

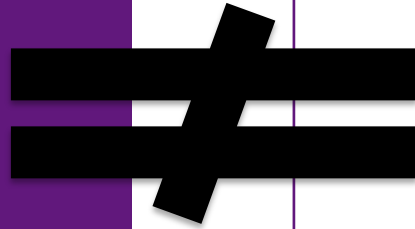
ARSC Technical Committee

Obsolescence

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OBSOLESCENCE



**Equipment
Availability**

“Almost all of the mechanical recordings discussed are now obsolete, in that the industry which once created these artefacts no longer supports them.”

-IASA TC-04

OBSOLESCENCE

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graph TD; A((OBSOLESCENCE)) --- B((Operator Expertise)); A --- C((Technician Expertise)); A --- D((Used Equipment Availability)); A --- E((Activity of Community)); A --- F((New Parts Availability)); A --- G((Used Parts Availability)); A --- H((Activity of Community)); A --- I((Specialized Maintenance Tools)); A --- J((New Equipment Availability));
```

Operator
Expertise

Technician
Expertise

Used
Equipment
Availability

Activity of
Community

New Parts
Availability

Used Parts
Availability

Activity of
Community

Specialized
Maintenance
Tools

New
Equipment
Availability

Other Considerations

Context

Business Case

Complexity

Precedent

Single Source

Scale

Cost

End of:

Manufacturing

Availability in commercial marketplace

Bench tech expertise

Bench tech tools

Calibration & alignment tapes

Parts & supplies

Availability used marketplace

Playback expertise

Instantaneous Disc

Open Reel

DAT

Cylinders

Audiocassette

CD-R

IUB Media Preservation Survey

Format	Major Risk Factors	Risk Level
Lacquer/ Aluminum Discs	Catastrophic chemical deterioration	Very High
Digital Audio Tape	Obsolescence factors, mechanical misalignment	Very High
Cylinders	Fungus/efflorescence, obsolescence factors	High
Recordable CD	Degradation, compatibility issues	High
Open reel tape	Cellulose acetate base, Sticky Shed Syndrome, fungus, urgent obsolescence factors, others	Medium to High
Audio Cassette	Tape type, off-brands, obsolescence factors	Medium



ARSC!

DIGITIZE

RAISE AWARENESS

IDENTIFY RESOURCES

**Multi
Faceted**

**POOL RESOURCES /
COLLABORATE**

CREATE RESOURCES

Approach

