

The Digital Repository Year

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Abstract: The Computer History Museum (CHM) with the aid of grant funds, took on the work of creating a prototype digital repository in one year. We are creating policies and procedures; selecting and implementing software and storage hardware. Our scope includes ingest of a small sample set of digital objects to test the prototype. The assumptions, based on the museum's immediate needs & time constraints, include: using existing tools and systems, CHM will not add staff to build a custom solution, open source software will play a significant part in digital repository management software, the preservation layer will be built on top of common commodity storage components that are modular and extensible, and the creation of a digital repository is an on-going commitment by CHM.

As archivists we see much more historical data being created and accessible only in born digital format, so we need to find ways of creating a digital preservation infrastructure that is quick and modular. Many institutions are too small to create digital repositories that encompass the same scope as large research universities and the creation of cooperative preservation infrastructures is not occurring at the pace that was originally envisioned.

In our poster session, we'd like to provide details of the model we produced and our methods, outlining selection, workflow, and the implementation process. We anticipate and hope our experience and documentation will be of interest to other smaller size repositories that do not have the grant funds and as much in-house technical expertise.

About the author:

Paula Jabloner is Director of Collections at the Computer History Museum. Paula participates in department strategic planning and development while directing the work of the collections staff engaged in acquisitions, preservation, and providing access to the Museum's Collections. She is currently directing the creation of the Museum's first digital repository. Previously, she managed the Computer History Museum's entry in the Online Archive of California and its first digitization and online delivery of archival content, [Selling the Computer Revolution](#). Prior to joining the Computer History Museum, Paula managed a number of archival collections and projects, including serving as Project Director for [Silicon Valley History Online](#). She has been an archivist at History San José; and the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society in San Francisco; she was the American Civil Liberties Union Project Archivist at Princeton University. She earned her MILS from the University of Michigan.