

EPrints

Creating online archives and digital libraries worldwide



There is increasing pressure on universities to make their research Open Access. EPrints, which was developed by the University of Southampton and released in 2000, creates a web-based archive of files, with associated metadata. The most common use for EPrints is to create an archive of some, or all, of an institution's research.

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The University of Southampton has years of experience creating online archives of research and this has helped to develop the EPrints software into a truly useful tool.

EPrints 2 was developed by Christopher Gutteridge based on lessons learned from version 1. There are over 150 active installations at institutions all over the world, containing over 60,000 records. Christopher Gutteridge has been a systems programmer and web developer since 1997. He has spent the last four years developing and supporting the GNU EPrints 2 package for use in his own University and worldwide. He has an active interest in internet-based scholarly communication, and he speaks regularly at workshops and conferences on EPrintsrelated subjects, including OAI (The Open Archives Initiative) and institutional archiving.

Open Access

means making the material available for free to everybody. Most research is funded by public money, but is only available in journals, many of which cost thousands of pounds for a year's subscription.

EPrints for Institutions

This is the default configuration for an archive:

- Developed over two years at the University of Southampton in consultation with computer scientists and librarians.
- This configuration should fulfil the needs of many sites with little alteration.

Features:

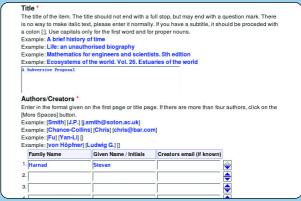
- Web-based registration (or link to your staff database)
- Easy item submission process via the web interface
- Holding area for new records, until they are checked by an editor
- RSS feed of new records
- Email alerts when new items match a saved search
- Powerful search including metadata and full text
- Search-engine friendly all your records will be discoverable by Google.

Technical

- Available for free under the GPL license
- Based on well established open-source technologies (UNIX, MySQL, Apache)
- Highly adaptable: Every archive has its own unique needs and EPrints makes them possible to fulfil.
- Customise: HTML template, citation style, record summary page, metadata fields, default values, searches, validation rules.
- Scripting interface: Add new features specific for your sites needs.
- Supports the OAI-PMH: A protocol which makes your content visible and more discoverable.
- XML import and export
- Established network of existing users

International

- Fully internationalised: all information is stored in Unicode (so Japanese and Cyrillic characters are no problem)
- Easy to translate: EPrints is designed to be easy to translate, and freely available third-party translations include: French, Spanish, Russian, Hungarian, Spanish and Japanese.



Deposit online



Browse by subject



Custom template

EPrints users say:

"The EPrints software has the largest – and most broadly distributed – installed base of any of the repository software systems described here . . . The number of Eprints installations that have augmented the system's baseline capabilities . . . indicates that the system can be readily modified to meet local requirements." Open Society Institute Guide to Institutional Repository Software.

"Eprints validates many of (self-archiving's) claims. It is possible for researchers to make their research freely available to everyone, increasing the impact of their research in the process . . . With Eprints and the Open Archives Initiative, the fundamental building blocks are in place to spread this revolution to all other disciplines." SPARC review of Eprints software.

