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METS Editor & Viewer Tool for Libraries, Archives, Museums, and More

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Laurie Taylor and Mark Sullivan

Disaster preparedness and recovery is dependent on resources and planning that facilitate restoration. Finding aids and other metadata about collections are essential documentation resources for recovery activities because they provide information on the contents and locations of collections. These metadata resources can only be useful if they are preserved and accessible following a disaster. This poster explains the development, functionality, and use of the open source METS Metadata Editor & Viewer used by the State University Libraries throughout Florida and by the Digital Library of the Caribbean. The METS tool can be freely downloaded and used. It best serves those working on digital projects or working with multiple metadata formats. The METS tool runs as a simple windows application and allows the creation of METS from a folder of
items. It additionally allows the user to enter all of the bibliographic information, and assign page names and divisions to the structure map. The METS tool was designed to support the metadata needs of libraries, archives, and museums. Because of this key focus on interoperability, the METS tool already supports METS/MODS, MARC, Dublin Core, and EAD metadata formats. The METS tool also allows users to create metadata in all of these formats by importing a spreadsheet with labeled columns for the different metadata elements. The METS tool was created by the University of Florida to meet the State University Libraries’ complex needs for working with multiple types of metadata standards. The tool has evolved and is now used by libraries, archives, museums, and other institutions.