



InterPARES 2 Project

International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems

*International Research on Permanent Authentic
Records in Electronic Systems (InterPARES) 2:
Experiential, Interactive and Dynamic Records*

APPENDIX 9

Domain 1 Research Questions

Status: Final (public)
Version: Electronic
Publication Date: 2008
Project Unit: Domain 1 Task Force
URL: http://www.interpares.org/display_file.cfm?doc=ip2_book_appendix_09.pdf
Citation: Domain 1 Task Force, "Appendix 09: Domain 1 Research Questions," [electronic version] in *International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems (InterPARES) 2: Experiential, Interactive and Dynamic Records*, Luciana Duranti and Randy Preston, eds. (Padova, Italy: Associazione Nazionale Archivistica Italiana, 2008).
<http://www.interpares.org/display_file.cfm?doc=ip2_book_appendix_09.pdf>

Domain 1 Research Questions

1a) What types of documents are traditionally created (that is, made or received) and set aside in the course of these activities that are expected to be delivered online? For what purposes?

1b) What types of electronic documents are currently being created to accomplish those same activities? Have the purposes for which these documents are created changed?

2) What are the nature and the characteristics of the traditional process of document creation in each activity? Have they been altered by the use of digital technology and, if yes, how?

3) What are the formal elements and attributes of the documents generated by these processes in both a traditional and a digital environment? What is the function of each element and the significance of each attribute? Specifically, what is the manifestation of authorship in the records of each activity and its implications for the exercise of intellectual property rights and the attribution of responsibilities?

4) Does the definition of a record adopted by InterPARES 1 apply to all or part of the documents generated by these processes? If yes, given the different manifestations of the record's nature in such documents, how do we recognize and demonstrate the necessary components that the definition identifies? If no, is it possible to change the definition maintaining theoretical consistency in the identification of documents as records across the spectrum of human activities? In other words, should we be looking at factors that make a document a record other than those that diplomatics and archival science have considered so far?

5) As government and businesses deliver services electronically and enter into transactions based on more dynamic Web-based presentations and exchanges of information, are they neglecting to capture adequate documentary evidence of the occurrence of these transactions?

6) Is the move to more dynamic and open-ended exchanges of information blurring the responsibilities and altering the legal liabilities of the participants in electronic transactions?

7) How do record creators traditionally determine the retention of their records and implement this determination in the context of each activity? How do record retention decisions and practices differ for individual and institutional creators? How has the use of digital technology affected their decisions and practices?