



Portland Art Museum

"Articheck is indispensable."

*Amanda Kohn, Associate Registrar
Portland Art Museum*

articheck⁺

Professional condition reports within minutes.

Museum Case Study

Get in touch so we can explore the business case for using Articheck:

info@articheck.com

+1(718) 312-8611

Articheck.com

Portland Art Museum



Annika Erikson in conversation with Amanda Kohn – Associate Registrar at the Portland Art Museum – discussing Artichек's digital condition reporting tool for exhibitions and loans.

Annika: It would be great if you could tell us more about PAM and the exhibitions team behind it.

Amanda: The Portland Art Museum, with a collection of 42,000 objects, is one of the leading cultural institutions in the Pacific Northwest. Our Collections Department consists of three registrars, one collections manager, one conservator and five preparators. Our exhibitions are varied, covering ancient to contemporary times; design exhibitions including architecture, cars, fashion, performance art and video installations. The number of lenders can vary greatly as well, from permanent collection exhibitions with no lenders to collector exhibitions that may include 75 lenders or more. Exhibitions can have one object to a few hundred.

“Everyone I’ve shared an Artichек report with has been impressed. I think the professional look can’t be denied.”

Articheck....

- Offers portability for work in situ
- Performs even in areas without wifi
- Acts as a guide to assist volunteers
- Creates professional, consistent, standardized reports
- Is like a passport for Art, as the report is 'stamped' at every point of movement, building a clear history of condition changes and providing a perfect audit trail
- Saves an average of 30 minutes per report, which equals a whole month of staff time for every 280 reports, or 1-5 more collection care projects per year, allowing you to achieve more with the same resources.

Annotation Symbols



Tape



Residue



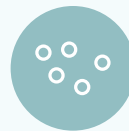
Dent



Puncture



Hinge Failure



Oxidising



Crease



Discolouration



Other



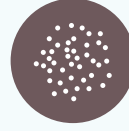
Bowing



Finger Marks



Loss



Condensation



Surface Dirt



Scuff



Handing Dents



Bar Marks



Cracking



Tear

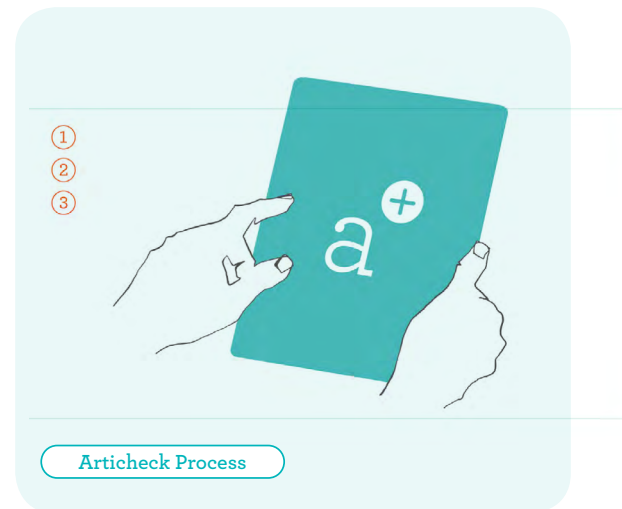
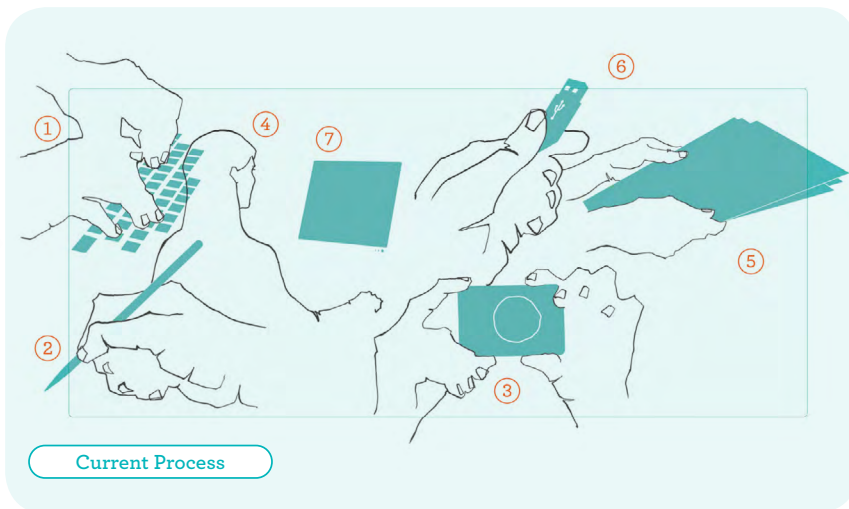


Stain



Scratch

Portland Art Museum



Not Just For Exhibitions and Loans

Annika Erikson: What do you use Articheck for?

Amanda: This year was the first time we've used Articheck. As a trial run, our head of collections agreed to a low-level subscription used strictly for exhibition loans. As I used Articheck more and more through the year, the other condition reporters in our department tried it out. We just got an unlimited plan to use for all condition reporting – incoming and outgoing loans, conservation reports, new acquisitions and exhibitions.

Annika: What is your Articheck workflow like? Do you import CSV details from your collections management system (CMS) onto the web portal first?

Amanda: So far, since I've been the only person in the department regularly using Articheck, we haven't explored importing CSV details from our CMS yet. In the next year, with the unlimited plan, we will be doing this as it's not uncommon for us to receive large gift groups and bequests. Articheck will save us a lot of time! Updates can be made as needed through the run of the exhibition. If I'm lucky and no incidents have happened to bring condition into question, then there is only the incoming report for each object.

"When I have had to make updates, it has been very easy. The exhibition-related reports are sometimes shared with lenders if they're interested."

Completing reports collaboratively on site

Annika: can you tell me about a specific project?

Amanda: A project that comes right to mind was Josh Kline. The exhibition consisted of 5 lenders and about 30 contemporary objects made from various media, including 3-D printed objects, TVs with lightbox frames, “Teletubby” mannequins, and plastic sculptures. There were no typical materials used and so many components for each object. Only one lender provided condition reports, so I was starting from scratch for most, and the artist was on site for the entirety of the installation handling the objects and directing our team.

Not only was it a complicated installation, but we were in the furthest gallery from my office – about a 10-minute walk. Either, I wouldn’t have marked photographs for the condition reports, or it would have taken me much more time to take new pictures, reprint and mark accordingly with each new object unpacked.



"What's great about having the condition report templates is that it reminds you what to look out for. I feel this has led to more consistently accurate reports. Not once have I missed out on taking a picture to include with the report. Having Artichек on an iPad with an excellent camera gives me no excuses to miss this important part of reporting. Everyone I've shared an Artichек report with has been impressed. I think the professional look of it can't be denied."

"Artichек was indispensable for this installation. Having the reports prepared before we began, I was able to switch between reports easily as the artist moved from crate to crate."

We'd love to see how Artichек can benefit your team. We're here to help you get started, drop us a line and let's start **Articheking!**

The screenshot displays the Artichек mobile application interface for a condition report. On the left is a sidebar with navigation icons and a plus sign. The main area shows a 'PAM Condition Report' for a red sculpture. It features an 'Overall image' and a grid of 'Detail images' (e.g., '1. side 1', '2. Paint loss', '3. damage ne...'). At the bottom right, a table summarizes the findings:

| TYPE | DAMAGE LEVEL | DATE | NOTES |
|------|--------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| A | Loss | 12 Apr 2016 | Paint loss. |
| B | Bubble | 12 Apr 2016 | 1" long bubble of paint. |

View, share and edit professional condition reports with the push of a button

A few of our happy clients:



'Saves time, is very easy to use, even for a mature non-technical person like me. The images are quite good quality, and it's very well presented. Simple, and adapted to our needs.'

Véronique Sorano-Stedman, Head conservator, Centre Pompidou

'When I imagined what a digital condition report tool should look like, this is pretty much exactly what I imagined'

Registrar, MOMA

'Articheck is efficient, simple, and fun!'

Conservation Tech, Massachusetts Historical Society

'Impressive to use. Easy. Fluid. Logical. Even on the first attempt it was quick and user friendly. You can see it was designed by a conservator.'

David Stevenson, Conservator at the Canadian Centre for Architecture

'I would be more than happy to accept Articheck condition reports. It's far better than many we see!'

Clare Dewey, AXA Insurance

'It's amazing how intuitive it is, and very detailed.'

I REALLY like it.'

Sarita Marcus, Paintings Conservator, Tel Aviv Museum of Modern Art

'I am reluctant to use the word, but I really do think this app will revolutionize how we do things in the museum world.'

Tommie Rodgers, Lauren Rogers Museum

'Articheck is a fantastic tool for fine art shippers. We love it.'

Clyde Kent, Gander & White Shipping