Mediapedia: managing the identification of media carriers.

Prometheus: managing the ingest of media carriers at the NLA.

David Pearson
Digital Preservation Section, National Library of Australia.
The Problem

Context originally behind these two tools:

- The Library has a relatively small but important collection of digital materials stored on ‘common’ media carriers such as floppy disks, CDs and DVDs.

- This includes both published and unpublished manuscripts in digital form.

- Content stored on these carriers is at-risk and needs to be ingested into the NLA managed storage system in a systematic manner.
Obsolescence

Factors such as obsolescence of the technology required for access and carrier deterioration already make it difficult for digital preservation solutions to preserve access to digital content.
The Digital Preservation Section at the NLA divided this particular problem into two main components.

1. Understanding the problem. Having mechanisms in place to:
   - understand the consequences for collecting content on problematic carrier types;
   - identify the carriers types;
   - identify the requirements for access each of these carrier types;
   - have a place to record information that we found out; and
   - share it with others.

Hence Mediapedia.

2. Do something about the Problem. Having mechanisms in place to deal with the less problematic media carriers by designed a system and processes which are:
   - semi-automatic;
   - modular; scalable (able to deal with multiple carrier types); and
   - to automatically harvest and generate appropriate metadata for future access.

Hence Prometheus.

The acquisition of digital materials on carriers is a constantly growing problem. Therefore, the NLA had to address:

- whether to collect content on particular carriers in the first instant;
- processing the carrier backlog; and
- adding to the backlog.
Mediapedia

Mediapedia (soon to be a community web-base service for carrier identification and knowledge) aims to:

– be a curated repository for business knowledge and be a ‘trusted’ sources;

– enable the identification with a low level of audience knowledge;

– cater for both general and specialists audiences;

– contain additional information about dependencies (such as hardware, connectors, interfaces, software, etc.) and access paths for usage which are not currently represented in other sources such as Wikipedia; and

– be a web based service which can be integrated internally or externally to other services.
Media Genre is a categorisation of the carrier(s) of a resource, reflecting in general terms the type of content.
- Data, Microform, Moving Image, Sound, Still Image & Unmediated.

Type of carrier is a categorization of the carrier(s) of a resource, reflecting in general terms the format of the physical storage medium which when in combination with the type of intermediation device enables accessing the resource.
- e.g. tape reel, disc, disc / disk cartridge, cylinder, paper, etc.

Type of process is a categorisation to record the type of process used to record the information on the physical media.
- e.g. magnetic, magnetic/optical, mechanical, optical, photo chemical, photo mechanical, photo digital, solid state, etc.

Form of the recording medium is a categorization of the recording medium, reflecting in general terms the instance of the form of the underlying recording medium.

Name of carrier is a categorization of the common name or registered trademarked name of the physical media carrier utilised to store a resource.
## V0000166 Zip 100 Disk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variant Details</th>
<th>Data</th>
<th>Sound</th>
<th>Still Image</th>
<th>Microform</th>
<th>Moving Image</th>
<th>Unmediated</th>
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<tr>
<td>Basic Info</td>
<td>Zip 100 Disk</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Data</td>
<td>Magnetic Disk/Cartridge</td>
<td>Magnetic Tape</td>
<td>Magnetic Optical</td>
<td>Optical</td>
<td>Solid State</td>
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<td>Additional Requirements</td>
<td>Zip 250 USB</td>
<td>External USB 1.0</td>
<td>READ</td>
<td>WRITE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Process</td>
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<td>Internal</td>
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<td>3.5&quot;</td>
<td>100 Mb.</td>
<td>100 Mb.</td>
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<td>Carrier</td>
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<td>WRITE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Model</td>
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<td>USB 1.0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>WRITE</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Created By: D Ellord
Date: 27/09/07
Modified By: digipres
Date: 19/02/09
Prometheus

digital preservation tool
Centralised Model
De-Centralised Model
Data Model

- dd for Windows, at [http://www.chrysocome.net/dd](http://www.chrysocome.net/dd)
- JHOVE object validation environment, at [http://hul.harvard.edu/jhove/](http://hul.harvard.edu/jhove/)
### Assigned

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Last Update</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victorian government gazette 1862</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>14 Oct 08, 01:54 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victorian government gazette 1877</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>14 Oct 08, 12:21 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victorian Post Office directory 1886 (Wise)</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>14 Oct 08, 11:45 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victoria police gazette compendium 1901-1905</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>13 Oct 08, 04:09 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selk Ivan 2</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>13 Oct 08, 03:25 PM</td>
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### Working

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Tanami</td>
<td>Working</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>13 Oct 08, 10:45 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choices: stories of young women’s experiences with binge drinking: a short film</td>
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<td>Then we were three: building a stronger, healthier relationship</td>
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<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instant families: building a stronger, healthier relationship</td>
<td>Working</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>13 Oct 08, 09:04 AM</td>
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<td>Taking the first step: building a stronger, healthier relationship</td>
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### Finished

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<tr>
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<td>High</td>
<td>10 Oct 08, 03:31 PM</td>
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<td>Little Bribia: Hume Highway duplication</td>
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Create or Find Job

Confirm Details

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Cronin, Stephen, 1960-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Vocalise [music] : for choir and audio track/ Stephen Cronin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>1 vocal score (9 p.) ; 30 cm. + 1 CD-ROM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holdings</td>
<td>Choose holdings: MUS Nmt 783.16 C947</td>
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Start again  Cancel  Check for Existing Jobs
### My Jobs

- **East Yilgarn 1:100000 2006 Update**

#### Add media
- **Media Type**: select one of the following:
  - CD
  - disk
  - network file

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part Name</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Media Type</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Yilgarn 1:100000 2006 Update Dec 2 of 2</td>
<td>Ready</td>
<td>link to be selected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Yilgarn 1:100000 2000 Update Dec 1 of 2</td>
<td>Ready</td>
<td>click 'Edit' to select</td>
</tr>
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</table>

#### Bib ID: 4222802
- **Change catalogue details**

#### Holdings
- MAP Ref: 7015 (Ask at the Map Reading Room Desk)
- nla.dp-41022
- Change holdings

**Author**: Geographical Survey of Western Australia.

**Title**: East Yilgarn (cartographic material) / Geological Survey of Western Australia.

**Description**: 2 DVD-ROMs: col.: 4 3/4 in.

**System Details**
- System requirements: GeoViewer.WA has been designed for the Windows operating system and has been tested to run on Windows NT/ME/2000/XP.
Select Media Type

Please contact Digital Preservation if your media is not listed here.

- CD-ROM or DVD-ROM
- External Hard Disk or USB
- Floppy Disk (3.5 inch)
- File

Cancel
Thought for food: a discussion on the issues of GM technology as they relate to food and agriculture, November 12 2008.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part Name</th>
<th>Status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disk two: panel discussion</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>CD/DVD-ROM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use one: opening presentations</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>CD/DVD-ROM</td>
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Job Details

- **Job Number**: 1123
- **Owner**: Christine Havlins
- **Date Added**: 28 Oct 08, 01:48 PM
- **Last Update**: 28 Oct 08, 01:48 PM
- **Priority**: Medium
- **Status**: Working
Problems so far

• Even though it is ‘open source’, it would only work for others with significant effort. It is linked to NLA specific closed databases/services

• Too much redundant metadata

• In some cases cataloguers are not entering meaningful data

• Web service bottlenecks

• Database bottlenecks
The Project Status

Current Status:
• Version 1.0 beta finished July 2008

• User acceptance testing and bug-fixing July-August 2008

• Handed to IT for further enhancements August 2008 (Versions 1.1-1.3)

• Version 1.4 for release June 2009 (to include: reporting, system optimisation, metadata review, part-stubs)
The Incredible Team
Mediapedia Information

Prometheus Sourceforge Website:
http://prometheus-digi.sourceforge.net/

Prometheus Articles: