

Let's Get Digital: PDF for Newspaper eDeposit at the Library of Congress

Melissa Hire
Digital Projects Coordinator



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Library of Congress newspaper archive



Some background...

- The Library of Congress builds its research collections via Copyright deposits
- Since 1990, the group registration option provides a significant discount over single issue registration
- Microfilming has increased in cost for newspaper publishers



Library of Congress microfilm stacks



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In a recent review, nearly 70% of newspapers selected for the Library's collections were not being registered.



Pilot project with the News Media Alliance (NMA) proved that ePrints could provide static, comprehensive, high quality news content for long-term preservation



Attainable specifications

- **Renderable PDF**
- **“Book of the newspaper” (full issue, in page order)**
- **Embedded fonts**
- **Searchable text**
- **Minimal embedded metadata (ISSN, publication date)**
- **Free from DRM**
- **Meaningful filename**
- **500MB or smaller file size (system limitation)**



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- “Group Registration of Newspapers” final rule published in the Federal Register by Feb 1 2018
<https://www.copyright.gov/fedreg/>
- Final rule effective date: March 1 2018
- Microfilm deposits are optional and accepted through Dec 31 2019



Photo: Lansing Republican newspaper and microfilm at the Library of Michigan. <http://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan>



Publishers:

- Many publishers are already creating and distributing PDFs
- Cost savings
- Legal benefits

Library patrons

- (future) Self-service access; no wait
- Keyword searches

Library/Copyright Office

- Renderable with existing enterprise software
- Increase efficiency for group registration process




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Have you visited our Newspaper Reading Room lately? Sweet new microfilm scanners go.usa.gov/cPZSG



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Replying to @librarycongress

@librarycongress Why don't u use CD's and something like .pdf? Seems 2 make more sense.



Thank you!

Any questions?



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Get in touch:
Web site:

mhire@loc.gov

www.loc.gov, www.copyright.gov

