

Practical Experience of Digital Preservation

Public-Private Partnerships

Digital Preservation Coalition

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David V Bowen

Practical action to nurture your knowledge base



Agenda

- Current digital preservation practice
 - Industry
 - Private individuals
 - Suppliers
- What should we be doing?
 - R & D partnerships
 - Good records practices

Current Practices in Digital Preservation

- Industry
(banking, engineering, pharmaceuticals)
- Private individuals
- Suppliers

What is industry doing? (1)

- E-mail migration
 - VMS to ccMail to MS Outlook
- Document and data migration
 - Word documents
 - CAD drawings
 - Scientific data
- Database migration
 - Version to version
 - Platform to platform

What is industry doing? (2)

- Standards
- netCDF for scientific data
- ASCII formats
- Now XML

What do people do at home?

- Migration
- MS Word, and other packages
- MS Excel and other packages

What are Software Suppliers doing?

- Improved backward compatibility
 - Word, WordPerfect, RTF
- Increased commitment to standards
- Viewers

What should we be doing?

- R & D Partnerships
- Good record creation practices
- Good metadata practices

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R & D Partnerships

- Continue projects like the Testbed Digitale Bewaring in the Netherlands
- Communicate: share results and advice
- Examine actual preservation from a Record-Keeping angle
- Work with software suppliers

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Good Record Creation

- Be sure records can be preserved
- Avoid automatic fields
- Be careful of fancy formatting
- If possible, store an open format (PDF, XML)
- Plan preservation early and carefully

Good metadata practices

- Add metadata at creation
 - Author
 - Title
 - Dates
- Include metadata in the record
- Arrange records well (folders, sub-folders)

Thank you.

Questions?