

ION Virtual Navigation Museum Policies & Procedures  
September 3, 2008

**ION Virtual Navigation Museum Collecting Policies and Development Plan**

The Institute of Navigation (ION) is a non-profit professional society dedicated to the advancement of the art and science of navigation. The ION also recognizes the importance of preserving the past of its fields of interest. To that end, the ION has established a website to serve as a virtual museum to preserve this past.

The goal of the ION Virtual Navigation Museum is to provide a compendium of historical and technical information about navigation-related devices, instruments, systems, and know-how for applications in air, space, land and maritime; and to present this information in a web-based format.

Entries for the Museum may be drawn from all periods of history and all portions of the globe. The emphasis of the website is on the history of major contributions to the art and science of navigation.

The compendium is geared towards educating visitors, but it illustrates for everyone the importance of navigation and its relationship with people. Please keep in mind that the museum receives visitors from a variety of fields with varying technical backgrounds. Links to more photos, advanced system descriptions, diagrams, documentation, videos, etc can provide more detailed information.

## **I. Collecting Policy**

This portion of the document sets out how the museum's collection is chosen, edited, and hosted.

### **A. Collection Contents**

This section of the document aims to provide guidance to submitters to the ION Virtual Navigation Museum and the Museum's Editorial Board.

The ION Virtual Navigation Museum will include navigation-related items in applications environments of:

- Aviation
- Space
- Land
- Maritime

for five mission-related subject areas:

- inertial navigation
- radio navigation (terrestrial & satellite)
- celestial (i.e., optical celestial) navigation
- acoustic navigation

- relevant timing technology for navigation.

For actual artifacts on display in a physical museum, their real-world locations can be listed on the web page to allow interested participants to visit them, if they are publicly accessible. The ION Virtual Navigation Museum Editorial Board has establishing liaison with physical museums for combined virtual/physical exhibits. The ION Virtual Navigation Museum Editorial Advisory Board encourages physical museums, Government agencies, and industry to participate in the development of the ION VNM by submitting multiple entries into the ION VNM. Physical museums that have a significant part in the ION Virtual Navigation Museum will also receive a web link directly from the ION Virtual Navigation Museum home page. Additionally, the ION Outreach Committee can provide assistance in a liaison role to ION members who wish to donate navigation-related items to appropriate physical museums.

For inclusion into the ION Virtual Navigation Museum, navigation related items should be:

- of national and/or international historical importance in themselves or by association (e.g. story with national or international impact; cutting-edge material; significant provenance)
- the best of its kind (a developmental milestone; related to a leader in the field; inspirational)
- Items of contemporary use which have extraordinary future research potential.
- Commonplace navigation items that had a significant impact on how people navigate.

The Virtual Navigation Museum will not include manufactured items to promote commercial products. Additionally, the museum will typically not display items that are similar without major distinction or improvement.

## **B. Collection Evaluation**

Data submitted to the ION Virtual Navigation Museum will be put into a webpage format by the ION staff (Web Editor with supervision from the Managing Editor) and reviewed in final form by the Museum Editorial Board. The ION Virtual Navigation Museum Editor and Curator will review all entries. The Editor will assign additional reviews to be performed by members of the Editorial Board's Advisory Members, as required. Once a consensus has been reached, as assessed by the Editor, with heavy weight being placed on the Editor and Curator's evaluations, the Editor will make the final decision for an item to be initially published on the web page. Maintenance of the item, decisions of duplicity, and longevity relevance will continuously be evaluated by the Editorial Board and lead by the Curator. The Curator and Editor have the ability to remove or replace items after they have been published on the website if a consensus is reached within the Museum's Editorial Board.

## **II. Collection Development Plan**

This portion of the document sets out how the Museum's "collection" could be developed over a five-year period to ensure that it fully supports goals central to the ION's mission and objectives. This section of the document aims to provide guidance primarily for the Museum's

Editorial Board, but potential visitors and contributors to the site may benefit from understanding the categories and their descriptions included below.

The ION Virtual Navigation Museum will collect data for posting on its website in the following broad categories as they relate to all the environments in which navigation takes place (air, space, land, and maritime):

- inertial navigation
- radio navigation (terrestrial & satellite)
- optical (e.g, celestial) navigation
- acoustic navigation
- relevant timing technology for navigation.

These categories will be expanded upon as the ION Virtual Navigation Museum matures and entries of significant are placed for viewing in the museum.

At the time of this document update, the ION Virtual Navigation Museum Editorial Advisory Board is particularly interested and invite submissions for the following items:

- 621B
- Apollo sextant
- Bio-navigation
- Bouy
- Decca
- DME
- Draper Work
- Draper's SPIRE and SPIRE Jr
- Fresnel Lens
- Glonass
- Goldstone's Deep Space network
- GPS Early Development
- GPS T-set
- GPS Y-set
- GPS Z-set
- Historical GPS document
- Loran A, B
- Marine Items
- Omega
- Physical Museums
- Sextant
- Sperry work
- Star Tracker
- Sysledis, Spot, Lorac, Argo, Avcon, or Starfix
- Timation
- Transit

- USCG Items
- Various Air Items
- Various Land Items
- Various Maritime Items
- Various Space Items
- VOR

The ION Virtual Navigation Museum home page is at <http://www.ion.org/museum>.