







Sustaining Sound and Image Collections

SOIMA 2015 • Pre-Conference Workshop

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FACTS & FIGURES ON FRAGILITY OF SOUND AND IMAGE HERITAGE

The inherent fragility of the media and the technological dependencies of audiovisual material make them highly sensitive to chemical attack, mechanical deformations, loss, and obsolescence.

Source: Besser, H. & Resnick, S. 2012. Stewardship Issues Facing Moving Image Collections in Academic Libraries: A White Paper, available at:

http://www.nyu.edu/tisch/preservation/research/libraries/MISLWhitePaperVer09.pdf.

It has been forecasted that 80% of the 200 million hours of the world's television and radio are highly likely to disappear by 2015.

Source: Matthew White, Archives at Risk, Film & Video archives: very much at risk, available at:

http://www.matthewwhite.org/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/Film_Video_Archives_at_Risk.265192649.pdf

In United States, it has been calculated that more than 3/4 of the early silent films have been completely perished.

Source: Vectracom. 2014. Preservation & Valorisation of Audiovisual Heritage, available at http://www.vectracom.fr/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/E DocVectraPres 52p.pdf

Surveys findings illustrate that 85% of sound and moving image content is still in analogue format. In 2005 nearly 100% of it was still on shelves rather than in files on mass storage.

Source: Wright, R. 2012. Preserving Moving Pictures and Sound, DCP Technology Watch Report 12-01 March 2012. Digital Preservation Coalition, available at:

http://www.dpconline.org/component/docman/doc_download/753 -dpctw12-01pdf.

It has been estimated that within the next 10 to 20 years, a significant amount of audiovisual heritage will inevitably and irreparably fade away.

Source: CCAAA, Policies & Standards, available at http://www.ccaaa.org/paper_worldcall.html

The Film Preservation Foundation has estimated that 80% of the films produced between 1900's and 1930's are already lost.

Source: Matthew White, Archives at Risk, Film & Video archives: very much at risk, available at: http://www.matthewwhite.org/yahoo_site_admin/asse ts/docs/Film Video Archives at Risk.265192649.pdf

According to UNESCO, about 200 million hours of video programmes are at stake.

Source: Vectracom. 2014. Preservation & Valorisation of
Audiovisual Heritage, available at
http://www.vectracom.fr/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/E DocVectraPres 52p.pdf

Nearly 1/5 of the items listed on the UNESCO Memory of the World international register is audiovisual or has substantial audiovisual components; these include films and videos; music and sound recordings; photo and image collections, etc.

Source: World Day for Audiovisual Heritage 2014,
Archives at Risk: much more to do, available at
http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/events/prizes-and-celebrations/celebrations/international-days/world-day-for-audiovisual-heritage-2014/