archivematica®

Open-source, standards-based digital preservation

*For detailed functional and technical information, see **Archivematica digital preservation system Information sheet 2019**, available on the Artefactual Systems website.*

Archivematica is a digital preservation platform designed to:

- Ingest a wide variety of digital holdings
- Perform automated digital preservation actions
- Prepare system independent, standards based Archival Information Packages for long-term storage
- Make access copies available via integrated online access and cataloging systems
- Provide an interface for digital curation experts to perform analysis, appraisal and preservation planning

Use Archivematica if your organization needs to:

- Ensure that content can be retrieved, rendered and understood over time
- Automate preservation actions to achieve consistency and scalability
- Ensure that content is preserved with no vendor lock-in or proprietary restrictions

Preserve your content

Archivematica is a digital preservation platform that ingests content, performs configurable preservation actions and generates standards-based, self-documenting Archival Information Packages for long-term storage. Archivematica automates standard digital preservation activities such as ingestion, checksum generation, format identification, format validation, metadata extraction, format conversion and placement in archival storage. Content can be re-ingested and new workflows initiated to accommodate new format migrations, metadata updates or other preservation actions. The user can interact with the system via a web-based dashboard, but configuration options can be used to fully automate all aspects of the workflow.

Store your content

Archivematica is not a storage system, but instead prepares content for long-term storage. The Archivematica storage service module can be configured to deposit Archival Information Packages into many different types of storage, including local filesystems; cloud-based storage such as Amazon S3, Microsoft Azure and OpenStack Swift; and specialized storage tools and services such as LOCKSS, DuraCloud, iRods, Chronopolis and Arkivum. Users can search for and retrieve stored content via the web-based dashboard; however, the content can also be retrieved independently of any Archivematica instance and opened in a standard file browser.

Archivematica is free and open-source software:

- You can download and use it for free. All of the software is free and open-source - there is no proprietary, expensive "enterprise" or enhanced version
- The development process is highly transparent and all technical and end-user documentation is freely available online
- The Archivematica public user forum is a great place to ask questions and connect with other users

But excellent commercial support and hosting options are also available:

- Annual maintenance agreements and hosting services are described on the Artefactual Systems website
- Maintenance and hosting services include full installation, helpdesk-style technical support, upgrades, patches and monitoring
- Hosting services include secure, monitored geo-redundant storage

Make your content available

Archivematica generates access copies of preserved digital objects for upload to the open-source AtoM platform, which provides online access to the content and the ability to add rich descriptive metadata. However, Archivematica can also be used as a stand-alone tool, for example, to create a "dark archive" - a repository of preserved digital holdings that are not made publicly available.

Many organizations use Archivematica along with other systems for publication, description and access, such as DSpace, ArchivesSpace, Islandora, Dataverse, contentDM and Samvera. Interactions between these systems and Archivematica can be accomplished using existing integrations and automation tools. Integration with other systems is also possible, although some development or customization may be needed.

Follow community standards

Archivematica is based on the internationally recognized standard for digital preservation, ***Reference Model for an Open Archival Information System (OAIS)*** **- ISO 14721:2012**. It also uses widely accepted standards for metadata, including **PREMIS, METS** and **Dublin Core**. Preservation actions are based on format identification using the **PRONOM** file format registry.

AtoM implements the **International Council of Archives** descriptive standards, as well as other standards such as **Dublin Core**, **MODS**, the Canadian **Rules for Archival Description** and the US **Describing Archives: A Content Standard**. Content can be imported and exported via **Encoded Archival Description (EAD)** and CSV.

Using open-source software and recognized standards means avoiding building data silos that require intensive maintenance or difficult data migrations down the road!