Title: Open-Source Digitization Toolkit

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Abstract:

Working with the Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC) we have created a simple open-source digitization toolkit for the creation of electronic resources. This toolkit is freely available to anyone who wishes to use it. It is standards-compliant and can output in a variety of formats to easily accommodate different libraries. The newest version, which is just about to be released, is very simple. It guides the user through each step in the creation process and allows users to visually inspect, and edit, their digital images. The user enters the bibliographic information about their item, which creates the standard METS metadata files. Then the user is prompted to either scan directly into an automatically generated folder, or to copy or move any existing images. Once the user indicates scanning is complete, the images are processed and then displayed in a quality control application which allows the user to inspect each image. If an image has any flaw it can be corrected within the same application. In addition, users can name the pages and divisions, creating a table of contents for their item. Finally, the application can FTP the item to FTP server. The application provides tools to simplify the archiving process and can store the indexes for all the burnt archives. If the institution wishes to donate to the Digital Library of the Caribbean this application allows them to view and edit their online items. We wish to encourage the wider use of this application and to work with any institution to customize the output formats to their needs.