

LOC Archiving Phono Preamp Systems at the U.S. Library of Congress National Audio-Visual Conservation Center



(Culpeper VA) The U.S. Library of Congress has selected six Millennium LOC archiving systems for their new National Audio-Visual Conservation Center ([NAVCC](#)). The LOC units are installed in each of the Library's state-of-the-art transcription rooms, scheduled to go on-line in 1Q08.

The Millennium LOC archiving systems will provide analog pre-amplification and equalization for the Library's entire collection of LP's, 78's, 16" transcriptions, Edison Cylinders, acoustics, and many other historic electro-mechanical formats (estimated at nearly two million units).

The LOC archiving system is designed to mate faithfully with any contemporary or historic disk or cylinder format, providing an acoustically invisible signal path as our priceless audio treasures are digitized for posterity. With 100-volt all-discrete mastering-grade EQ amplifiers and Millennia's reputation for ultra-pristine high-gain paths, the LOC was a clear choice for this monumental task.

"The technologies being implemented at the NAVCC are unprecedented in scale and unmatched in their capabilities anywhere else in the world", said Greg Lukow, NAVCC Director. "Not only will these technologies enable exponential increases in the production of high-quality preservation copies of materials that are deteriorating in their current formats, but they will provide researchers with better, faster access to more of these materials in the future."



The new NAVCC archiving facility spans 45 acres, employs 90 miles of shelves, hosts nearly 6 million pieces of AV materials along with enormous rooms crammed full of nearly every known playback machine. The archives include 124 temperature-controlled nitrate film vaults, a commercial film development lab, and one wing dedicated to cleaning and restoration.

This profound complex of archives and technology, the world's most extensive, is housed in nearly one-half million square feet of endless catacombs - mostly underground beneath Pony Mountain in Culpeper Virginia. The facility was built with private funds from David Packard (son of Hewlett-Packard founder) - the largest private gift ever to the U.S. legislative branch.

The NAVCC, besides being the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of moving images and sound recordings, will also be the largest end-user of hard disk drives on the planet, surpassing Google. The Library of Congress no longer talks in terms of gigabytes, nor even terabytes. Now it's *petabytes* per year.

