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CATS Newsletter VI

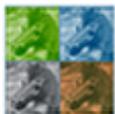
Welcome to the sixth edition of the CATS newsletter with information on the latest projects, collaborations and analyses within CATS and its partners.

Grant awarded for IPERION CH

In early spring 2014 CATS was invited to become a member of the European IPERION CH project proposal.

IPERION CH aims to establish the unique pan-European research infrastructure in Heritage Science by integrating national world-class facilities at research centres, universities and museums. The cross-disciplinary consortium of 23 partners (from 12 Member States and the US) offers access to instruments, methodologies and data for advancing knowledge and innovation in the conservation and restoration of cultural heritage. The fourth in a line of successful projects (CHARISMA-FP7, Eu-ARTECH-FP6 and LabS-TECH network-FP5), IPERION CH widens trans-national access by adding new providers offering expertise and instruments to the three existing complementary platforms ARCHLAB, FIXLAB and MOLAB.

The quality of access services will be improved through joint research activities focused on development of advanced diagnostic techniques and tools for storing and sharing scientific cultural heritage data. Networking activities will (a) promote innovation through technology transfer; (b) improve access procedures by setting up a coordinated and integrated approach for harmonizing and enhancing interoperability among the facilities; (c) identify future scientific challenges, best practices and protocols for measurements; (d) optimize the use of digital tools in Heritage Science. To advance the international role of EU cultural heritage research, IPERION CH will generate social and cultural innovation by training a new generation of researchers and professionals and by worldwide dissemination and communication to diverse audiences. [Read more...](#)



IPERION CH

Integrated Platform for the European Research Infrastructure ON Culture Heritage



Købke's faded summer's day

The painter Christen Købke's iconic View of Lake Sortedam in Copenhagen was long believed to be a painting of a romantic sunset – but this has now turned out not to be the case. The classic scene is in fact a depiction of a sunny summer's day whose original colours have changed since it was painted back in 1838. A number of scientific analyses at CATS has established that Købke's painting had indeed changed its appearance over time.

A chemical reaction in "Prussian blue" causes colour changes

The colours have changed due to a chemical reaction in the blue pigment known as Prussian blue. The colour changes have been exacerbated by 176 years of exposure to light. The sky has become paler and lighter. And the lake, which was painted using a mixture of red, blue, and white pigments, was originally a bluish grey. Now, however, it has taken on a reddish, purplish hue. The frame in which the painting is set has protected the original colours at the very edge from changing – and this difference in colour piqued the conservators' curiosity. [*Read more...*](#)

CATS Annual Report 2014

The CATS Annual Report for 2014 is now available on our [website](#). The report covers the year 2014 of CATS existence, from 1 January – 31 December 2013. The document describes the initiatives and research activities during the year in CATS.

New SEM equipment in CATS-KADK

The School of Conservation has acquired a Scanning Electron Microscope, SEM, Hitachi S-3400N, with variable pressure which allows to study wet, oily and/or non-conductive samples with or without metal coatings or other complicated specimen preparation techniques.

A Bruker nano energy x-ray spectrometer, Quantax 200, is attached to the microscope, which enables it to perform quantitative and qualitative analysis on specimens.



Interested in more news from the CATS partner institutions?

If you want more news regarding recent conservation treatments, new research etc. you can visit the following websites from the three CATS partner institutions.

- ◆ [Current Conservation](#) (in Danish), a blog from the National Museum of Denmark
- ◆ [News Archive](#) from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Schools of Architecture, Design and Conservation, KADK
- ◆ [Stories from the Conservators](#) at Statens Museum for Kunst



Nationalmuseet
National Museum of Denmark



The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts
Schools of Architecture, Design and Conservation
School of Conservation



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