PDS Policy on Use of Checksums

PDS Nodes will use MD5 checksums to ensure that all information (data and metadata) remain intact and unaltered while stored or being transferred. PDS nodes will maintain manifest files (in a PDS-specified common format[*]) that contain checksums for all files within their respective archive holdings. MD5 checksums will be provided for all transfers to, within, or from the PDS.

[*]The common format will be specified by the Engineering Node; the initial choice is the output format of md5deep.

2008-08-29: Approved 9-0-0 by Planetary Data System Management Council on e-mail vote