



eArchiving Conformance

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Overview

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- **Auditing process for conformance**
- **Conformance Seal**
- **How to start**



https://www.europeana.eu/en/item/9200369/webclient_DeliveryManager_pid_6328451_custom_att_2_simple_viewer

Validation and conformance



Validation

- **Validation means testing an Information Package (IP) file against a set of yes/no conditions expressed in form of ...**
 - ... structural tests,
 - ... XML schemata, and
 - ... Schematron rules and integrity tests.





Conformance

- **Conformance of a digital archive or archive software is the result of demonstrating that information packages for submission, archiving and dissemination are valid according to the E-ARK specifications**





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Auditing process for conformance



Audit criteria

- **Basic Level. Information packages conformance against E-ARK specifications**
 - SIP
 - AIP
 - DIP
- **Advanced Level. Basic conformance plus**
 - life-cycle of information packages
 - One CITS (Content Information Type Specifications)



Audit criteria (advance)

- **Life-cycle of information packages:**
 - An Archival Information Package remains valid after changes have been applied
 - Needs to be shown for metadata changes and a migration action
 - Preservation events are recorded
 - It needs to be demonstrated that preservation events are recorded following the recommendations specified by the [CITS PREMIS](#)
- Requires a digital archive or solution to implements at least one Content Information Type Specification (CITS) which currently are limited to the following ones:
 - [CITS ERMS](#)
 - [CITS SIARD](#)
 - [CITS Geospatial Data](#)



Audit evidence

- **Information provided as an audit evidence (basic) shall be:**
 - A report needs to be provided which demonstrates the procedure for SIP, AIP, and DIP creation including screenshots with corresponding explanations how the system was employed to create the information packages
 - A selection of 3 information packages per type (SIP, AIP, DIP), i.e., a total of 9 information packages (container packages in *.zip, *.tar, or *.tar.gz format).
 - System log files (*.log or *.txt format) related to the creation of information packages
 - The data needs to be provided in form of one or several URLs for downloading the packages.



Auditors

- **For each conformance audit an auditor is selected by DG CNECT.**
- **Auditors shall fulfill the following requirements:**
 - **Technical knowledge of E-ARK specifications**
 - **Skills to use validation tools and interpret the results**
 - **Independence from the projects, organization or digital archive to be audited**
- **The auditee shall nominate a reference person/s who could attend requests from the auditors**



Auditing process

- After the information is provided, it will be reviewed within three months by the auditors
- An **interview** with the applicant will be organized to allow asking detailed questions
 - Additional information may be requested, and the interview is repeated until it is approved by the nominated experts
- After a maximum of two weeks the auditor provide an audit report including the results of the testing and the recommendation for the recommendation of E-ARK Conformance Seal



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Conformance Seal



Conformance seal

- DG CNECT provide the Conformance Seal accordingly with the auditor report
- In case of failing, the applicant can make the requested changes or corrective actions and ask for a re-evaluation.





Benefits of the Conformance seal

- If desired, conformant digital archives or solutions can be listed on an eArchiving web page
- A conformant digital archive or solution is allowed to make use of the eArchiving conformance seal logo





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How to get started



Get in contact

- Get in contact with office@e-ark-foundation.eu
- Follow instructions provided by the E-ARK Foundation Team guiding you through the process for acquiring the eArchiving Conformance Seal