Request for Information Software Collection and Access

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About the Study

Research Methodology and Key Questions

Early Candidates

Preliminary Findings

Next Steps



Research Methodology

- Crafted an Interview Guide
 - Predominantly qualitative (open ended) questions
 - Frank Bailinson and Bernard Pleuto
 - Guidance and Validation
- Phone calls 45 to 90 minutes
- Key questions:
 - Do you currently have any software history research processes and archives in place?
 - Where do you think the museum could add value?



More Discussion Points

- Who will use the system?
- What types of things are people interesting in search for?
- Are you interested in looking at Source Code?
- Interested in "Stories about Software Development"?
- Are you concerned about IP Issues?



Early Candidates

- Started with four candidates
- Candidates have keen interest in a software collection and access system:
 - Museum employee
 - Two industry professionals
 - Software architecture and development
 - Corporate Library and Information Management
 - Each at large software and hardware company
 - Museum volunteers
 - Software Intellectual Property Research Professional
 - Works with law firms
 - Focuses predominantly on patent issues
 - · Not associated with the museum



Who Will Use the System?

- For Museum:
 - Volunteers and staff
- For Large Software/Hardware Corporations:
 - Attorneys and IP Support Staff

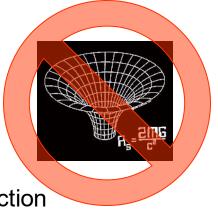
- For IP:
 - Most law firms have librarians, attorneys, and technical people who do research.



Preliminary Findings/Feedback

Note: population size n = 4

- Assumed archive will be available via web
 - With levels and granularity of access
- Most users Intellectual Property types
- CRITICAL trust and protocol
 - Donors
 - Build and demo long-term trust
 - Exemplary custodian
 - Donations accessible to donors and others
 - "Business rules" granularity of IP access and protection
 - Users
 - Authenticated Chain of Custody
- Source code is a crown jewel
- Understand the stories and the chain of custody





Preliminary Findings/Feedback

- Huge need for a group to start to collecting historic software
 - Federate links to other groups that are striving to collect
 - Opportunity for the museum to take leadership to spearhead and coordinate collection efforts
 - Create a portal
 - Tools and techniques
- "Chain of custody" important
 - IP reasons
 - Historical reasons
 - Life of technology
- Collect all the meta-data associated with the software



Next Steps

- Expand our circle of knowledge
 - Get more feedback from potential users
 - From n=4 to n=20
- Get SCC's feedback on the circle
 - Who else can you recommend?
- More comprehensive findings in 2-3 months



Next Set of Interviewees

Museum Field

- Paul Ceruzzi Smithsonian
- Kirsten Tashev CHM
- Burton Grad SHC
- Dave Babcock CHM
- Carl Friend Rhode Island Computer Museum

Academia

- Bruce Anderson IBM
- Ralph Johnson Illinois
- Bill Aspray Indiana University
- Mike Williams CHM
- Ed Feigenbaum Stanford
- Dennis Allison Stanford
- Jonathan Maletic Kent State University
- Megan Conklin Elon University

Collection & Preservation Community

- Rick Rinehart California Pacific Archives
- Bob Supnik SIMH
- Paul Pierce IBM Software Project
- Jay Maynard Hercules
- Al Kossow Bitsavers.org

Industry

- Paul Lasewicz IBM
- Grady Booch IBM
- Anna Mancini HP
- Dick Gabriel SUN
- Gordon Bell Microsoft

IP Related

- Dennis Allison - Stanford



Change History

- V0.0 Mary's original slide set
- V0.1 Bernard's suggestions incorporated, tightened wording, spell check
- V1.0 distribution to SCC

