

Service Infrastructure

DRIVER takes two approaches to improving metadata and harvesting content from repositories.

In a top-down approach, the DRIVER Guidelines have been developed to ensure that repositories expose their content and metadata in a standard way.

For more information, please read the "DRIVER Guidelines" leaflet. The Guidelines can be downloaded from the DRIVER website and any questions can be directed to the DRIVER Helpdesk at helpdesk@driver-support.eu

The second, bottom-up approach involves the level of technology to harvest content from multiple repositories and manage its transformation into a common and uniform information space.

The DRIVER infrastructure and shared information space is available for reuse by, and integration with, service providers. Advice on reuse and integration is available from the DRIVER technical team by email at helpdesk@driver-support.eu

The Future for DRIVER

The initial phase of DRIVER focused on the support of institutional repositories and textual content in repositories. DRIVER II follows on from this and is funded under the Seventh Framework Programme.

In DRIVER-II, subject communities will feature more prominently in the project and DRIVER technical developments will focus on the development and enhancement of services for specific communities. In DRIVER-II, the technical focus will expand from the management of textual content in repositories to also include the management of complex objects such as data and multimedia. DRIVER's original partnership of 10 European partners which will expand to 13 with a further 6 additional partners to join later.



www.driver-community.eu

info@driver-support.eu

- **National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece**
- **Bielefeld University, Germany**
- **Consiglio Nazionale Delle Ricerche, Italy**
- **STICHTING SURF, Netherlands**
- **SHERPA, University of Nottingham, UK**
- **Centre National pour la Recherche Scientifique, France**
- **UKOLN, University of Bath, UK**
- **Uniwersytet Warszawski, Poland**
- **Universiteit Gent, Belgium**
- **Goettingen University, Germany**



**Information
for
Service Providers**



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Introduction

Open access (OA) digital repositories provide a means whereby the traditional publishing model can co-exist with the needs of authors and their readers, as well as with the demands of research funders for research impact and hence, value for money. It has gained momentum in recent years, establishing public archives of research material.

Authors who deposit copies of their finished articles in open access repositories maintained by their research institutions make their work available to anyone via search services such as Google, Yahoo! and others, as well as via specialised search services such as DRIVER and BASE.

One of the benefits is increased visibility. Academic search engines are being developed to take advantage of OA materials. These search engines will be able to utilise the repository metadata, thus helping to ensure that repository articles have higher relevance ranking in search engine results.

The European context

A study of scientific publication markets in Europe* funded by the European Commission strongly recommends the development of a European policy, mandating open access to EC-funded research. In addition, it recommends an exploration of interoperability issues and how open access repositories can be implemented Europe-wide.

*** "Study on the economic and technical evolution of the scientific publication markets in Europe"**
Commissioned by DG-Research, European Commission.
January 2006. Pages 11, 70

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DRIVER

Digital Repository Infrastructure
Vision for European Research

This is an EU-funded project which is building a testbed for a future knowledge infrastructure of the European Research Area.

Its main objective is to build a virtual, European scale network of existing institutional repositories using technology that will manage the physically distributed repositories as one large scale virtual content resource.

What does DRIVER offer?

DRIVER provides a unified approach and is leading the way as the largest initiative of its kind helping to enhance repository development worldwide.

The Open Access movement is gaining momentum whilst at the same time research content is also growing. Funding and research institutions support the Open Access movement and therefore, by taking advantage of this fact, DRIVER enhances the benefits of access to European research by using metadata available to underpin added value services. Furthermore, because access will be to full text only, DRIVER contributes to the use of high quality research output.

Any repository or network of repositories can benefit from DRIVER advice and information found on the support website and, if compliant with the DRIVER Guidelines, can be included in the DRIVER infrastructure and services. Hence DRIVER has benefits for global repository community.

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The DRIVER Search Service

The DRIVER search service provides sophisticated searching such as location-specific searches, a feature often raised as a key need of academics using open access materials.

One of the unique features of the DRIVER Search Service is that it will offer free and immediate access to the full text of research articles produced in Europe.

The search service can also be customised to search only selected repositories. Hence DRIVER Search provides a national search service which can be customised to local needs.

DRIVER will continue to develop and to offer special facilities such as collections, communities, user profiling and others.

Moreover, DRIVER is not aiming at building a "super search service", but to provide a fast, cheap, easy way to federate heterogeneous repositories and run advanced services such as search on top of them via the DRIVER service infrastructure.

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