

RecorDIM Initiative **Letter of Intent 'DRAFT'**

Date: Friday, June 11, 2004

From: Name: Andrea Bruno
Title: President
Division: Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation
Organization: Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

To: Robin Letellier
International Coordinator
RecorDIM Initiative

Subject: Proposal for the Creation of a RecorDIM Task Group

This letter of intent is to confirm our interest in the RecorDIM Initiative and to propose a **RecorDIM Task Group** to address one of the **GAPS** listed in the RecorDIM Roundtable-1 Report entitled [Bridging the Gap Between Information Users and Information Providers](#).

The title of our proposed task group is development of a 'decision making tool for selection and application of recording, documentation and information systems techniques in the process of conservation of built heritage'. Its purpose, objectives, milestones and deliverables are outlined in appendix 1 hereafter. The organizations that will be representing the **Information User and Provider** in this project are respectively:

- The Getty Conservation Institute
- Center for Design Visualization – UC Berkeley

The R. lemaire International Centre for Conservation will chair and manage the activities of this task group as defined in appendix B-1. The RecorDIM Task Group Operational Framework document, which is available at <http://extranet.getty.edu/gci/recordim/reports.html> , will be used as a guideline for this activity.

We understand that, by undertaking this task group responsibility, our organization becomes a Partner in this initiative. Consequently, Mario Santana Quintero will be the Liaison Officer between Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation and the RecorDIM Initiative partners. We also understand that this Task Group definition and its eventual outputs will be posted on the RecorDIM web site.

We thank you for the opportunity to participate to this 5-year initiative and believe that the network of RecorDIM Partners and their task group outputs will benefit conservation practices worldwide.

Andrea Bruno
President
Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation

Appendix 1

RecordDIM Task Group Proposal (template)

Task Group Name / Title: Decision making tool for selection and application of recording, documentation and information systems techniques in the process of conservation of built heritage

Task Group Chair: M. Santana Quintero
Organization: R. Lemaire International Centre for Conservation

Information User representative: F. Leblanc
Organization: Getty Conservation Institute

Information Provider representative: A. Addison
Organization: Center for Design Visualization – UC Berkeley

This project will also count with the contribution of Bill Blake from English Heritage.

Project Outline

Vision:

This task group objective is to develop a 'decision making tool for the selection and application of recording, documentation and information systems techniques in the conservation of built heritage.

This proposal will provide an alternative to current issues in the selection and application of recording, documentation, and information systems in gathering 3D data of architectural heritage.

Current situation:

Some of the current critical issues dealing with the selection and use of techniques include:

- The objectives to prepare a measured set of representations in documentation of built heritage are not clearly stated and execute.
- Lack in development of specialized tools adapted to the different applications aimed at studying and disseminating built heritage.
- Lack of procedures in the application and combination of different recording instruments, processing tools, and dissemination applications.
- Lack of verification systems to evaluate the integrity of the data.
- The selection of the sources of information in the process of documentation is not clear, relevant or stated in the measured dataset resulting from the process.

This development will be based on on-going research, training and first-hand application. The tool could be of assistance to other tasks groups.

Purpose and objectives:

The proposed 'decision making tool' will provide an integral system for the use of recording, documentation, and information systems techniques guidelines in the process of conserving built heritage, dealing with:

- Selection
- Application

These two phases refer to a process called 'Application framework' aimed at defining the intensity that the techniques will be applied (quantification) and the tolerance of the survey (quality).

This framework deal with making the decision-making process, which seeks to define a set of parameters. It involves describing the different constraints embedded in the application's objectives and the restrictions posed by the subject. It will involve physical, social, and legal aspects.

Specifically, it means the identification an 'application purpose', in order to consider the scope, the target audience, and the quality of information, which will be presented to the public. Moreover, it is a process of defining the site's limitations and what it means when selecting documentation tool(s).

The parameters set by studying these variables enables one to understand the monument within its context, and subsequently to define its importance.

This framework involves two decision-making processes or phases (see enclosed chart 1):

- **Definition-framework:** this process involves the non-thematic dataset (metric survey study), in terms of its expected quality and its extent or 'intensity' (Boehler, W. Heinz, G., 1999)¹. Further, it also takes the needs of the thematic studies into account, to be used in the analysis of the subject and context.
- **Selection-framework:** the process of selecting a combination of metric survey (recording, documentation and Information Systems) techniques according to the parameters described in the definition-framework.

The objective of these phases is to make a selection of the techniques according to the needs of the conservation process, which are structured and explained using a set of defined variables.

These variables provide the parameters and restrictions that the tools should overcome to be efficient in providing representations about the geometry and texture of the subject and its context.

Deliverables:

Final results expected:

1. Theoretical bases for building an electronic decision making tool, including:
 - Concept
 - Language
 - Procedures
 - Contents
2. A set of written guidelines for the selection and application of recording, documentation and information systems in the conservation of built heritage

Working phase:

Phase 1: in house expertise:

In house research with the contribution of the staff, research activities, and students of the Master in Conservation of Historic Towns and Buildings:

Resources:

- Current post graduate syllabus (curriculum) integrating the use and selection of recording, documentation and information systems tools in the projects of conservation of built heritage.
- PhD researches completed: The use of 3D documentation and dissemination techniques in studying built heritage by M. Santana Quintero, Jan. 2003
- PhD researches in progress: Teresa Patrício (title ??)
- Research on recording, documentation and information systems: Vlrterf and Vlicoon

Phase 2: sharing with task group partners:

1. Experiences in training programmes in conservation of cultural heritage that integrate the use and application of recording, documentation and information systems tools.

- Methodology presented
- Application
- Results

2. Strategies in the selection and application of of recording, documentation and information systems tools in projects for the conservation of built heritage

Phase 3: development of a tool(s):

Using the results from Phase 1 and 2, a decision making system must be made. This system will ensure the appropriate selection and use of recording, documentation, and information systems tools in the conservation of cultural heritage':

Framework of Task Groups

- Category: Guidelines
 - o level of application: International
 - conservation expertise: Architecture / Engineering

Project Resources

- **Person-days:**

Conception: 12 months: Post-doctoral researcher at the R. lemaire Centre (K.U. Leuven): (Koen can you input here)

Electronic tool development: 6 months: programmer: doctoral student at the R. lemaire Centre (K.U. Leuven):

Getty Conservation Institute (to be discuss with
CDV-UC berkeley:

- **Budget:**

Other Task Group members (from Partner and other organizations)

(Identify the organization(s) and / or name of specialist(s) you would appreciate participating to your Task Group activities)

- ICOMOS Michael Petzet
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- CIPA Robin Letellier
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- GCI F. Leblanc
-
- English Heritage Bill Blake
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- WMF Gaetano Palumbo

- Potential Partners:
 - o Malta Centre for Restoration: to be identified.

 - o INTACH (India) to be identified.

 - o Lemaire Centre Koenraad Van Balen – Herman Neuckermans

 - o Other(s)

- Other organizations :
 - o UNESCO Giovanni Boccardi (World Heritage Centre)

Milestones:

- Starting date: October 2004

- Mid-project review date (by RecordIM Liaison Officers): February 2005

- Completion date: October 2005

_____ date: _____
Task Group Chair

ⁱ Böhler, W. Heinz, G. ,'Documentation, Surveying, Photogrammetry'
<http://www.i3mainz.fh-mainz.de/publicat/cipa99/cipa99.pdf>
(Last visited 19/05/2002).