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BOOKBINDING | BOOK MANUFACTURING | PRESERVATION | DIGITIZATION
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NEWS

United Nations Audio-visual Archives

In June of 2016, the United Nations began searching for a vendor that could provide offsite storage, management, on-demand digitization, and transportation services for their extensive collection of audiovisual archives, which dates back to the early 1950s. Preservation Technologies (PTLP), of Cranberry, Pennsylvania, had a strong interest in pursuing the opportunity and reached out to HF Group/AssureVault as a partner for the storage and transportation services. During the long vetting process, AssureVault staff presented UN and PTLP staff with a live Skype tour of our facility in Gahanna, Ohio, and provided a month's worth of temperature and humidity readings for all zones in the warehouse. Ultimately PTLP and AssureVault were awarded the contract.

AssureVault chose Corrigan Moving Systems to provide the transportation services, having had experience with several of our customers' library depository moves. Once the logistics were worked out with the previous storage vendor, the first of four trailers arrived from New Jersey in January, 2017, and the last in March. By April 25th, three AssureVault staff members completed the ingest (bar coding and shelving) of the complete collection, which includes 16,000-plus film canisters and nearly 3,000 cartons of mixed audio-visual items.

PTLP and AssureVault have begun to fulfill requests for the digitization of regular batches of materials. The project is expected to take five years.

PROJECTS

Library of Congress Oral History Project

The stars were aligned for a 90th birthday celebration for Jack Bendror and the start of the oral history of book binding. This oral history project has been a goal of mine for a while and, with the help of a number of people including Jack Fairfield, Fritz James and Paul Parisi, it all starting happening on June 3, 2017, in Roslyn, New York. Thank you Jack Bendror for having a 90th birthday at such an opportune time.

Steve Roberts wrote on June 5th:

Forty five years ago I attended my first LBI meeting at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco. After leaving the industry 33 years ago, I attended yet another LBI meeting in Roslyn, New York this weekend.

What has changed after all those years? Of those 75 members (including Associate Members and LBI Staff), just three of us attended Jack's celebration: Jack Bendror, Fritz James and myself.

What has not changed after all those years? The comradery and goodwill between members and retired and/or former members. A toast to those that preceded us and to those of us who still walk this earth! I completely agree!

With the amazing organization of Paul Parisi, who planned the event and scheduled the oral history interviews, and with the generous and amazing work of Whitney Pape, interviewer extraordinaire, and the technical expertise of Robert Fernando, we started the project with 24 people interviewed in two days. Some hour long interviews included more than one person, but still that is a lot of interviewing. It was a rather daunting task but with everyone's good humor and timely arrival for the interview we completed one piece of the task. The American Folklife Center's Occupational Folklife Project has accepted our book binders' project and Whitney has been doing indexing start up work. In another 6 months or so the interviews will start to appear on the website and you can be sure that with the first one I will announce its presence to everyone. You can see the website now at <https://www.loc.gov/folklife/ofp/>.

I can't thank you enough for sharing your stories, your passion for the profession of book binding and supplying the industry with materials and equipment, and supplying libraries and schools across the continent with a most excellent product.

With most sincere thanks for allowing me to be a part of this recorded history,

Jeanne Drewes, Chief, Binding and Collections Care Division, Library of Congress



Jack Bendror with Paul Parisi



Jack Fairfield reads comments from numerous well-wishers

BEHIND THE SCENES

Digital Solutions: Archival Quality Digitization

HF Group's Digital Solutions division scans and digitizes a variety of materials for high-profile customers across the country. We are uniquely equipped to scan bound items including books, magazines, newspapers, yearbooks, theses and dissertations, and we also scan photographs, paintings, lithographs, slides and film. Digital Solutions specializes in scanning delicate, fragile, and otherwise difficult work that other digitization companies are not able to do.

The digitization process begins with our specialized scanning equipment: the **Digital Transitions BC100** uses 100 megapixel cameras to capture bound items up to newspaper size; the specialized **I2s Suprascan II Digibook** is used for high-resolution scanning of oversized (up to ANSI D - 22" x 34") bound and flat items; the **Kirtas** robotic book scanners capture images from bound volumes and can handle even delicate, brittle materials with care, and the **Atiz BookDrive Pro** is also used in scanning bound materials. The **Inotec 412CD** and **Fujitsu FI-6770A** scanners are used for non-bound items.

After scanning, our highly-trained staff uses the **LIMB** software platform to process, enrich and convert scanned images into digital assets. Using LIMB, we are able to offer a variety of consistent, high-quality output including multiple file formats (TIFF, multi-page TIFF, JPG, JP2, PDF, searchable PDF, POD PDF, PDF-A), OCR in up to 120 languages, XML, and multiple color formats (color, greyscale, black and white). And LIMB has an automated quality control feature that analyzes and detects images containing blur, over exposure, monotony, and partially captured pages. Printed and bound archival reproductions are also available.

To accomplish this, Digital Solutions utilizes a storage array with a capacity of almost **150 terabytes** which houses incoming, outgoing and archived work across multiple virtual servers and storage devices.

To learn more about our digitization services, visit us at <http://digitalconversionsolutions.com/>.



Digital Transitions BC100



I2s Suprascan II Digibook

ECS Conservation Survey!

This year, HF Group and Etherington Conservation Services (ECS) celebrated its 30th year in business and we are proud to have worked with so many wonderful clients throughout the years. At this juncture, we would like to know what services would benefit your organization over the next 10 years. Please share your feedback through our five-minute survey.

<http://ecsconservation.com/survey/>

PEOPLE

Meet Virginia Aughinbaugh!

Production Plant Manager, Virginia Aughinbaugh, is a long-time employee in HF Group's North Manchester, Indiana, bindery.

Virginia's career at HF Group began forty-three years ago when she began working 2nd shift in the Printing Department running Intertype machines. She followed that with nine years in Customer Service, after which she went back to production as a library binding manager. In that role, she assisted with the development of H.E.L.P. – the plant's first bindery automation system – and then contributed to the development of LARS.

Virginia, a breast cancer survivor, was born and raised in the North Manchester area. She is a widow and has one son, one daughter, four grandchildren and two great granddaughters. She loves to read (especially mysteries) and is a member of the Congregational Christian Church where she currently serves as Moderator. She has also taken seven mission trips to Haiti and one to West Virginia, and her sponsorship of Carenine, a little girl in Haiti, allows her to attend school and to receive one meal a day.

As our Senior Production Manager, Virginia is key to our organization. Not only from a production standpoint, but from every standpoint in this operation. She is a very strong leader, and greatly respected in our company and community.

- Jim Heckman, VP, HF Group



Virginia with Carenine