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CoreTrustSeal Newsletter 07-2026

Introducing Oliver Parkes CoreTrustSeal Secretariat



Oliver is the Repository Project & Standards Coordinator at the UK Data Archive, primarily participating in Horizon Europe projects such as FAIR-IMPACT, EDEN, FIDELIS and CDIF4EOSC, as well as overseeing the UK Data Archive's CoreTrustSeal accreditation. Since 2024, he has been a member of the Assembly of Reviewers and supported CoreTrustSeal's Secretariat. Oliver enjoys supporting CoreTrustSeal, because it provides a great opportunity to understand more about how the international community of trustworthy digital repositories each overcome similar challenges.

Reminder Community input needed:

Shared Infrastructure, Shared Responsibility. CoreTrustSeal Board Discussion Paper

Federated and consortium-based repository models are increasingly common across the digital preservation landscape. Communities pool resources to operate shared curation platforms, preservation pipelines, storage infrastructures, and access systems. These arrangements offer clear benefits: reduced duplication, lower costs, shared expertise, and greater sustainability.

At the same time, they raise important questions for trust certification. When members of a federated environment apply individually for CoreTrustSeal certification while relying on shared or outsourced functions, how should responsibility, accountability, and evidence of trustworthiness be transparently displayed and assessed?

The CoreTrustSeal Board has created a discussion paper that articulates a CoreTrustSeal perspective on these questions, grounded in the principles of community stewardship, active preservation, and long-term responsibility. It builds directly on the [CoreTrustSeal Extended Guidance](#) on third-party services and outsourced functions, clarifying how that guidance applies to federated preservation communities. The central argument is straightforward: shared systems are acceptable and often desirable, but responsibility for preservation cannot be transferred, diluted, or obscured. Certified repositories must demonstrate active, organizational responsibility for curation and preservation, even when those activities are operationally distributed.

Comments are welcome on this shared [Google document](#).
Deadline for input is September 15, 2026.

CoreTrustSeal Board Endorses Borealis CTS Certification Documentation Suite for Global Data Preservation

Research Alliance of Canada's (DRAC) Preservation Expert Group are pleased to announce the CoreTrustSeal Board's official endorsement of the [Borealis CTS Certification Documentation Suite, 2024-2025](#).

For the complete press release please see:

https://borealisdata.ca/news/2026-07-16/?mtm_campaign=Borealis%20CTS%20Endorsement&mtm_kwd=MailingList

NEW: CoreTrustSeal AMT features

We have added some new features to the CoreTrustSeal Application Management Tool:

- CoreTrustSeal approved applications on map. A world map with all approved CoreTrustSeal applications is now available online:
<https://amt.coretrustseal.org/map>
- Attachments: we have added a button for reviewers to download all attachments to an application in one go!
- Reviewers do not have to fill a compliance level anymore, they can just accept or reject the compliance level the applicant chose.
- The Best Practice for Reviewers document has been updated:
<https://www.coretrustseal.org/why-certification/training/>

In case you missed it:

CoreTrustSeal @ conferences/webinars

The following proceedings, recordings and presentations of recent conferences or webinars featuring CoreTrustSeal representatives are available online.

IASSIST:

https://www.openconf.org/iassist2026/modules/request.php?module=oc_proceedings&action=summary.php&id=107&a=Accept+as+Presentation

WDS:

Feedback and comments welcome!

Please don't hesitate to contact info@coretrustseal.org if you have feedback or suggestions for us on the tool, process, website or anything else!



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