Virtual Research Environment with Preservation Tools

Lightning talk

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In this lightning talk Ania Molenda from the Dutch Digital Heritage Network (DDHN), Martin Speller and Carl Wilson from Open Preservation Foundation (OPF) will present the Virtual Research Environment (VRE) with preservation tools, which they recently developed.

In November 2020, the Dutch Digital Heritage Network and the Open Preservation Foundation launched a Virtual Research Environment with preservation tools, a virtual machine with pre-installed Linux environment and several popular tools used in the pre-ingest phase of the digital preservation workflow. Both the OPF community survey and a survey conducted by DDHN identified a growing need among the international community to work with open-source preservation tools. The project responds to it by creating a plug-and-play VM running some of the most popular open-source tools, which allows to test and use tools without having to install them. This aims to increase the accessibility of pre-ingest tools for users who begin to implement them in their workflows.

The current version of the VRE includes Apache Tika, DROID, Handbrake, JHOVE, MediaInfo, and veraPDF. During the lightning talk the team will introduce the VRE, talk about the development process and future plans. The presentation addresses the topic of iPRES 2021 chiefly by presenting the VRE as a new development and demonstrating in what way it supports the digital preservation community in developing its capacity and capability in the use of open-source preservation tools.

Keywords:
Preservation tools, Open source tools, Preservation solutions, Infrastructure, Collaboration

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