



SILICIUM Our power

For more than 15 years, Silicium has been gathering old computers and ancient video games.

Silicium is a crossroad where enthusiasts get together. We were one of the few that initiated the idea of preserving this technology in the late 80's in France. Today, we feel this unity is the way to share and accomplish important targets.

Through these pages, you will discover every aspects of Silicium's action and see what you'll be able to do with us.

What is Silicium ?

If you like old computers and old video games, why don't you join us and help preserving this heritage ?

These few pages will present how a non-profit-making organization tries to manage its expertise with this exciting task.

Year after year, we meet more and more interested people. We are located in Toulouse, France, but our audience is quite wider. Our staff of a dozen local members is very active and organize activities for the whole community. Distant members are managing the cyber community. We get altogether at our yearly convention and during the big exhibitions.

Special projects are also a good way to federate people. Rebuilding machines, editing books or creating game cartridges are some examples of our activity. That's the way we've built a network of specialists.

Because our actions is made of what we want to do, we build things that our members wish. We try not lose touch with preserving the heritage and showing it in public. We do not have settle a collection for it to stay in a container. We try to bring all out so everyone will enjoy discovering these little treasures.

Build on this principle, we gather men and machines. Novices and specialists will find their way in Silicium. It can be video games or workstations, home computers or programmable calculators.

The fact is, nostalgia and rediscover will appear important for the future to our members and sponsors.

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DONATIONS

Our energy

Many people donate computers and other artifacts. They generally wish a surviving life at Silicium through exhibitions and studies.

In more than 15 years, Silicium organize credible actions for the public. Donation can also be useful to keep machines running, with spare parts they provide. Our specialists are also using them in their own projects.

We try to have a community approach based on sharing, with an open and volunteer work. Hundreds of donors have given computers, software and documents. No matter their importance and condition, they are very useful to us. We wish to thank our donors very much.

MY COLLECTION

What about it ?

Members have sometime their own collection. We ask them to lend it to Silicium if needed. That is a good way to a far more important access to some unique artifacts. These members are generally pleased to have an opportunity to show master pieces of their collection to others.



Toulouse Game Show 2008

Silicium is a 100 % self financed. We have to pay to keep Silicium alive and for all of our projects. We have three ways to do so.

Members subscribe every year and can give extra money when Silicium cash is very low. Hopefully, our building is lend by one of our long time member. That is a very safe and we will not have to plan a moving in the next years. We did it so in 2000, it was a big waste of time and

effort, for an uncertain future.

Another way of raising fund is sponsoring. To help us for real, we have created a special program of sponsoring storing shelves. This is a good way to associate people who wish to help but not be physically involved in Silicium Project. Shelves are "sold" by the meter at 35 euros. Lengths are associated to brands and norms, according to our manage-

Sponsoring

No sponsoring means no Silicium. Our organization is independent and want to build a long term project.

ment system. And so, "Jean Dupont : Thomson" means that he did sponsor a shelf in the available list.

Throughout the symbol, sponsors will be able to follow Silicium's work and progress, in very real way. This is for us a very good help, yet simple and efficient. All the details are on silicium.org.

"Silicium rely on sponsors to help manage the fund."

Choose your place at :

www.silicium.org/manifs/mecenat.htm



CONTRIBUTION a yearly act

We ask our members an annual fee.

For a year, you can choose your commitment :

- 8 euros for student and poor,
- 16 euros for a member,
- **32** euros for power member,
- **64** euros or more for a sponsor.

Subscription for legal entities is 64 euros or more.

A yearly commitment is a good way to act your involvement. It clearly shows your wish to keep Silicium alive. The more you will give us, the more things we'll be able to do and secure our future. Because searching in the past is mainly done for the future. Silicium exists through its members. Money's used for working, projects and exhibitions.



Exhibition about Apple design At Musée d'Art Moderne in Saint-Etienne, France in 2005

Actions

Silicium tries to be dynamic with every project we make. Here are some recurrent examples.

Events

Events are an important way to be in touch with the audience. We try to offer more and more interactive performances even when we lend machines. It is mainly build on simulation, in order to have reliable interaction. It preserves machines and users appreciate it as well, as long as the look and feel is guaranteed. For more than 10 years, we are

managing a big exhibition in Toulouse called Vieumikro. It is devoted to old computers and video games enthusiasts. For a week-end, everyone can bring back alive those old treasures.

Conferences

Conferences are about video game history and we modify them according to requests. Along with the speech, we show some machines and demos.

Publishing

Silicium Guides are enhanced on

a regular schedule. They have become important references. We also publish old games for vintage computers and game systems.

Permanent exhibition : utopia ?

Our goal is to build a permanent museum.

Since the beginning, our goal has been to create or to participate to a permanent exhibition about old computers or video games. This is an innovative concept to be interactive, creative and fun. Video games and computers are everywhere in our society. Ain't it time to create a dedicated space for it ?



It could show the important evolution of technology, like a base created for the future.

Today, the world has clearly integrated the cultural dimension of computing. Silicium has the expertise and imagination to create new exhibitions.

You have projects and need experts ? Ask Silicium.

EVENTS

and exhibitions

Events are the most visible part of our action. But the important work is made on the management of the collection.

It is absolutely true that after we moved, the new inventory would take a big part of the time.

This is quite a big task and we're in need of every volunteer.

Furthermore, some projects need to get every detail of a machine, in order to restore, or to prepare a future exhibition. Sometime, the job is just to gather information.

REFERENCES

and contributions

Here are some of the most important references of our past shows.

Moissac (2001) lending of an exhibition

La Villette (2002) lending for the exhibition

"La Villette Numérique"

St Étienne (2005) Exhibition on Apple

Design at Musée d'Art Moderne

Inmac (2006) lending of a ready-made

exhibition about computer peripherals

Cite de L'Espace (2007) "Cosmomania"

exhibition, expertise and lending

TGS (2008) Famicom exhibition about

Nintendo's early star

Musée Labit (2009) L'écriture multipliée

Retrogaming L'Union (2010-2013) manag-

ing four exhibitions of "Festival du Jeu

Vidéo Ancien et Actuel"

Gameplay (2011) Two month of

Videogame history exhibition at Odysseus,

Blagnac.



Projects

Silicium works on many projects.

Discover the way we work and what has been done in the very heart of Silicium.

The life of Silicium rich and there are many projects. We try to have them interesting and pleasant for all of our members. Everyone can presents ideas and participate in a way he decides. The community is always helping.

Our activities are numerous : restoration of old machines, document researches, inventory, exhibitions management, editing, web, hardware projects like game cartridges or interfaces, emulation cabinets, exhibition design.

Expertise and specialities

Silicium is in permanent search of specialists. We try to mas-

ter ancient technologies. More and more, we are contacted about old systems. We already have many specialist but we still need many others.

They bring the necessary knowledge to a good management of the collection. They can tell thing that we need to search, keep and can be useful for the exhibitions.

Documents and software are also listed.

But no matter what your knowledge is, it is motivation that matters.

Opening a museum

Our great ambition is the open-

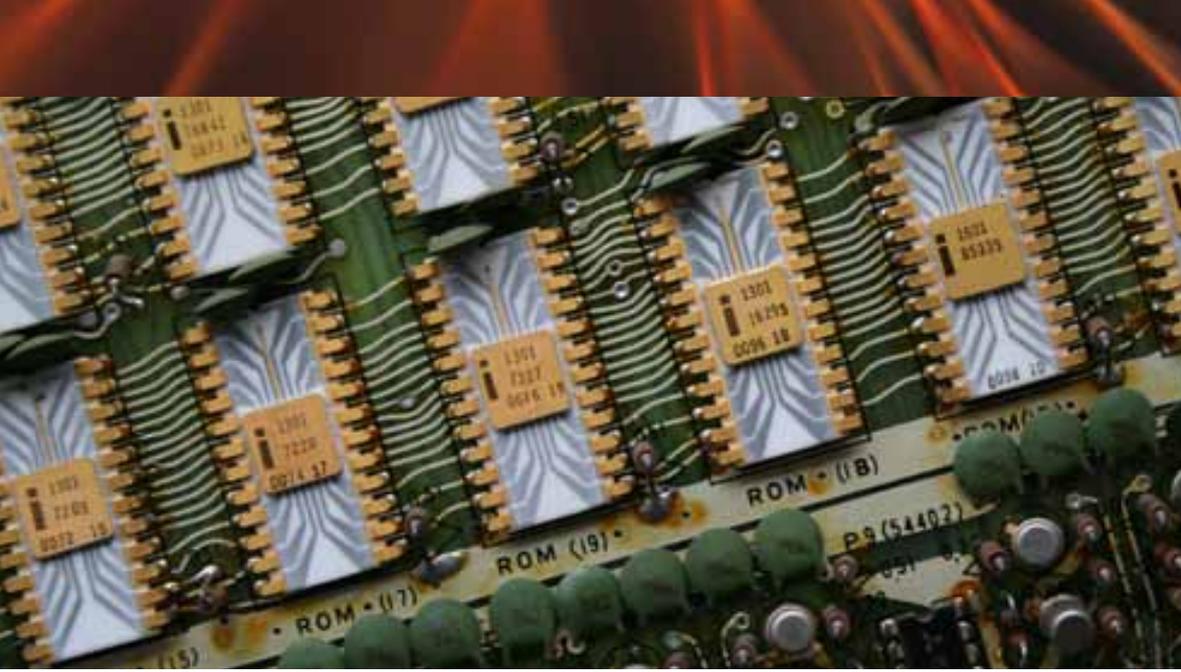
ing of a museum for microcomputers and video games. This concept already exists overseas, but not really in Europe.

Silicium experience and the enthusiasm we found in today's society motivate us to create a very original place, build on multimedia, interaction, fun and history. Today,

« Our great ambition ? Opening a museum. »

we can offer ready-to-run exhibitions that can be temporary or permanent.





EXPERTISE and projects

Through the years, Silicium has built knowledge on many subjects about microcomputing and video games.

More and more, we are called for expertise. That's a way for us to fund Silicium. Here are some of our services :

- Ready-to-run exhibitions , lending items, from a simple computer to complete exhibition.
 - Photos and texts,
 - Expertise,
 - Conferences.
- This list can be upgraded as long as we try to respond to every proposal.

We are restoring hardware, creating games and editing old ones.

We're publishing books like our Silicium Guides.

Recently : Videopac cartridge #61 or Vectrom for the Vectrex, Atari or Apple extensions... Imagination's the limit.

To accomplish these projects, members have access to our important inventory to get platforms, documents and every tools needed.

Stock

Managing the collection is our most important project for today. The moving of year 2007 took quite a long time and energy. It is a real opportunity for checking and indexing everything again. With more than 10,000 articles, we need a new organization for it. Oftenly, we're in search of hard to find artifact that we need for an exhibition project.

That's one of the reasons that motivates us for having a clean access to every item, without having to search for too long. With more than a 10 years experience

of searching, We're able to manage this uneasy task to simplify access and secure preservation.

The main organization is like the virtual one in the web site, it is all classified in brands, norms and themes. Items are sorted and stored when inventoried, following a 3-D geolocated method to have the easiest access available. All is in plastic containers and pallet.

Inventory will be continued in 2010.

The task is still a big job that requires a lot of time.

All of this would not have been possible without the facility that one of our member has offered to Silicium. We now run a 200 m² dedicated building along with more than 200 meters of shelving.

A test plant has been created, allowing service and photo shooting.

SILICIUM.ORG

Web site

Silicium.org web site is our permanent showcase. That's the place to be informed about Silicium dairy. A big work for making it up-to-date with many new features is now being accomplished and should be finished in 2013.

Forum

The cyber community is an essential part for sharing our passion. MySilicium forum is an important hub all who wish to meet members and hundreds of enthusiasts. It covers every aspect of Silicium's activity.



Join us !

We hope that this press book have show you a great part of Silicium actions and will to preserve old computers and video games. You surely have discover that anyone can participate in a way or another.

We'll be glad to share it with you. Never forget that Silicium is counting on you and offers a unique access to participate to today's big adventure.

Silicium schedule

Some events are recurrent. Here you will find some examples of our actions. That can be a good way to meet us.

For an accurate and up-to-date agenda check www.silicium.org/manifs.htm.

- **Quarterly meetings**

In Toulouse, we have regular meetings in order to manage all our projects.

- **Facility activities**

Through the year, our main activity is dedicated to our facility. That's where we manage and access the fund.

- **Cyberbecue Spring gathering**

Every spring, we organise a garden party at Silicium's facility. That's a good time for members and sponsors to meet and discuss about Silicium life and future.

- **Vieumikro**

The ancient convention in France, since 1996 is gathering many french enthusiasts. It's all about old computers and video games. It is usually planned in the beginning of October.

- **Scientilivre**

It's been six years since we first participate to this big event. This recurring commitment is another proof of Silicium's determination to be present and offer a good way to meet people.

Manifesto The detailed presentation of Silicium organization in 2013



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