

# Get back control and let the agents do the work

Many factors are involved in putting digital collections together, including copyright issues, text mark-up, metadata and retrieval standards, preservation, scanning and conversion. The vastly larger amounts of information created in a greater variety of formats than ever before makes it increasingly difficult for many organisations to identify what is of value and ensure its preservation needs over time. To meet the challenge and the growing feeling of losing control it is necessary to find new levels of automation and self-reliance in preservation solutions. You also need a permanent strategy for handling perpetual change.



The aim of the EU project PROTAGE project is to investigate and initiate complementary and new approaches to digital preservation by linking digital objects to long-term digital preservation processes in a new kind of information system based on agent-based software technology which is robust,

extensible and scalable. The synergy between the flexibility of agent ecosystems and the learning capabilities of smart adaptive systems will be exploited, in order to develop a hybrid smart multi-agent based architecture. The important capability of software agents is to be autonomous. Encapsulating information within agents reduces the complexity and increases overview. Functionality is encapsulated in the tools.

PROTAGE is a three year project within the Seventh Framework Programme Theme Digital libraries and technology - enhanced learning. Grant agreement for: Small or medium-scale focused research project – STREP-CP-FP-INFSO. The projects full title is PReservation Organizations using Tools in AGent Environments. The beneficiaries are National Archives of Sweden – coordinator, Luleå University of Technology (Sweden), National Archives of Estonia, Fraunhofer Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V. (Germany), University of Bradford (UK), EASY Innova S.L.(Spain), Giunti Labs S.r.l (Italy).



[www.protage.eu](http://www.protage.eu)  
[info@protage.eu](mailto:info@protage.eu)