

## ***Complutense University Library of Madrid joins HathiTrust***

*Madrid, November, 2010 – Biblioteca de la Universidad Complutense de Madrid* has become the newest member of HathiTrust ([www.hathitrust.org](http://www.hathitrust.org)), a partnership of major academic and research libraries collaborating in an extraordinary digital library initiative to preserve and provide access to the published record in digital form. In 2006, the Complutense University of Madrid and Google signed a partnership agreement focused on the large-scale digitization of the library's public domain books. The Complutense Library was the first Spanish-language library to join the Google Books Library Project. Complutense Library will provide more than 100,000 digitized books out of copyright into HathiTrust, including Google and in-house initiatives.



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Launched in 2008 the HathiTrust has a growing membership currently comprising more than three dozen partners.

Over the last two years, the partners have contributed nearly 7.5 million volumes to the digital library, digitized from their library collections through a number of means including Google and Internet Archive digitization, and in-house initiatives. Close to 1.5 million of the contributed volumes are in the public domain and freely available on the Web.

HathiTrust serves a dual role. First, as a trusted repository it guarantees the long-term preservation of the materials it holds, providing the expert curation and consistent access long associated with research libraries. Second, as a service for partners and a public good, HathiTrust offers persistent access to the digital collections. This includes viewing, downloading, and searching access to public domain volumes, and searching access to in copyright volumes. Specialized features are also available which facilitate access by persons with print disabilities, and allow users to gather subsets of the digital library into “collections” that can be searched and browsed.

José Antonio Magán, director of the Complutense Library said: “Complutense Library looks forward to *membership in HathiTrust*; it places us in a strategic collaboration with some of the world's major research libraries, offering digital access to the libraries’ heritage collections, and enabling us to contribute to the collections’ dissemination, accessibility and preservation. Complutense’s researchers may also use sample datasets for computational processing and analysis”.

“As we welcome the Complutense Library, we celebrate an important milestone,” said John Wilkin, HathiTrust Executive Director, “our partnership now extends across the Atlantic, a testament to the value of HathiTrust and the opportunities it has opened for libraries to engage in deep collaboration on a global scale. The Complutense Library brings a unique collection of materials that will enhance the reach of HathiTrust’s collections, and an important perspective that will enrich the partnership as we cooperate on ever-broadening levels.”

HathiTrust was named for the Hindi word for elephant, *hathi*, symbolic of the qualities of memory, wisdom, and strength evoked by elephants, as well as the huge undertaking

of congregating the digital collections of libraries in the United States and beyond. HathiTrust is funded by the partner libraries and governed by members of the libraries through an Executive Committee and a Strategic Advisory Board. More information on HathiTrust is available at: <http://www.hathitrust.org/>.

**Biblioteca de la Universidad Complutense de Madrid** was founded by Cardenal Cisneros in 1499. It is the second largest library in Spain, after the National Library of Spain. It has over 30 specialized libraries serving their respective colleges, including a library of old and rare books. The Complutense University Library holds 3 million volumes and provides online access to an important number of electronic resources. The Library holds printed bibliographic treasures from fifteenth to eighteenth century. It contains an important number of manuscripts, incunabula and rare books. The Complutense Library employs more than 400 professional and support staff.