

# Case Study

## National Central Library of Rome

»The collaboration with Fujitsu has been superb and we are very satisfied with the scanner.«

Dr. Osvaldo Avallone, Director of the National Central Library of Rome



### Preserving cultural heritage since 1876

The Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Roma (National Central Library of Rome), is one of Italy's two national libraries. Its mission is to collect and preserve important Italian publications and a range of foreign works related to Italy, and to make all this material available to the public. The collection currently includes more than 7,000,000 printed volumes, 2,000 incunabula (15th century books), 25,000 16<sup>th</sup> century books, 8,000 manuscripts, 10,000 drawings, 20,000 maps, and 1,342,154 brochures.

### Share information

Mankind has used books, handwritten documents, prints and pictures to share information, preserve culture and promote an understanding of history for thousands of years. These documents are all on paper and other sensitive materials that are subject to natural deterioration that can result in their damage and loss. The National Library has thousands of unique papers that must be protected against possible environmental destruction. This requires an economical solution to digitise historic documents. The goal is not only to preserve Italian cultural heritage but also to make it accessible to as many people as possible.

### Digitising history

The ScanSnap SV600 is now used to scan historic documents, transmit them to a central database and to make them available to a wider public. The overhead scanner digitises in excellent quality and its contact-less technology even allows for the capturing of bound and stapled material like books, notepads and sensitive material up to A3 format. The process is very intuitive and no training is required because it scans at the touch of a button or automatically whenever a page is turned.

### The customer

Country: Italy  
Industry: Education/Government  
Founded: 1876  
Employees: 200  
Website:  
<http://www.bnrcrm.librari.beniculturali.it>



### The challenge

The National Central Library of Rome preserves Italy's publishing heritage for future generations. This bibliographic treasure was previously restricted to a few experts because of the fragility of many historic documents. Digitising the paper and vellum is preserving these documents for the future and making it easy to discover and share Italy's past.

### The solution

Historic literary works are now digitised with the help of an innovative Fujitsu scanning system. The ScanSnap SV600 guarantees intuitive handling and excellent image quality through contact-less scanning, thus even preserving very delicate documents.

### The benefits

- Italy's publishing heritage is preserved for future generations
- Economical solution to scan historic documents
- Broader access to documents through digitisation
- No risk of damage to literary works due to contact-less scanning

### The "Morantiano" collection

Thanks to the new scanning solution the library has acquired the "Morantiano", a collection of handwritten documents by Elsa Morante, one of the most important Italian authors of the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The heirs of the original manuscripts gave them to the National Library to contribute to the understanding of the author's works and personality.



### Digitising documents with ease and efficiency

Fujitsu's one touch overhead scanner captures any type of flat sheet or bound document up to A3 in size. The ScanSnap SV600 automatically corrects curved page distortion in bound documents up to 30mm deep. Contact-less scanning helps protect and share delicate documents.

A number of automated functions support high-quality scans from various types of originals. 'Page turning detection' allows users to continue scanning automatically once a page has been turned. Background colour removal for items such as old newspapers can be set to automatically eliminate any background colour so as to enhance the viewing of the scanned document when on screen.

### Products and services

- Fujitsu ScanSnap SV600
- ScanSnap Organiser software
- ABBYY FineReader OCR software

### Character recognition included

Being able to convert scan images into searchable text via the OCR (Optical Character Recognition) software ABBYY FineReader is a major benefit for efficient storage and retrieval in an electronic database.

### Preserving culture for future generations

The National Central Library of Rome is now able to protect the publishing heritage of Italy for future generations. The SV600 is the perfect scanner for digitising large amounts of historic and often delicate documents easily, without risking damage. Digitisation also facilitates sharing these historic treasures. Ancient books must be handled by experts and can't be sent around Italy or the world. This is a great contribution to make culture more accessible for everyone.

**"Increasing the number of readers is our goal. The National Library has now started several digitisation projects to preserve Italian literature and make it available to the public."**

Thanks to the successful test and their professional support, Fujitsu has become a vital partner of this cultural institution to promote the sharing of culture at all levels.



In collaboration with



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