

## Actual state of the CeraMIS Database

Judit Zöldföldi

Universität Tübingen, Institut für Geowissenschaften, Wilhelmstr. 56, D-72074 Tübingen, Germany

[zoeldfoeldi@yahoo.de](mailto:zoeldfoeldi@yahoo.de)

CeraMIS, an internet-based, interdisciplinary database management system was developed for collecting analytical results of raw material used to make pottery (geological samples of clay and temper), but also pigments to make surface treatment. Additionally, the archaeological and archaeometrical properties of pottery artefacts can be described and store in the database. It is an innovation established in the framework of a German-Hungarian bilateral project on “*Long distance trade in Neolithic pottery*”.

The motivation of this database was that the general assumption is that the majority of Neolithic pottery, except for some high quality fineware has to be made of local material. However, in order to be able to conclude whether certain types of fineware were contemporaneously imported or not, one needs many archaeometric analysis and systemization of the acquired data.

The database management system contains two main components: (1) the SQL database and (2) the software “CeraMIS” that organizes the storage of data. Applying a logical, already traditional methodological procedure of provenance analysis on archaeological pottery, we collect results of archaeopetrological and archaeogeochemical investigations of the samples, like macroscopical, microscopical description, XRD, XRF, PGAA, INAA data, etc. It is also an important task to collect results on surface treatment (painting, slip, and other techniques) investigations e.g., by non-destructive, high-resolution methods (Raman,  $\mu$ -Raman,  $\mu$ -XRF, FTIR, single crystal XRD, etc.). One of the important features of the database is to make clear differences between analyses made on complete vessels, shards, the clay paste, temper and surface treatments.

To present the results of these complex investigations and make the information available to specialists involved in the field of research, we have developed a software solution based on client/server architecture. The client software “CeraMIS” connects the server via internet. The database can be queried by classical search methods. The system-design allows further amendments and extensions without data loss. It is updated and tailored according to the experience gathered during its use. The system functionalities, data structure and data content are regularly revised according to the requirements of the users and data providers.