

## Arkivum for Life Sciences: Case Study

The Linnean Society / ULCC Digital Data Archiving Project

The Linnean Society benefits from 40% lower costs by using Arkivum for the long-term archiving of its centuries-old digitised assets in a partnership project with the University of London Computer Centre.

The Linnean Society of London is the world's oldest active biological society. Founded in 1788, the Society takes its name from the Swedish naturalist Carl Linnaeus (1707–1778) whose botanical, zoological and library collections have been in its keeping since 1829. As it moves into its third century the Society continues to play a central role in the documentation of the world's flora and fauna – as Linnaeus himself did – recognising the continuing importance of such work to biodiversity conservation.



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*The 40% reduction in costs coupled with the increased data integrity of the Arkivum solution were obviously key factors in the Linnean Society moving forwards with our centrally-managed Arkivum Service.*

Rory McNicholl, Research Repositories Team, ULCC.

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### The Need

Formed in 1788, the Linnean Society has been curating and preserving its natural history assets that include specimens, artwork and manuscripts, for over 200 years.

In order to plan for the future of this collection, the society has recently begun digitising its physical assets as high-resolution images. With this digital library, the Society now has the opportunity to provide access to its priceless collections of specimens, manuscripts, letters, books and artwork to a worldwide audience.

Given the time and expense required to create the master copies of the digital images, the Society wanted to maximise the value of them through long-term archiving.

The Society wanted to:

- Engage an experienced archiving services partner
- Benefit from economies of scale to drive cost effectiveness
- Adopt a best-of-breed solution.

As customer of the University of London Computer Centre (ULCC) since 2007, it seemed natural to collaborate with ULCC for the archive project.

### The Solution

ULCC is an established Arkivum customer and has already implemented Arkivum to its data centres, allowing it to provide a shared archiving service to its customers with 100% data integrity guarantee.

The year when the London-based Linnean Society was founded.

1788

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The master copies of the Linnean Society's digitisation project were already being stored by the ULCC, so the solution simply required the Society to transfer them to the Arkivum Service.

So far, the Society has archived 14TB of digitised data to the ULCC-managed storage service. The archiving process is quick and easy — data curators at the Linnean Society copy the digital images to a Janet-connected exposed filesystem link that connects to the ULCC archive gateway. That gateway in turn replicates the data files to the Arkivum data centres.

The reduction in costs that the Linnean Society is benefitting from through the use of Arkivum/100



### The Benefits

**Using the ULCC-managed and centralised archive service based on Arkivum, the Society benefits from reduced archive storage costs of nearly 40%, plus greatly increased data security through the 100% data integrity guarantee.**

The Society also benefits from improved terms of service from ULCC relating to costs and ease of access to the data. This derives in part from the economies of scale that ULCC are able to pass on to their customers through their pre-existing Arkivum implementation.

Using the Arkivum Service, the Society can:

- Provide access to its archive to a worldwide audience
- Easily manage the costs of their archiving solution
- Benefit from a long-term solution for asset preservation.

Looking ahead, the Society now plans to investigate using the Arkivum EPrints plugin. This will provide joined up management of their archive by linking their Arkivum archived preservation copies to metadata-rich records in their online EPrints repository.



*As the society is over 200 years old and has curated and preserved their priceless original materials for as long, it's safe to say that the 25 year archive horizon is seen by the Society as relatively short term.*



Rory McNicholl, Research Repositories Team, ULCC.

### About ULCC

Established in 1968, the University of London Computer Centre (ULCC) has evolved into a highly respected and innovative brand within the academic and not-for-profit sectors. It now provides services to over 300 UK institutions.

ULCC has a highly skilled team of specialists in Digital Archives and Repositories, with experience of many digital preservation projects in the government, education and cultural heritage sectors. Since 2005 they have run the highly-acclaimed and award-winning Digital Preservation Training Programme (DPTP) and have worked on a range of European and International projects.



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### About Arkivum

Arkivum provides specialised best-of-breed long-term data safeguarding and archiving solutions, designed to respond to today's compliance and governance requirements. Arkivum works with institutions across multiple verticals, all of which generate high amounts of mission-critical data that needs to be preserved for many years to come.



### Talk to us

**To find out more about our solutions and to start securing your data today and for the future, please contact us on 44 (0) 1249 405060 or email us at [info@arkivum.com](mailto:info@arkivum.com).**

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