# The Format Policy Registry -- Making Sense of Format Migration Strategies as a Community

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**Abstract:** The Format Policy Registry, or FPR, is an attempt to build a structured way for digital preservation practitioners to share and improve their preservation planning strategies over time. The Archivematica project team has recognized the need for a better way to manage preservation plans, which we address in terms of format policies. Format policies are the business rules and tool commands for format identification, extraction, normalization, verification and transcription. Format policies will change as community standards, practices and tools evolve. Currently, the FPR is hosted at fpr.archivematica.org, and users can update the Preservation Planning tab FPR in their local Archivematica dashboard iterations with Artefactual defaults. However, the goal of the FPR is to have a front-facing host site where users can also share their local policies with other users, including statistics about how successful those policies have been. This would lead to more educated decision-making about format policies over time. Such a resource cannot be created alone, so this presentation would be a launching point for gauging community interest to help continue building the FPR functionality.

**About the author:**

*Courtney C. Mumma* is an archivist and a librarian responsible for managing Artefactual Systems' open source digital preservation, Archivematica. She collaborates with her team on system requirements and product design as well as provides training and community dialogue. Prior to joining Artefactual, Courtney worked at Vancouver's municipal archives implementing their digital archives system while managing the acquisition of the hybrid digital-analog 2010 Winter Olympic Games archives. She has been a researcher and co-investigator on the International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems (InterPARES 3 Project), the UBC-SLAIS Digital Records Forensics Project, and the ongoing InterPARES Trust research looking into cloud-based preservation services. She has contributed to the Distributed Digital Preservation working group, the 4C (Collaboration to Clarify the Costs of

Curation) Project, and is a member of both the Professional Experts Panel and the Development Advisory Group on the BitCurator Project. Courtney has been published in Archivaria and has delivered dozens of presentations on the practical application of digital preservation strategies in academic, library, archives and museum contexts.