



Open Archives Initiative Object Reuse and Exchange



CONTACT:

Carl Lagoze
Cornell University

lagoze@cs.cornell.edu

Herbert Van de Sompel
Los Alamos National Laboratory

herbertv@lanl.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Open Archives Initiative Announces Public Beta Release of Object Reuse and Exchange Specifications

Ithaca, NY and Los Alamos, NM, June 2, 2008 – Over the past eighteen months the Open Archives Initiative (OAI), in a project called Object Reuse and Exchange (OAI-ORE), has gathered international experts from the publishing, web, library, and eScience community to develop standards for the identification and description of aggregations of online information resources. These aggregations, sometimes called *compound digital objects*, may combine distributed resources with multiple media types including text, images, data, and video. The goal of these standards is to expose the rich content in these aggregations to applications that support authoring, deposit, exchange, visualization, reuse, and preservation. Although a motivating use case for the work is the changing nature of scholarship and scholarly communication, and the need for *cyberinfrastructure* to support that scholarship, the intent of the effort is to develop standards that generalize across all web-based information including the increasing popular social networks of “web 2.0”.

The beta version of the OAI-ORE specifications and implementation documents are released to the public on June 2, 2008. These documents describe a data model to introduce aggregations as resources with URIs on the web. They also detail the machine-readable descriptions of aggregations expressed in the popular Atom syndication format, in RDF/XML, and RDFa. The table of contents page with links to the following other documents is located at <http://www.openarchives.org/ore/toc>:

- *ORE User Guide Documents*
 - Primer
 - Resource Map Implementation in Atom
 - Resource Map Implementation in RDF/XML
 - Resource Map Implementation in RDFa
 - HTTP Implementation and Multiple Serializations
 - Resource Map Discovery
- *ORE Specification Documents*
 - Abstract Data Model
 - Vocabulary
 - Representing Resource Maps Using the Atom Syndication Format

A forum for feedback on this beta release is at <http://groups.google.com/group/oai-ore>. This feedback and further consultation with the OAI-ORE community will be considered in the evolution of this beta release to a production release scheduled for September 2008.

About the Open Archives Initiative: OAI-ORE work is supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Microsoft Corporation, and the National Science Foundation (IIS-0430906). More information is available at <http://www.openarchives.org>.