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DROID, PRONOM and Preservation Planning

Anyone can do it!

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The National Archives

Key message:

Here are some useful tools that anyone can use – they will help you take the first steps to preserve your digital information

File formats

If you don't know what you've got, how can you preserve it?

What format?

Q: How do we know what format it is in?

A: File extension

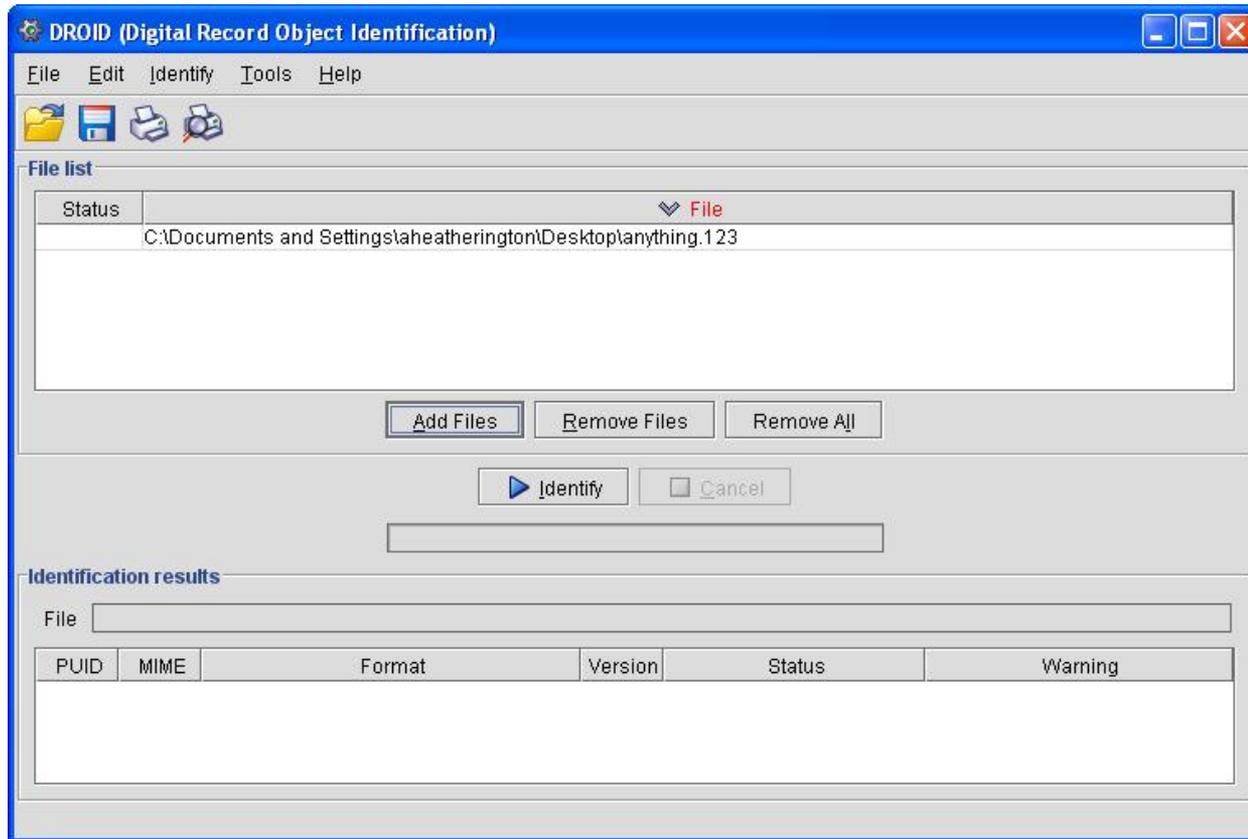Actually, this doesn't always help!

What format?

Identification

The first step in digital preservation is to identify what you have.
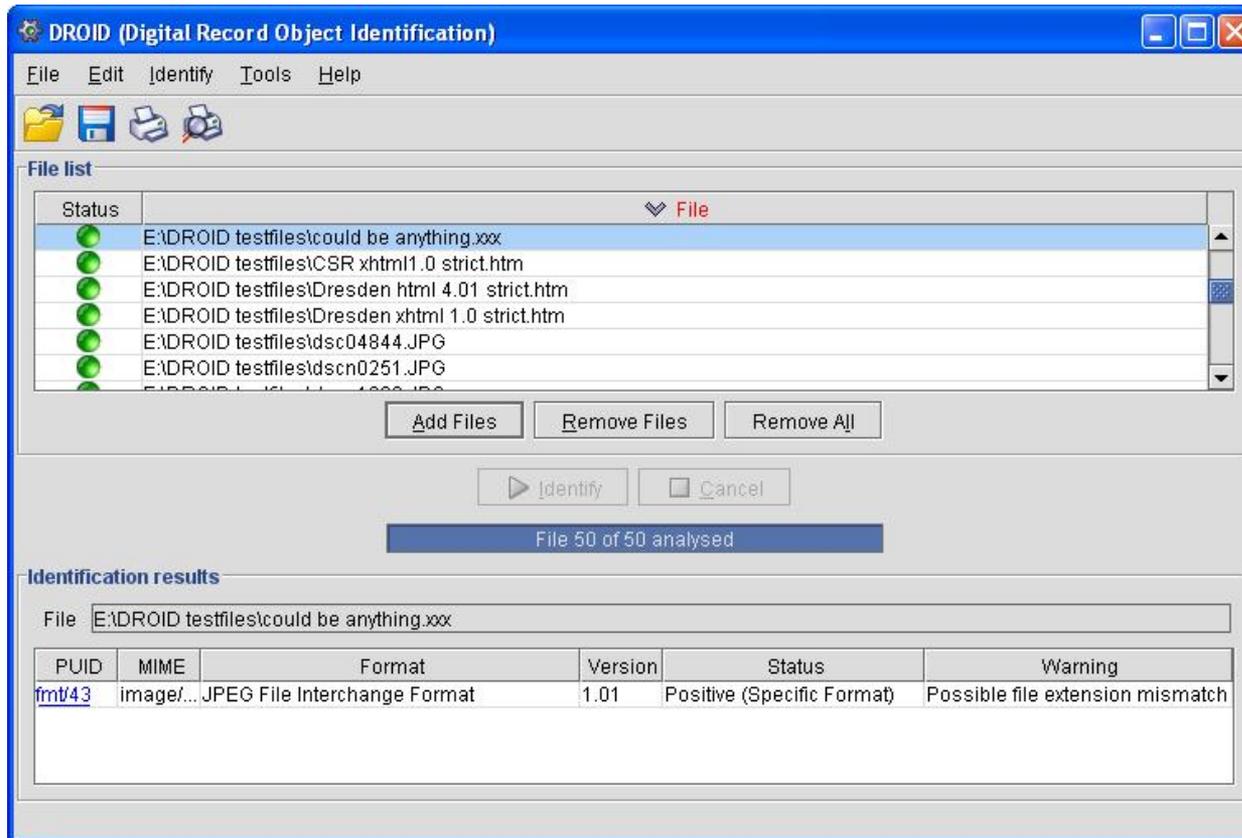
Free tool, developed by The National Archives

DROID

DROID – add files

DROID - Identify

PRONOM

Once we've identified files, what next?

PRONOM, made freely available by The National Archives, provides information about file formats, and can help you prioritise preservation actions

PRONOM - search

PRONOM – file format information

PRONOM – file signature

Next steps

Using information from DROID and PRONOM, evaluate risk scores of formats in your collection

Prioritise preservation action (eg migration) based on risk score

TNA will be producing documentation about how we manage our own risks – each organisation's risk will be different

Good luck!

THANK YOU!

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