

PDS4 User Support Working Group WP Summary

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PDS User Model

- Only planetary scientists (a group consisting of diverse subdisciplines)
- Includes the mission savvy and mission naïve
- Includes graduate students
- Does NOT OTHERWISE INCLUDE educators, K-12 students or members of the general public

PDS Standards should be PRESCRIPTIVE rather than DESCRIPTIVE

They should describe requirements that data providers must meet, rather than describing after-the-fact what PDS received.

PDS archival data format requirements should be decoupled from popular user formats

- Required for long-term data accessibility through simplicity, uniformity and stability
- PDS needs to support format conversion from archival data format to limited set of popular user formats as a data delivery option and as a service for data submission - these user formats would change with time

PDS must provide diverse services for data search, accessibility and retrieval

- Discipline nodes need to take on the development and maintenance of discipline-specific search capabilities as part of their core mission. [Note: this requires professional software development capabilities at the nodes]
- Searches may be at dataset, product or record level (set by DNs)
- PDS should provide additional generalized search capabilities
- The PDS home page should be a single-point of access to these services

PDS must provide services to support data archiving by individual researchers

- Format conversion from limited popular user formats to archival data formats may be required
- PDS standards-transparent interface for collecting data descriptive information and generating internal PDS files

Mission Data Archiving

- Product generation and archiving needs to be its own mission budget line
- Archive planning and communication with PDS must begin with selection for Phase A
- Missions must be resolve peer-review liens even if it means revising its data production pipeline

It is not the responsibility of PDS to enforce

- Compliance of missions in meeting scheduling deadlines and delivery schedules
- Compliance of missions with generating PDS-compliant data products
- Compliance of research program PIs with their commitment to archive data made in their proposals.

**It is the ultimate responsibility of
NASA management.**

PDS must provide user support services that involves human interaction

- For access services
- For submission services for individual researchers
- To support missions in the successful archiving of their data
- To support peer-reviews of submitted data as well as pipelines

PDS should move to a uniform naming scheme

- e.g., pdssbn.astro.umd.edu -> sbn.pds.nasa.gov or pds.nasa.gov/sbn
- Include data node facilities, e.g., themis.asu.edu -> geo.pds.nasa.gov/themis or pds.nasa.gov/themis

Knowledge of which node hosts what services and curates what data should not be required for PDS Users to access those services or data.