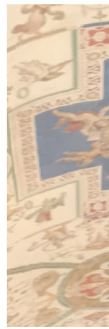
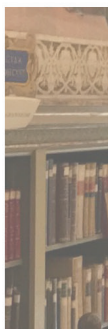
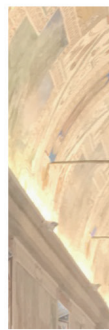


piql

500 manuscripts - 500 years



A sponsorship to
rescue world
heritage



The Vatican Library and Piql have agreed to digitize 500 irreplaceable documents of great historical value for the entire world, and ensure these will be safely preserved and accessible for coming generations for 500 years. As a sponsor of the project, you can expect massive media coverage and other exclusive benefits.



“FROM OUR ANCESTORS - FOR OUR CHILDREN”

The Vatican Library has for more than 500 years fulfilled its fundamental purpose; gathering, preserving and restoring its patrimony of books in order to make it available to all.

This task has been demanding because the consultation of ancient books naturally causes their "wear and tear". As time goes on, the danger of their deterioration has become greater. However, the Vatican is very clear that providing free access to its collections to scholars from around the world is a mandate it would never be exempted from.

In compliance with this role and wanting to preserve its manuscripts for future generations, a project of long-term digital preservation, “Digita Vaticana”, began in 2013. The project aims to guarantee long-term survival of the digitized contents and will provide users worldwide with access to the Vatican Library’s manuscripts.

The ambition of the project is to convert 40 million manuscripts pages into 45 petabyte (i.e. 45 trillion megabyte) of digital contents covering:

- **Past:** The manuscripts are a priceless treasure of historical documents: from literature to history, from art to law, from astronomy to mathematics, from the natural sciences to medicine, and so on.

- **Present:** To guarantee the preservation of the material held in the Library, only specialised scholars are permitted access. The library material is extremely delicate and sensitive to light, humidity and temperature and the very act of consulting the documents puts their survival and future availability at risk.

- **Future:** The Vatican Library has begun the process of digitizing its more than 80.000 manuscripts. A challenging undertaking on which the preservation and dissemination of ancient wisdom depends. The digitization will take more than 15 years and cost over 50 million euros. The Vatican Library is still looking for sponsors to complete the work.

The outcome of the Digita Vaticana project will make the Vatican Library’s collections available:

- **Forever:** The originals will be kept safe in temperature and humidity controlled anti-atomic bunkers. The digitization of the Vatican Library manuscripts will guarantee the highest quality reproduction before any eventual degradation, thus reducing the risks due to direct handling.

- **For all:** The manuscripts will be freely available to everyone on the Vatican Library website and the world’s knowledge will truly become humanity’s heritage.

- **For culture:** The digitization of the manuscripts will allow interdisciplinary research within the entire Vatican Library. A great number of the library’s manuscripts have not been thoroughly studied and only 20% of the collections have been satisfactory catalogued in a scholarly manner. The project will permit knowledge discoveries and cultural initiatives which today are unimaginable.

More about the digitization project here:

<https://vimeo.com/114673041>
<http://www.digitavaticana.org>

PIQL AND THE VATICAN LIBRARY

Piql shares the same vision as the Vatican Library regarding long-term digital preservation and guaranteed future access.

Based on a dialogue on how Piql could fulfil the needs to preserve the digitized manuscripts, it was agreed to perform a Pilot Project to show Piql’s preservation process. A very well-known and valuable manuscript was selected to be preserved on piqlFilm; Dante Alighieri’s “Divine Comedy”.

Piql presented a Pilot Project for the management of the Vatican Library in January 2017. During our presentation, they clearly expressed that our solution matches their thinking on preservation. Piql is unique when it comes to secure, long-term digital preservation, and this is truly appreciated by the Vatican Library.



Dante Alighieri (1265 – 1321) was a major Italian poet of the late middle ages. His Divine Comedy (La Divina Comedia) is considered the greatest literary work in the Italian language and a masterpiece in world literature. Dante has been called "the Father of the Italian language" and one of the greatest poets of world literature.

Source: Wikipedia



Mons. Cesare Pasini, Prefect of the Vatican Library, and Maurizio Tuccio, Managing Director of Piql Italia, after signing the Letter-of-Intent.

COLLABORATION PROJECT "500 MANUSCRIPTS – 500 YEARS"

Based on a successful Pilot Project, the Vatican Library and Piql have signed a Letter of Intent for a larger collaboration project to digitize and to preserve 500 of the most precious manuscripts in the Library. The target is that these manuscripts shall be securely preserved for a minimum of 500 years.

500 manuscripts amount to approximately 225.000 pages (a manuscript typically is between 400 to 500 pages) and will typically fit into 500 reels of piqlFilm.

PIQL AND THE VATICAN LIBRARY SEEKING SPONSORS

The project is of great importance for humanity's cultural heritage. The project has the potential of securing

access to one of the world's most important collections of historical documents for coming generations.

The only challenge is that the Vatican Library does not have sufficient funds to do this massive job of digitization and preservation of their manuscript collections, so they are depending on sponsors.

The estimated cost of the project is EUR 1.500.000,; - EUR 700.000,- to the Vatican Library for carrying out the digitization of around 500 manuscripts, amounting to approximately 225,000 digitized pages, - EUR 800.000,- to Piql for providing the work required to preserve the digitized manuscripts and for placing a piqlReader in the Vatican Library so the preserved manuscripts will remain easily accessible for researchers.

In collaboration with the Vatican Library, Piql has undertaken the task to find one or more sponsors to enable this important project to be executed.

Benefits for the sponsor

By being a partner with the Vatican Library and supporting their ambition of digitizing their huge collections of manuscripts, the Vatican Library in return is very supportive of their sponsors.

It is a fact that any activity and initiative done by the Vatican Library always arouses great interest all over the world, so the news that the Library has preserved some of its most important manuscripts for future generations is expected to spread out globally. Further this is expected to have a significant impact on the scientific and technology sectors.

THE "500 MANUSCRIPTS – 500 YEARS" PROJECT AND ITS SPONSORS WILL BE HIGHLY PROFILED BY THE VATICAN LIBRARY:

- The sponsors logo and company information will be showed in relevant spaces inside the Vatican Library, especially in the IT centre
- The sponsor will be invited to the official launch/celebrations in the Vatican when the project will be announced to the world. The celebrations will be organised in an exclusive "Vatican room", where normally nobody has access. The invitations are limited (40-50

people) with press, TV, Piql and the sponsor.

- Digital preservation is a new thing for the Vatican and the sponsor for this project will have the privilege to be "The First" in the biggest preservation project about historical human knowledge.
- The sponsor can use the relationship with the Vatican Library in his own marketing communication and material
- The Vatican Library will support in relevant presentations with the sponsor and will also present the project and sponsor in all relevant occasions where digital preservation can be mentioned
- The Vatican Library will introduce the sponsor in relevant communities where they have contacts

Further, the idea is that the Vatican Library wants to showcase the technology applied and the sponsors' logo in the IT centre of the Library. The Vatican Library weekly gets prominent visitors from all corners of the world, so this will become a real life "showroom" of the project and the sponsor.

EARLIER SPONSORS

The Japanese IT company, NTT Data, is in the process of completing a sponsorship of EUR 18 million to digitize 3000 of the manuscripts in the Vatican Library. Here you can learn more about what NTT Data have done and how they profile this: <http://www.nttdata.com/global/en/dataforthefuture/>

NTT Data has developed a service based on the learnings from the Vatican, and have now a world-known reference, i.e. the Vatican Library, for this service. <http://www.amlad.jp/english/>



NTT DATA (AND THE VATICAN LIBRARY) HAVE GOT SIGNIFICANT PRESS COVERAGE:

- <https://www.ft.com/content/a6dc0e4c-c2f1-11e4-a59c-00144feab7de>
- <http://blogs.wsj.com/japanrealtime/2014/10/28/ntt-digitizes-vatican-library-manuscripts-for-online/>
- <http://phys.org/news/2014-10-vatican-manuscripts-digital-archive-online.html>
- <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/innovations/wp/2016/07/08/the-vatican-just-digitized-this-1600-year-old-epic/>
- <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/vaticancityandholyysee/10712906/Vatican-library-plans-to-digitise-82000-of-its-most-valuable-manuscripts.html>
- <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-26676909>

HERE YOU CAN FIND A LIST OF THE CURRENT SPONSORS:

<https://support.digitavaticana.org/supporters>

ABOUT THE VATICAN LIBRARY

The Vatican Apostolic Library, more commonly called the Vatican Library, is the library of the Holy See, located in Vatican City. Formally established in 1475, it is one of the oldest libraries in the world and contains one of the most significant collections of historical texts.

The Library holds cultural documents that are essential for humanity all over the world; letters for the most important historical persons; drawings and notes by artists and scientists such as Michelangelo and Galileo; and treaties from all eras in all fields of learning. It is a research library for history, law, philosophy, science and theology. The collections include:

- 80.000 manuscripts (hand-written to sheets of paper, vellum, papyrus, or similar materials)
- 15.000 prints, drawings and plates
- 9000 incunabula (printed material from before the year 1501 in Europe)
- 1.1 million printed books

Whilst the Vatican Library has always included Bibles, canon law texts and theological works, it specialized in secular books from the beginning. Its collection of Greek and Latin classics was at the centre of the revival of classical culture during the Renaissance age. The oldest documents in the library date back to the first century.

Pope Clement XI sent scholars into the Orient to bring back manuscripts, and is generally accepted as the founder of the Oriental section. Further, the Library has a large collection of texts related to Hinduism, with the oldest editions dating to 1819.

For more information:
<https://www.vatlib.it/>

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