

Locating Aerospace Technical Reports: the AERADE Reports Archive



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Cranfield University & Aerospace Technical Reports

- Cranfield has a nationally / internationally important collection
- Reports series from leading research establishments and organisations
- Important historical series such NACA, ARC, RAE
- Reports Section in the Barrington Library, Shrivenham Campus
- Research Projects including AIM-UK; AIM-EU; MAGiC I & II; COUGAR
- AERADE

Information Needs of Engineers

- Task orientated / problem solving
- Project start – information intensive / use of external sources to diminish uncertainty & define possible solutions
- Development / testing – information use becomes more “introspective”, includes “validated” sources such as standards, ESDU.
- Information has to be accessible, easily understood and can be translated into solutions
- Preference for personal / informal sources which are knowledge rich

Technical Reports as Grey Literature

- Technical Reports – document activities at various stages of a research project.
- Some are produced by national and international public bodies; others are confidential, protected, or disseminated to a restricted readership
- Part of a wider family of information sources commonly known Grey Literature (GL). GreyNet maintains an [online listing](#) of document types.

Definitions of Grey Literature

“Grey literature stands for manifold **document** types produced on all levels of government, academics, business and industry in print and electronic formats that are protected by **intellectual property rights**, of **sufficient quality** to be collected and preserved by **library holdings or institutional repositories**, but not controlled by commercial publishers i.e., where publishing is not the primary activity of the producing body.”

(Prague Definition 2010)

The Importance of Technical Reports to Engineers

- Primary means of communication for engineers
- Timeliness – produced months / years ahead of conference papers & journal articles
- Depth of information - experimental detail, data, results (sometimes including failures), conclusions and recommendations
- Contain information which is not published elsewhere

Why Are Technical Reports Hard to Reach?

- Discovery
 - Metadata / Bibliographic control
 - Reports as series
- Access
 - Commercial sensitivity
 - Classification / De-classification
 - Rationalisation of print collections
- E-access & preservation

What's Being Done?

- The [Pisa Declaration on Policy Development for Grey Literature Resources](#) was ratified and published on 16th May 2014
- New opportunities & threats ?
 - The development of institutional / subject repositories
 - “Disintermediation” – the “fading role” of LIS professional in the STI value chain
 - Big Data / access to datasets will transform or marginalise literature in STI communication

How Can You Discover Reports?

- Cranfield Library Catalogue – coming to COPAC soon
- Current reports
 - [NTRS](#) (NASA Technical Reports Server)
 - [DTIC](#) (Defense Technical Information Center)
 - [FAA Technical Library Catalog](#) (Federal Aviation Administration)
 - [CAMI](#) (FAA Aerospace Medicine Technical Reports)
 - [STO](#) (NATO Science & Technology Organization)
- Historical
 - [COA Reports](#) (College of Aeronautics, Cranfield)
 - [AERADE Reports Archive](#)

Where Are UK Government Aerospace Reports?

COUGAR (Collation of UK Government Aeronautical Research Reports)

- Aims to bring together details and location of c.40,000 reports issued by UK Government Aeronautical Research Establishments
- Led by FAST (Farnborough Air Sciences Trust) with input from DSTL, TNA, Cambridge and Cranfield
- Aspires to provide online access to a full-text collection, but....
 - Incomplete metadata
 - Classification / de-classification
 - Copyright

AERADE III Demo

AERADE III will offer the following improvements:

- Additional content consisting of some 240 ARC reports and 30,000 NACA reports
- Dspace platform has active developer community for support
- Easier maintenance
- Better curation
- Better searchability and discoverability
- OAI-PMH interface
- RESTful API (enables display on web apps or other systems)
- Handles giving persistent identifiers

AERADE Reports Archive

The Aerade Reports Archive incorporates more than ten thousand, historically significant, digitised reports from: The Aeronautical Research Council (ARC) - the principal agency in Great Britain with a major output of reports on matters aeronautical, which existed from 1909-1979, and published reports until 1980. The National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) - chartered in 1915 and operational from 1917-1958. The National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 created NASA from NACA.

Communities in AERADE

Select a community to browse its collections.

- [Aeronautical Research Council \[2780\]](#)

Recently Added

[test title](#)

Smith, Arthur A (2012-05-22)

[abstract](#)

[The Interference of a Wind Tunnel on a Symmetrical Body](#)

Lock, C. N. H. (1929-10)

The effect of the boundaries of a wind tunnel on the flow in the neighbourhood of a symmetrical body (i.e. (a) in two dimensions, a cylinder having a plane of symmetry parallel to the axis of the tunnel : (b) in three ...

[The Interference on the Characteristics of an Aerofoil in a Wind Tunnel of Rectangular Section](#)

Glauert, H. (1932-02-20)

Approximate formulae for the interference on an aerofoil in a rectangular wind tunnel have been known and used for several years. More accurate formulae have been developed by Terazawa and Rosenhead, but their results are ...

[Report of the Advisory Committee for Aeronautics for the Year 1912-13](#)

Unknown author (His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1913)

[Report of the Advisory Committee for Aeronautics for the Year 1911-12](#)

Unknown author (His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1912)

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RSS Feeds

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 [Atom](#)

Guiding Principles

Development being guided by the principles of the Pisa Declaration:

- Document focus on aerospace technical reports
- Quality assured by the authority of the originators
- Licencing – investigating copyright / re-use permissions for RAE reports
- Collection management - item and report series level metadata
- Open access subject repository - persistent identifiers and open metadata standards for grey literature

Questions (for me and you)?

- How important is it for us to provide our customers with access to technical reports and other types of grey literature?
- Should we just be concerned about current reports, or are historical series still important?
- How much time do you / we spend currently on teaching and supporting our customers to use technical reports?
- Is there anything we can do to address some of the challenges, and if so what?