

The Saving History Agenda

The Problem:

A significant portion of all audio, film and video is trapped in technological and financial divides. An unknown amount of historical media is now unrecoverable because of half-life issues, destruction due to improper storage and a lack of funds for preservation. Ignoring this issue would lead to the loss of media that holds nearly 100 years of history and events at national, regional and local levels. Archiving even a portion of this content is a massive project but one with profound historical, cultural and educational value.

The Needs:

While we consider the problem of digitizing, indexing and archiving our pre-existing media, the mass of new highly localized content is growing exponentially. Given this, how do we begin to approach the immediate need of capturing the past while planning for a continued effort in the future?

There are five essential requirements in staging a sustained and successful effort.

- *Locate the financial resources* needed to achieve the following four objectives
- *Initiate an awareness campaign* to identify and prioritize media to be archived
- *Provide the facilities* that house DAM machinery, manpower and management staff
- *Acquire and install the best of breed technologies* to digitize, index, archive and distribute
- *Train and deploy the human resources* to manage and manifest a global Saving History effort
- *Create and initiate the plan for international replication* (franchising).

The Solutions:

Nieuw Millennium addresses these needs in collaboration with technology provider Internet to Interactive Concepts (i2i). Together, NM and i2i offer practical solutions to build Digital Asset Management (DAM) facilities worldwide and public archives based on regional and local content. The goals are to:

- Focus on the preservation of local community history, heritage and culture
- Train, deploy and compensate thousands of workers internationally
- Provide technical resources to communities, governments and businesses

NM and i2i have initiated the Hive and Well projects. **Hives** are DAM plants where a growing labor force will begin the multi-decade effort to gather, digitize, index and archive the content that holds our collective histories and cultures. **Wells** will store and allow public review of this historical content. While financing for The Hive and Well are initially derived from a matrix of sources, they are envisioned to become financially self-sustaining by serving commercial contracts. The first Hive has been funded, constructed and is now serving commercial contracts and non-profit projects. The Well prototype is functioning and can be viewed online.

Get Involved:

The Saving History Agenda is a humanitarian effort worthy of consideration. NM and i2i are building a consortium of public, private and corporate partners that will fund and scale this effort. NM represents a well suited strategic growth opportunity for companies that supply hardware, software, equipment, and services while they support job creation in a highly visible and favorable public context. We invite you to participate.

NM has immediate need of public, private and corporate funds. i2i seeks venture, and angel investments.

