



EURO-CARES WP3 Meeting

Designing a European Extraterrestrial Sample Curation Facility



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EURO-CARES Extraterrestrial Sample Curation Database: Basic Concepts

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We describe here the basic concepts of database that will be used in EUROCARES whose general purpose is to collect - and partly make available to the public - all the information about the following sample categories:

- Pristine samples (extraterrestrial ... and analog samples? - to be discussed at the meeting)
- Aliquots and preparates (e.g. various mounts) for classification purposes and allocation to external laboratories
- Allocated and returned aliquots and preparates
- Residual masses of pristine samples

A dedicated software will be created as a logbook to track and document all the actions performed on the (sub)samples inside EUROCARES and in external laboratories. All these information will be stored inside the software, according to the following data sets:

- Identification (e.g., origin, imaging, state of matter, mass)
- Classification (e.g., structural, compositional)
- Preparation (e.g., type of preparate, aliquot description)
- Location (e.g., location in the facility)
- Allocation (location outside the curation facility)
- Documentation (e.g. internal/external data and reports, scientific publications)
- Public (selected data, e.g. sample description and availability for research).

All these information will be obtained and documented during the following procedures/actions:

- Cataloguing (identification, location)
- Classification (to be meant as preliminary classification)
- Pre-Delivery (preparation and allocation)
- Post-Delivery (returned sample for research check, storage)

The above points will be presented in detail at the conference.

Keywords: Database, Curation, Sample return space missions, Planetary materials