

Global Format Registry Use Case: Identify migration pathway for format

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| Use Case ID | PRO-4 |
| Description | PRO receives technical information required to identify an appropriate migration pathway between format x (source format) and format y (target format). |
| Actors | PRO – The PRO Digital Preservation Department PRONOM – The PRO file format information system Registry – The file format registry |
| Assumptions | PRO does not have sufficient existing information about the formats to identify an appropriate migration pathway, i.e. format is not recorded on PRONOM. Registry contains sufficient technical information to allow identification of a migration pathway between the two formats. |
| Preconditions | Formats are registered with registry. |
| Triggers | PRO has a requirement to migrate format x to format y. |
| Primary Scenario | Step 1: PRO submits request to registry for information on specified object formats and all software tools which can read/write the formats. |
| | Step 2: Registry supplies technical information required to PRO. |
| | Step 3: PRO imports information into PRONOM. |
| | Step 4: PRONOM identifies potential migration pathways. |
| Primary Result | PRO receives sufficient technical information to identify an appropriate migration pathway between format x and format y. |
| Post-Conditions | |
| Non-functional requirements | PRO will identify migration pathways internally, using systems such as PRONOM, and will determine the appropriate information and methods to use for this purpose. PRO will also be responsible for developing or acquiring the necessary tools for undertaking this process. However, the registry should be able to supply technical information to support this, e.g. access to formal technical specifications, and information on the ability of software tools to read and write specified formats. |
| Notes | |
| Issues | If the format is not registered, could a repository submit a request to the registry for inclusion of the format, triggering some kind of call for information? |