

CALL FOR AN ADDITIONAL PROJECT PARTNER

Project contract number - FP6-IST-507336

Project acronym - **PrestoSpace**

Project full name - Preservation towards storage and access. Standardised Practices for Audiovisual Contents Archiving in Europe

Instrument type – Integrated project

Call identifier - IST-IP-507336-PrestoSpace-CALL1

Language in which proposal should be submitted – English

Date of close of call - 15/6/2005

Time of close of call - 17h00 Paris time (GMT+2)

Web address for further information (call webpage) - <http://www.prestospace.org>

Mail address for further information (Project coordinator) - prestospace_contact@ina.fr

Introduction

The PrestoSpace project, currently active in the *Sixth Framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities contributing to the creation of the European research area and to innovation (2002-2006)*, invites companies working in the field of film scanning, to apply to become a full partner in the PrestoSpace project.

The PrestoSpace project's objective is to provide technical solutions and integrated systems for digital preservation of all types of audiovisual collections.

The project intends to provide tangible results in the domain of preservation, restoration, storage and archive management, content description, delivery and access. Economic factors supporting preservation services will be addressed.

The principal aim is to prepare the way for preservation factories providing affordable services to all kinds of collection custodians in order to manage and to allow access to their assets.

The additional Project Partner will take in charge the development of equipment for fast scanning of 35mm and 16mm film.

Please note that the EC conditions for FP6 projects (Integrated Project) will apply and the funding for your contribution will be up to 50% of your project costs (get more information: www.cordis.lu/fp6/ist.htm or contact your National Contact Point for more information: <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/ncp.htm>).

Requested contribution

Amongst the million of hours of audiovisual material waiting on shelves, a large fraction is film. A large proportion of such material is not necessarily cinema film, but rather TV material, corporate, ethnographic, or private status. Appropriate storage conditions for these materials are often unaffordable, taking into account the already advanced stage of degradation (colour fading, vinegar syndrome...). In many cases, the digitisation approach could help both safeguarding these materials and facilitating access to the contents, but the cost of the digitisation is still limiting very much the amounts that can be transferred. Although digitisation may not be the one-fits-all approach, it is considered that a good compromise between quality of the results and cost of the digitisation should in many cases offer archives an opportunity for preparing while it is still possible a digital copy of their films, that will be usable for access purposes, at the same time ensuring the preservation of the contents,

should the original carrier deteriorate beyond any cure. The current tools available for film digitisation are targeted at the high-end range, and very often are not suited for archive films. Telecine are much too expensive, and scanners are much too slow to be of any help, and little attention is paid to films that do exhibit problems such as shrinkage, damaged edges or sprocket holes, splices...

Therefore the PrestoSpace Project considers (and this was confirmed by the User Group) that there is a requirement for a low-cost medium-range film scanner, that should nicely complement the existing range of products for digitisation tool.

The additional Project Partner will undertake the development of equipment for fast scanning of 35mm and 16mm film, for transferring film to data files, with a good, but not pristine quality, that will be considered sufficient for preserving common (non-cinema) archive films. The current set of requirements for such a tool are listed below.

- Price tag should be significantly lower than existing telecine technology
- 35mm and 16mm (negative & reversal, colour and BW)
- should not lose frames
- robust to film shrinkage
- tolerant (stable) to splices (including less-than-perfect tape splices)
- robust to any punched edge marks (notches) (sync marks...)
- robust to damaged sprocket holes
- robust to tape in excess on edges at splices
- robust to twisting and curling
- HD output resolution or better (1920 x 1080)
- File output : 12 bits, or 10 bits with automatic dynamic range adjustment, or better
- Real-Time, or faster

Also desirable :

- 4th channel for detecting/storing/repairing defects : Infra-red or other
- optional optical sound playback
- optional robustness to kinescope Moiré

This set of requirements gives an indication of proposed performance. Proposers may suggest additional improvements or developments that would tend to similar (or better) performance.

Requested qualification

Given the complexity of developing such film scanning equipment, it is expected the candidate partner has already started development, or is already manufacturing similar equipment, and that their main development effort within the project will be to adapt the scanner to the specifications set by the project.

The candidate must satisfy the eligibility criteria detailed in the Guide for Proposers ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/fp6/docs/guide_competitive_ip-final_ep_en.pdf. To summarise, companies having a (justifiable) legal existence within one of the Member States of the EU, or in a state associated with the Sixth Framework programme, are eligible.

Available Funding

Expected duration of participation in project: from 08/2005 to 5/2007

Estimated costs and funding for the tasks :

Research costs: €400 000 (to be supported by Commission funding of up to 50%)

Demonstration costs: €0 (to be supported by Commission funding of up to 35%)

Training costs: €0 (to be supported by Commission funding of up to 100%)

Consortium management costs €3000 (to be supported by Commission funding of up to 100%)

Total Commission funding available €203 000

Please take into account that this is only an indication of the funding available for this task. Proposers are free to provide different figures, reflecting their actual estimation of the costs. The consortium will then negotiate directly with the Proposers if an adjustment in the effort or of the funding is necessary.

Submission procedure

It is recommended that Proposers use the paper submission procedure, as described in the Guide for Proposers ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/fp6/docs/guide_competitive_ip-final_ep_en.pdf. However, to simplify the submission effort, it is not required that all the details required within the Guide for Proposers are fully detailed : please consider section 'Structure of the Proposal', below.

Caveat : It is highly recommended that Proposers get in touch well in advance with prestospace_contact@ina.fr, to be registered as a potential Proposer, and be informed of complements of details, and possible changes in the organisation of the selection. The PrestoSpace Call1 team will do their best effort to provide the relevant information to the Proposers. As a general rule, questions will be accepted, but regardless of the source of the request, information will be provided to all Proposers simultaneously using email, and respecting a strict anonymity.

Please submit your proposal as one complete unbound copy and three bound copies. Please print your proposal on white A4 paper, 80g/m². You are strongly advised to securely retain an additional complete unbound copy of your proposal.

The complete set of proposal should be placed in an envelope marked "Commercial-in-confidence" and with the following information:

*PrestoSpace
Competitive call 1*

The envelope(s) should then be sealed within an overall packaging, which should be addressed to :

*Philippe Poncin
Direction Recherche et Expérimentation
PrestoSpace Call 1
Institut National de l'Audiovisuel (INA)
28 avenue des Frères Lumière
94366 Bry sur Marne
France*

The proposal may be sent by mail, by trusted delivery service or delivered by hand, but must (in all cases) arrive at the specified address no later than 15/6/2005, 17:00, Paris time (GMT+2).

If you feel that your delivery may arrive late, you may send earlier a preliminary version. The new versions (clearly labelled as *Version No XX, takes precedence over earlier versions*), will only be taken into account if delivered before the deadline.

Structure of the Proposal Document

The paper submission should be in the following form :

A cover page should be placed as the first page of the proposal (paper proposal). It should clearly identify :

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Date of close of call - 15/6/2005

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Date of preparation of your proposal -

Your organisation name -

Name of the coordinating person -

Coordinator telephone number -

Coordinator email -

Coordinator fax -

Part A (Administrative and Financial Information)

The Guide for Proposers ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/fp6/docs/guide_competitive_ip-final_ep_en.pdf provides templates for forms A1, A2, A3.

A1 Form (Project Summary) may be replaced by a short summary of your proposal.

A2 Form (Information on Participant) should be completed as instructed. Proposers are invited to report first to the Proposer's Guide and then get advice from prestospace_contact@ina.fr.

A3 form (Financial Information) should be completed. Only one line is required, but Proposers are invited to provide more details on their costs in section B.3 Project Resources.

Part B

The Guide for Proposers ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/fp6/docs/guide_competitive_ip-final_ep_en.pdf provides a template for part B. Please note that it is not required that the proposal be as detailed as required in the Guide for Proposers.

The evaluation will concentrate more on technical excellence, than on the compliance to the guidelines set in the Guide for Proposers. The Proposers are invited to reorganise the plan for Part B, to result in a short, clear and appealing proposal.

For simplicity, the following advice is given :

Section B.0 Tasks Addressed should be a simple re-statement of section 'Requested Contribution', above. A comment may be added if necessary.

Section B.1 Outline Implementation Plan should **concentrate the essence of the proposal** (recommended length : 5-8 pages). More specifically, you are invited to describe technically your starting point (existing developments), and your proposal for improving technically your system with respect to the 'Requested Contribution' criteria, above.

Proposers are not required in section B.1 to mention references to Demonstration, Training, or Consortium management activities. All the described effort, by default, will be considered as Research, Technological development, and Innovation activities, and funded at 50%.

Section B.2 Description of Participant may be extracted from existing documents, and can be reduced to 1 or 2 pages.

Section B.3 Project resources may be detailed using the IP Project effort Form from the Proposer's guide, but alternative presentations may be preferred. Do not include too many sub-activities. In any case section B3 should also include a simplified estimation of the costs, based on efforts and average man-months costs. Other cost categories such as Travel, Equipment, Consumables, and Subcontracting, may be mentioned at this point if significant.

Section B.4 Other issues : Given the area of research, it is not anticipated that the Proposer's participation involve sensitive questions such as ethical issues, or gender issues. However, if it is the case, Proposers are required to include Table A and B checklists, as per the Guide for Proposers, p30. If no such problem arises, Section B.4 may be left as a simple statement, or completed by the relevant references.

Evaluation

The evaluation procedure will take place from 16/6/2005 to 30/6/2005, the selected candidate will be notified immediately. A negotiation phase will take place during the first days of July 2005, and it is expected that the Accession Form to the contract will be signed before the end of July 2005, allowing the development effort to start as early as August 2005.

References

The PrestoSpace project public Web site <http://prestospace.org/>

The Guide for Proposers ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/fp6/docs/guide_competitive_ip-final_ep_en.pdf

The section on competitive Calls on Cordis <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/find-doc-management.htm#competitive>

The ISTweb home page <http://www.cordis.lu/ist/>

PrestoSpace Call 1 help desk : prestospace_contact@ina.fr