be able to use the Corpora in the Planets Testbed to carry out experiments.

Continued on page 4...

Benefits of the Planets Testbed

The Planets Testbed will provide users with ten key benefits and will allow them to:

1. Access and evaluate digital preservation tools which have been wrapped in the Testbed and are ready to be explored.
2. Save staff and money by carrying out experiments efficiently without using staff and equipment within their own institution.
3. Remove institutional barriers by using tools in the Testbed rather than setting up tools locally (with challenges of layered dependencies such as operating system, system configuration).
4. Access and compare structured experimental results which have been generated in situations similar to institutions' own. This can save time and prevent costly wrong decisions.
5. Create hard data for decision support in digital preservation, contribute to the Testbed experiment-pool and help create one of the most valuable sources of information for digital preservation today.
6. Overcome the data challenge by using the Corpora in the Planets Testbed to perform experiments without exposing institution's own content or breaching IPR regulations.
7. Make use of XCDL (the Extensible Characterisation Description language) to extract and compare digital content before and after treatment.
8. Share knowledge, browse the knowledge tree of experiments that have already taken place and explore their results.
9. Find people with the same preservation challenges and share preservation experiences. Experimenters can find and exchange know-how, become part of a digital preservation social network and participate in an active digital preservation community.
10. Test a tool by wrapping tools in the Testbed and making them available to a wide community. Testing whether tools produce the expected behaviour and receiving immediate feedback has never been easier.

...continued from page 3.

What will be involved?
Institutions which register will be invited to carry out a small number of experiments. They will receive an information pack and initial guidance. The Testbed guides them through a six-stage process which takes them through an experiment. These steps are: define basic properties; design experiment; specify outcomes; approve experiment; run experiment; evaluate experiment. They will be able to contact the Testbed Helpdesk while they conduct the experiments. Feedback from a sample of experimenters will be used to inform the final stage of Testbed development. The results will become available to future experimenters.

How will I know how to use the Testbed?
Experimenters will receive a free Planets Testbed Instruction Pack. It will contain all the necessary information to execute experiments in the Planets Testbed. They will be provided with specific training and receive the support of the Testbed Helpdesk, which will serve as a single point of contact for any Testbed experimentation questions.

How will the feedback be used?
The feedback will be used to improve the services and tailor them according to the preservation community's needs. There will be feedback sessions conducted in the Autumn either via a feedback survey or – in randomly selected cases – as personal conversations/phone calls. The user experience and feedback will be summarised in a usage report. The first iteration of this report will be issued late this year and the second one by the end of Planets in mid-2010.

How will I be able to take part?
You will be able to register initial interest in taking part in experiments, without any obligation, by going directly to a Registration Form on the Planets website and registering your interest in becoming a Testbed user. You will also be able to register your interest in receiving electronic bulletins about the Planets project.

If you do decide you would like to go ahead and carry out experiments within the Planets Testbed, you should contact the Testbed Helpdesk at: **helpdesktb@planets-project.eu.** You will receive further information on Testbed training events, community aspects and news on digital.

To register interest go to:
http://www.planets-project.eu/community
For login please contact:
helpdesktb@planets-project.eu
First time slot for external experimentation:
April/May 2009
Second time slot for mass experimentation:
October 2009
Planets Testbed:
http://testbed.planets-project.eu/testbed

PLATO WINS BEST DEMONSTRATION AWARD AT ECDL 2008

Christoph Becker, Hannes Kulovits and Andreas Rauber receive the award from Joan Lippincott, Programme Chair at ECDL

The Planets Preservation tool, Plato, has been awarded Best Demonstration at ECDL 2008. The award was judged by the delegates at the conference, and illustrates the quality and relevance of Plato to the Digital Library world.

The European Conference on Research and Advanced Technology for Digital Libraries (ECDL) is the major European conference on digital libraries and associated technical, practical and social issues attracting around 400 delegates. ECDL 2008 was held in Aarhus, Denmark in September.

Delegates had the opportunity to see live, latest developments in the field of digital libraries in an interactive demonstration session. Eight different projects had the chance to demonstrate their results at an individual booth, and answer burning questions face-to-face about their implementation. Plato was represented in this session and attracted a broad audience from different areas such as libraries, archives and repository vendors.

After the demo session, each delegate had three votes in the form of tokens which could be distributed arbitrarily among the most impressive demonstrations. Plato, together with the integrated search system Summa, received the majority of the tokens and thus shared the Best Demonstration award.

For more information about Plato, visit:
http://www.ifs.tuwien.ac.at/dp/plato

THE PLATO TOOL

Plato is a software tool for preservation planning that supports the user in selecting a specific preservation tool e.g. for format migration or emulation, taking into account individual requirements, and defining concrete preservation plans for keeping digital content alive over time.

It is based on a solid preservation planning workflow and integrates services for content characterisation, automatic object comparison and locating potential preservation actions.

DATABASE PRESERVATION – THE PLANETS WAY

Around twenty database managers, librarians and archivists (from international organisations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the European Commission) attended a workshop organised and hosted by the Swiss Federal Archives in Bern on 9–10 September 2008 to address the challenges associated with long-term preservation of and access to relational databases.

Organisations frequently hold vital administrative and scientific data in a central database, yet until now no standard format for archiving database content has existed.

Planets partner, The Swiss Federal Archives (SFA), has developed SIARD (Software-Independent Archiving of Relational Databases), an open storage format for relational databases based on ISO standards (SQL:1999 and XML) as well as a software tool, the SIARD Suite, to handle database content.

Delegates at the two-day workshop were introduced to the challenges of archiving relational databases, the SIARD format and its structure, and received an opportunity for hands-on experience of the archiving procedure with SIARD Suite.

Feedback from the event showed that the event was very well-received. Delegates particularly appreciated the practical exercises and the opportunity to see the SIARD tools in action, with the possibility of testing it with their own databases.

The Swiss Federal Archives will host further SIARD database management workshops during 2009 to address German-speaking audiences. Feedback from this event will assist the design of the workshops, which will aim to allocate more time for practical work with delegates' own databases and for more discussion of the archival aspects of SIARD.

Future workshops will be announced on the Planets website.

SIARD and Planets

SIARD became the official Planets format for archiving relational databases in May 2008. Since then it has been deployed by the Swiss Federal Archives to archive relational databases of government agencies.

A second version of the tool has been developed and its final tests were concluded recently. SIARD is being incorporated within the Planets suite of digital preservation tools and services, and work on this is ongoing. Current conversion services include:

SIARD Suite MS Access, SQL and Oracle to SIARD format;

Planets Service MS Access to SIARD format

For more information about SIARD, please visit: http://www.digitalpreservationeurope.eu/publications/briefs/database_preservation.pdf or contact the Swiss Federal Archives: bundesarchiv@bar.admin.ch

PLANETS TEAM NEWS **All Change at the National Archive**

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Adrian Brown The Parliamentary Archives has appointed Adrian Brown as Assistant Clerk of the Records to lead work to preserve and maintain access to the digital and analogue records of the Houses of Lords and Commons. Adrian will move from his role as Head of Digital Preservation Research at The National Archives (TNA) and Planets' Characterisation Sub-Project Lead on 2 February 2009.

Since joining TNA in November 2002, Adrian has been responsible for developing its Digital Preservation strategy, the UK Government Web Archive and the PRONOM file format registry. He was integral to the success of Seamless Flow – the project to automate the transfer of electronic government records to TNA to be preserved – and the Digital Continuity programme that is ensuring the survival of the information which Government need for business purposes for as long as it is needed.

Adrian said: *"It has been an enormous privilege to be involved in Planets and to have had the chance to work with so many great people on such a range of ground-breaking research. I'm delighted that I will continue to be involved in digital preservation in my new role and will look to Planets to provide many of the solutions that the Houses of Parliament will need."*

AND WELCOME TO ...

Tim Gollins Adrian Brown's replacement as Head of Digital Preservation Research at TNA is Tim Gollins. Tim has recently been Head of Digital Continuity Delivery at TNA. He previously worked in Knowledge and Information Management within the UK Civil Service. Tim takes over Adrian's role in Planets and says, *"I am looking forward to learning about Planets and in particular understanding how we can begin to exploit and sustain the outputs of the project here at TNA."*

PLANETS TEAM NEWS ...continued

WE ALSO WELCOME...

Dr David Thomas Chief Information Officer at TNA, who will join the Planets Executive Steering Committee to replace Adrian Brown

PLANETS would like YOUR opinion

If you have any news about Planets team members that you would like to share with colleagues, please let us know at planets-news@planets-project.eu

PLANETS: BEYOND 2010 Clive Billenness – Planets Programme Manager

While the Planets Project will finish on 31 May 2010, the software and services which it has created are intended to not only support digital preservation but also stimulate a market for new digital preservation tools well beyond that date.

If Planets is to succeed in creating a lasting legacy from its investment in research and development, work must begin now to identify the governance and financial structures needed to support this. In recognition of this need, Planets has initiated a new workstream to identify and evaluate options for the future sustainability of its outputs.

This work will establish what digital preservation services users want and how they would wish to see them provided. It will also consider possible options for funding this provision. A number of the Planets project partners have already expressed the intention to implement Planets services within their own digital preservation strategies, and further potential partners and 'customers' are being sought.

In order to identify market requirements, during the next 8–10 weeks, a web-based questionnaire will be widely promoted amongst and beyond the digital preservation community. Planets has identified an initial community centred on national and regional libraries and archives; the questionnaire is primarily targeted at them. However the opinions of anyone else with an interest in digital preservation will also be welcomed. This questionnaire will be supplemented by a number of personal and telephone interviews.

PLANETS would like YOUR opinion

If you would like to help us with planning the future of Planets products and services, please complete our online questionnaire. The process will only take you about ten minutes. We will publish the results in due course on the Planets website and a summary will be included in a future edition of this newsletter.

To take part in the survey, please visit http://planets-project.eu/market-survey

Once the results of this work have been collated, the Planets partners will consider options for operating and enhancing the project's outputs. A preferred option will be selected and a Project and Business Plan developed to create any governance, financial and operational frameworks identified as necessary to sustain the work begun by Planets.

A number of areas of potential activity for any successor organisation are already under consideration. None of these are intended to compete directly with commercial service providers and developers. Instead, it is hoped that they will supplement and support existing commercial activities as well as encouraging further growth and investment in this area

The Project will work to ensure that there is a seamless transfer of outputs and services by 31 May 2010. We believe that this will give potential users of Planets confidence in their long-term stability and availability and so encourage them to include Planets in their own preservation strategies.

We will report progress on these activities in future editions of this newsletter.

A Universe of Opportunities

Amongst areas already being considered for inclusion in a future Planets-based organisation are:

- Continued development and enhancement of the existing Planets tools and services
- Access to non-Planets digital preservation planning tools and to advice
- An integration platform for preservation tools from multiple sources
- Provision of testing and certification services
- A reference source for those seeking consultancy services
- A knowledgebase of up-to-date research on digital preservation
- A portal to publicly available, free-to-use preservation tools
- A portfolio of training and awareness-raising material on topics related to digital preservation
- Provision of a Technology Watch and alerting service
- Hosting of a Community of Practice for Digital Preservation

PLANETS AT EVENTS

iPRES 2008

Planets took to the podium at the Fifth International Conference on Preservation of Digital Objects (iPRES 2008) at The British Library in St Pancras on 29 – 30 September 2008.

Around 250 delegates and 66 speakers attended the world's longest-running international conference series on the preservation of digital objects. iPRES 2008 featured 54 papers in twin parallel technical and practitioner sessions and took as its theme: Joined Up and Working: tools and methods for digital preservation.

Adam Farquhar, Planets' Programme Director, was Programme Committee Chair.

Angela Dappert, The British Library, presented Planets' model to define organisational digital preservation goals. Dirk Von Suchodoletz, University of Freiburg, presented an overview of Planets' emulation strategies and their application to dynamic objects. Mark Guttenbrunner, Technical University of Vienna, presented the Planets Planning Tool, Plato, in the context of Console Video Games. Marcel Ras explained how the Royal Library of the Netherlands has developed its e-depot to preserve the Library's digital content for the long-term.

Mark Guttenbrunner and Matthew Barr, Humanities Advanced Technology and Information Institute, demonstrated the Planets Plato tool and testbed at the evening reception in the Main Entrance to the British Library on the evening of 29 September.

Maurizio Lunghhi, Scientific Director, Foundation Rinascimento Digitale, said: "Congratulations on one of the most interesting and useful conferences I have attended!"

Papers from iPres2008 can be downloaded from
http://www.bl.uk/ipres2008/programme.html

The Sixth International Conference on Preservation of Digital Objects will be hosted by the California Digital Libraries in San Francisco on 5 – 6 October 2009.

Digital Preservation Tools and Services on Display in Nice

The latest generation of tools and services to support digital preservation was on display at the Third WePreserve Annual Conference in Nice on 28 – 30 October 2008, attended by over 50 delegates from across Europe, the Middle East and USA.

Seven sessions over two days examined:

- Who is keeping digital data and what is needed?
- Which data must be preserved and how?
- preservation information and metadata;
- sustainability and interoperability;
- tools and services, infrastructures and evidence-based practice.

Manuela Speiser, European Commission opened the conference by introducing the Commission's endeavours under the i2010 Digital Libraries initiative to make Europe's cultural and scientific records available to, and preserved for all.

The second session considered the experiences of the UK Nucler Decommissioning Authority, UNESCO, European Space Agency and CERN project with preserving scientific and cultural digital data.

Sergio Albani, European Space Agency, Jerome Barthelemy Institution de Recherche et Coordination Accoustique/Musique (IRCAM) and Hans Hofman (National Archives of the Netherlands and Planets) (Photo – previous page) went on to explore how to appraise and select digital content.

Session four considered preservation infrastructures and included presentations by Esther Conway, Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC), on the need for representational information and Dirk Von Suchodoletz, (University of Freiburg and Planets) on emulation strategies.

The first day concluded with a lively panel discussion featuring Seamus Ross, (Humanities Advanced Technology and Information Institute), Clive Billenness, Programme Manager, Planets, and David Giaretta, STFC, on how to promote preservation as a sustainable activity.

Day Two began with a round-up of tools and services. These included: Caspar and DCC tools to support development of representation information; the (PLATTER) Planning Tool for Trusted Electronic Repositories which enables repositories to incroporate core principles into their design and the DRAMBORA toolkit to support digital preservation audit and risk management.

Manfred Thaller (University of Cologne) introduced Planets' approach to identifying the significant properties of digital objects as a basis to plan and execute preservation workflows.

The penultimate session focused on shared distribution infrastructures and included recent work by the PARSE.insight project; Caspar's OAIS-based infrastructure and the Digital Repository Infrastructure Vision for Research (DRIVER) project.

Ross King introduced Planets' architecture and its role in supporting interoperability between preservation tools and services.

The final session examined evidence-based practice and demonstrated the Caspar, Shaman and Planets' testbeds.

Emily Nimmo, Conference Organiser, said: "The conference highlighted the progress that has been made by the DPE, Planets and Caspar projects under the leadership of the European Commission. We have moved on from building an 'agitating buzz' to delivering real solutions to support digital preservation in practice."

For a full event report, visit:
http://www.ijdc.net/index.php/ijdc/article/view/94

WePreserve is the umbrella organisation for digital preservation projects funded by the Commission under its Framework Programmes 6 and 7. WePreserve currently incorporates Planets, Cultural, Artistic and Scientific Knowledge for Preservation, Access and Retrieval (CASPAR), Digital Preservation Europe (DPE) and the JISC-funded Digital Curation Centre.

PLANETS ALL-STAFF MEETING 2008

In a project where the partner organisations are so geographically dispersed, it is both difficult and expensive to organise meetings, and so much of the work relies on teleconferences and e-mail circulation lists, as well as sharing documents on a Wiki.

In November 2008, around 70 participants from all sixteen partner institutions of Planets gathered for our second All-Staff Meeting. The meeting was a chance for staff from across the project to review progress to date, and see demonstrations of the Planets software products. Various cross-work-package meetings were held and a variety of technical issues resolved. Meetings continued in every corner of the hotel, in one case continuing even on the aircraft returning home!

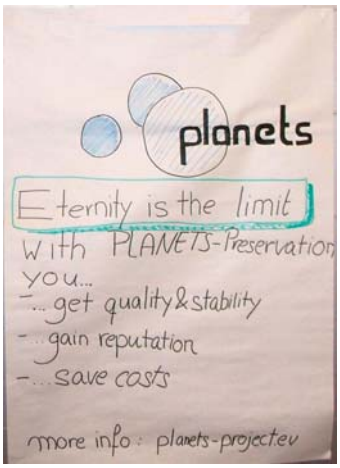
One area of particular focus was how to take products forward beyond the end of the project in 2010 (see article on page 6). A lively session examined how Planets should engage with different groups of stakeholders and encourage adoption of Planets tools. Teams were set the challenge of designing a poster which spelled out the benefits to specific audiences. Posters were produced to engage with a Chief Executive, a Director of Finance, a Director of Information and a Librarian/Archivist. The results were then judged by an impartial panel of members of the Planets Scientific Board. After lengthy discussions, and praising the quality of all the entries, the Panel selected the team who produced the poster for 'Librarian/Archivist' to receive the award of 'Champion Sales Team of 2008'.

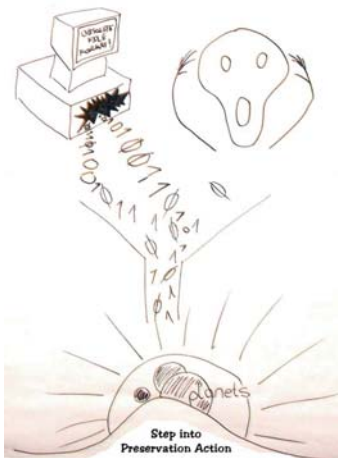
We have reproduced the other entries as well so that you can judge them for yourselves.

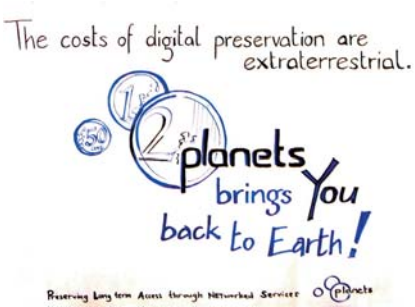
Our thanks to all the teams who took part so energetically in this challenge – sheets of paper and marker pens could be seen laid out on tables in the bar long into the night – much to the puzzlement of other hotel guests!

Feedback from those who attended reported that the event provided a valuable opportunity to both develop ideas for future work in the project and exchange information with one another about work already completed.

The Planets Champion Sales Team. From left to right:
Barbara Sierman – KB-NL, Max Kaiser – ONB, Caroline van Wijk – KB-NL, Natasa Milic-Frayling – Microsoft, Vittore Casarosa – HATII







RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS AT EVENTS

IS&T Archiving 2008 Conference

24 – 27 June 2008, Bern

'Requirements for applying emulation as a preservation strategy'

Jeffrey van der Hoeven, Remco Verdegem and Bram Lohman

www.imaging.org/conferences/archiving2008/

www.imaging.org/store/epub.cfm?abstrid=38883

IS&T Archiving 2008 Conference: Final Program and Proceedings, Bern, Switzerland, June 24 – 27

ISSN 978-0-892080277-3 pp71 – 76

Digital Libraries: Advanced Methods and Technologies, Digital Collections. The Tenth Anniversary of All-Russian Research Conference (RCDL '08)

7 – 11 October 2008, Dubna

'Preservation Planning with Plato'

Hannes Kulovits and Andreas Rauber

http://rcdl2008.jinr.ru/eng/

http://rcdl2008.jinr.ru/pdf/016_023_Tutorial.pdf

See http://rcdl2008.jinr.ru/eng/?programm for presentation.

Krakow '08 Grid Workshop 2008

13 – 15 October, Krakow, Poland

The seventh in a series of workshops for researchers, developers and practitioners working in e-Science and grid systems.

'Scalable Services for Digital Preservation'

Rainer Schmidt, Christian Sadilek and Ross King

www.cyfronet.pl/cgw08/index.html

www.cyfronet.pl/cgw08/abatracts-oral.pdf

www.cyfronet.pl/cgw08/presentations/c2-5.pdf

European Conference on Research and Advanced Technology for Digital Libraries (ECDL)

15 – 19 September 2008, Aarhus

www.ecdl2008.org

www.springerlink.com/content/978-3-540-87598-7/

'A User Field Study: Communication in Academic Communities and Government Agencies"

Filip Kruse, Annette Balle Sørensen, Bart Ballaux, Birte Christensen-Dalsgaard, Hans Hofman, Michael Poltorak Nielsen, John W. Pattenden-Fail, Seamus Ross, Kellie Snow and Jørn Thøgersen

pp 447 – 449

'Archive Design Based on Planets Inspired Logical Object Model'

Eld Zierau and Anders Sewerin Johansen

pp 37 – 40

'Distributed Preservation Services: Integrating Planning and Actions'

Christoph Becker, Miguel Ferreira, Michael Kraxner, Andreas Rauber, Ana Alice Baptista and José Carlos Ramalho

pp 25 – 36

'Plato: A Preservation Planning Tool Integrating Preservation Action Services'

Hannes Kulovits, Christoph Becker, Michael Kraxner, Florian Motlik, Kevin Stadler and Andreas Rauber

pp 413 – 414

'Significant Characteristics to Abstract Content: Long Term Preservation of Information'

Manfred Thaller, Volker Heydegger, Jan Schnasse, Sebastian Beyl and Elona Chudobkaite

pp 41 – 49

Fifth International Conference on Preservation of Digital Objects (iPRES 2008)

29 – 30 September 2008, London

Proceedings of the fifth international conference on Preservation of Digital Objects (iPRES 2008), London, UK, September 29 – 30, 2008

ISBN 978-0-7123-0913-4

www.bl.uk/ipres2008

Papers and presentations at http://www.bl.uk/ipres2008/programme.html

'Modelling Organizational Preservation Goals to Guide Digital Preservation'

Angela Dappert, Adam Farquhar

pp 5 – 12

'Emulation: From Digital Artefact to Remotely Rendered Environments'

Dirk von Suchodoletz, Jeffrey van der Hoeven

pp 93 – 98

'Evaluating Strategies for the Preservation of Console Video Games'

Mark Guttenbrunner, Christoph Becker, Andreas Rauber, Carmen Kehrberg

pp 115 – 121

Storark Conference on Archiving and Storage

Mid-Sweden University, Sundsvall, Sweden

13 October 2008

'An Introduction to Planets'

Clive Billenness

http://www.miun.se/Mittuniversitetet/Resurser/Genvagar/storark/

ABOUT PLANETARIUM

Planetarium is the new name for the Planets newsletter, which is published four times each year throughout the life of the Planets Project.

Each issue details recent project activities, describes practical tools and services developed by the project, provides news highlights about the project and the Planets team and gives details of recent publications about Planets topics and past and future events at which Planets is/was represented.

If you have suggestions for articles in future issues, please let us know.

Sign up to receive future copies of Planets newsletters via the RSS feed at **www.planets-project.eu**

For more information on the project, please contact **info@planets-project.eu**

BACKGROUND TO THE PLANETS PROJECT

Planets is a four-year, €13.5 million, project co-funded by the European Commission under Framework Programme 6. (IST-033789)

Co-ordinated by the British Library, Planets brings together the expertise of 16 European National Libraries and Archives, leading research institutions, and technology companies to address the challenge of preserving access to digital cultural and scientific knowledge.

The project's goal is to provide long-term access to digital scientific and cultural assets. Planets will deliver practical tools and services to automate the preservation process making it simpler, faster and cheaper and so more viable.

Planets technology is being designed to meet the needs of different types and sizes of organisations: national libraries, archives, universities, government, commerce and small businesses.

A shared platform, vocabulary and computer languages to describe objects and the preservation process will bind together actors in the digital preservation and curation communities: researchers, institutions, digital archives and third-party tool and service providers.

Plug-in capability allows third-party tools and services to be easily incorporated and updated.

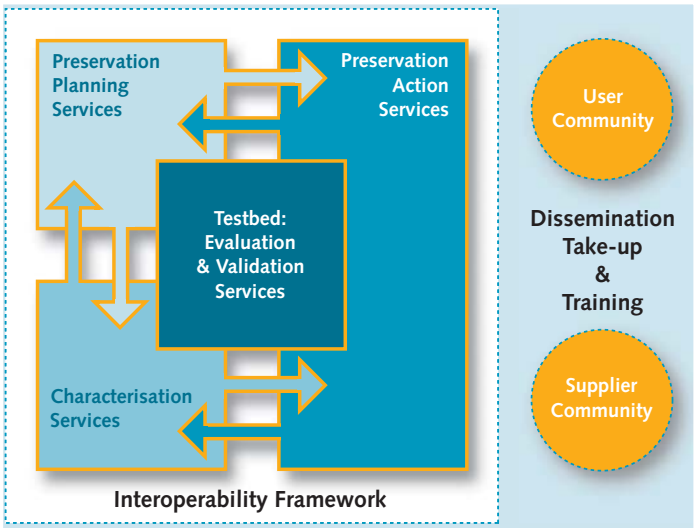
Security and ability to audit the preservation process are core components.

Planets is one of three projects funded under EC Framework Programme 6. It works with Digital Preservation Europe (DPE) and Cultural, Artistic and Scientific Knowledge for Preservation, Access and Retrieval (CASPAR).

Planets Partners are:

The British Library
The National Library of the Netherlands
Austrian National Library
The Royal Library of Denmark
State and University Library, Denmark
The National Archives of the Netherlands
The National Archives of England, Wales and the United Kingdom
Swiss Federal Archives
University of Cologne
University of Freiburg
HATII at the University of Glasgow
Vienna University of Technology
Austrian Research Centers GmbH
IBM Netherlands
Microsoft Research Limited
Tessella Support Services Plc

THE PLANETS COMPONENTS



Planets will provide a comprehensive set of network-accessible, scaleable, sustainable tools to assist curators of digital material at each stage of the digital preservation process. It begins with the preparation of a risk-based, prioritised preservation plan, through the identification of the materials to be preserved to the selection of tools to undertake the conversion of the data into a format better suited to long-term preservation, through the non-destructive testing of and then the full-scale execution of those tools to the verification of the format of the output.

The Planets partners are also working with institutions engaged in digital preservation as well as with organisations who supply and maintain their digital content systems.

Planets also organises seminars and training events for members of the digital preservation community, publishes newsletters and articles and provides speakers for conferences. For more information, visit **www.planets-project.eu** or e-mail **info@planets-project.eu**