

Protecting Legacies Survey 2021

A look at trends in audio archiving and preservation among members of the Recording Academy Producers & Engineers Wing and the Audio Engineering Society

By Iron Mountain Media & Archive Services



In June 2021, Iron Mountain Media & Archive Services and the Recording Academy Producers & Engineers Wing co-hosted a summit on International Archives Day entitled, "**Protecting Legacies: The Art, Science and Value of Music Archives.**" The purpose of the summit was to start an industry-wide conversation about the importance of educating artists and their teams about thoughtful music archiving. Safeguarding these precious collections will ensure they are able to realize the full value of future monetization opportunities. The virtual event featured stakeholders from all corners of the recorded music industry, including artists, producers, engineers, lawyers, publishers, and archivists.

Based on key topics raised at the summit, Iron Mountain Media & Archive Services created a survey, with input from the P&E Wing, with the intent to discover current trends and best (or worst) practices in audio archiving within the recorded music professional community. The survey was sent to 4,000 members of the P&E Wing and 11,000 members of the Audio Engineering Society. The survey received a phenomenal 10% response rate, clearly indicating that this is a topic many audio professionals have an interest in. The following pages are the results of that survey.









Most common words used to describe yourselves

classical music music production arranger audio engineer role performer sound engineer producer artist recording engineer mixing engineer music recording artist mixer record producer composer engineer recording music producer musicians studio owners music creato songwriter mix engineer major label mastering engineer acoustic music

Years of experience in the music industry



What you work on



How you stay up to date



Top Trade Organizations utilized to stay current



guild of music

Other sources utilized to stay current



Top educational opportunities utilized to stay current



How many are responsible for preservation and archiving



Do you give advice on preservation and archiving?



Mentoring assistants on preservation and archiving



Percentage of work is capturing live events



How you find data on the visual/metadata spectrum



How you identify tracks for monetization opportunities



Limits to full access of archives and how they are addressed



How you backup working files



Other ways you back up working files



How you backup master files



How often you check your backups



How you share files with others



How you organize your file structure?



Are you familiar with P&E delivery recommendations?



Concerns with using cloud in your workflow



Concerns with using cloud for long-time storage



Factors that limit your use of cloud



Please stay tuned for our next survey

To read more about Iron Mountain Media & Archive Services and the work we do to preserve legacies, please visit www.ironmountain.com/entertainment







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