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Jean-Marc Fontaine is a Research Engineer working within the framework of a Convention between the Ministère de la Culture, the Pierre-et-Marie Curie (Paris 6) University and the CNRS, Paris. He is in charge of practical research on long-term preservation of sound, audiovisual and multimedia documents.

From 1980 to 2000, he worked with the French National Library on all kinds of sound and audiovisual carriers (old records, magnetic tapes, optical discs, among others). In 1990, he launched experimental studies on the degradation of replicated optical discs, and some years later on once-recordable discs. He is the author of several publications in particular relating evaluation relevance of diagnostic parameters to drive collection quality control. Since 2000, he has been involved with different Sound and Audiovisual public collections of scientific and heritage importance.

Since 2005, he has taken part in the development of studies on optical discs within the framework of a GIS-DON scientific interest group. He contributes to elaborating digital data preservation recommendations and standards, particularly within the AFNOR, ISO, AES and IASA technical committee.