

The history of the 'Preservation Factory' concept.

The '**Preservation Factory**' concept is due to Richard Wright, from BBC Information & Archives. The first time it was referenced in public was by Richard Wright, on 22-24/05/2002, during the Presto Multimedia Archive Preservation practical workshop, in London. Before then, it was already present on the Presto Project web site, since at least 12/11/2001 [1].

One of the main conclusions of the Presto Project with respect to migration of AudioVisual materials to the digital domain, was that the factory approach is roughly 50% cheaper than the on-demand approach. The PrestoSpace Project has then undertaken to develop the technical knowledge, and to prepare the emergence of *Preservation Factories*, as stated on the PrestoSpace web site [2].

Since then, in addition to the technical developments, communication towards the potentials users and service providers has been undertaken, including several events, among others two User Group meetings, in Amsterdam, 18-19/03/2004, and in London, 23-24/09/2004.

It is worth mentioning that several existing and potential Preservation Service Providers assisted both meetings. The message with respect to *Preservation Factories* was probably very convincing, since one of them has since then registered *Preservation Factory* as his own trade-mark...

We wish the success to all Preservation Service Providers. However the project is currently recommending no Service Provider with preference to another. Therefore we recommend to potential customers of these services, to consider that any claim by a Service Provider to have the official support or be in line with PrestoSpace project, is overstated.

PrestoSpace Steering Board
Hilversum, 12/10/2005

[1]

<http://presto.joanneum.ac.at/may.asp>

<http://web.archive.org/web/20011125124051/presto.joanneum.ac.at/may.asp>

[2]

<http://prestospace.org>

<http://web.archive.org/web/20040413014801/http://www.prestospace.org>

<http://web.archive.org/web/20050926054523/http://prestospace.ina.fr/doc/PrestoSpace-90.htm>