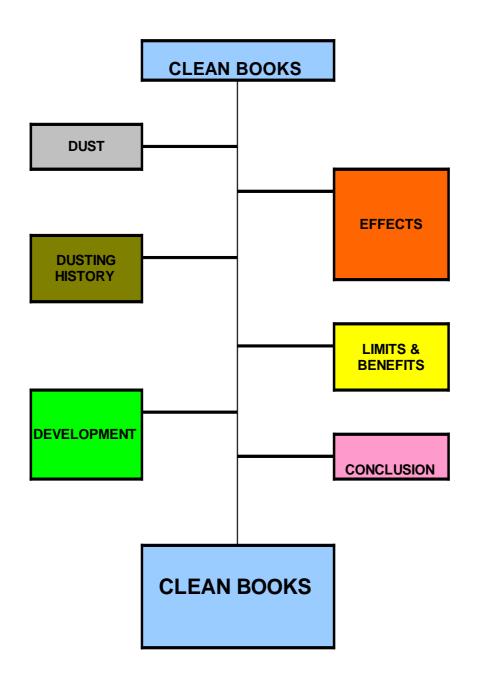
BRITISH LIBRARY CONFERENCE HOW CLEAN ARE YOUR BOOKS?





DUST

- **Dust** is within every item, solid, liquid or gas
- **Dust** is everywhere as it is produced by everything





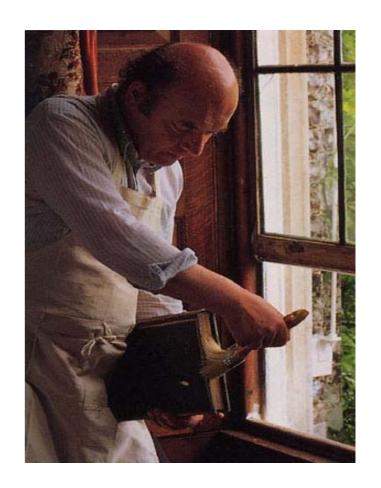
EFFECTS

Books:

Microbic spores present on dust may last for a long time determining book deterioration.

People Health:

In the last decades allergic illnesses have been increasing and this is due to air pollution and acarus. Librarians, who work with dusty books, are in a real health danger. The range of risks varies from lung cancer, heart attack, chronic asthma, depression, skin problems and so on...



DUSTING HISTORY

(Before 2002)

- Stocked collections should be regularly dusted.
- Cleaning staff should be properly protected with overalls, gloves and protective masks
- Dusting is often underestimated. It is inaccurately performed so that it results unuseful
- A correct dusting may be performed both manually or mechanically. Manual dusting should be performed on loose pages or on books which are seriously deteriorated
- Mechanical dusting requires the operator action as well, but it is faster

LIMITS & BENEFITS

- *How much a dusting could cost?*This is surely the most significant limit.
- Where do we put the dust removed from books?

Mostly within boxes aiming at dust suction, partly is spread out in the environment, and the remaining is inhalated.

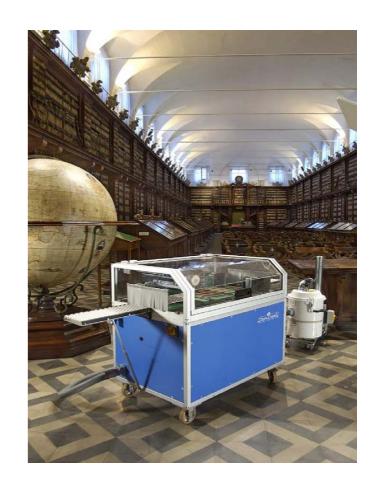
- Why then very often libraries, even of great dimension, do not undertake adequate maintenance strategies?
- 1. Lack of industrialized equipment
- 2. High manuality process
- 3. Difficulty to find qualified human resources
- 4. High Costs
- 5. Delegate to third (cleaning companies..)



DEVELOPMENT

(since 2002)

- Dusting should be considered a right prevention process that, with no pretension so solve all the problems, can efficiently cooperate with other direct/indirect measures, in order to brake our cultural inheritance degradation.
- Depulvera and L'aura are the answer of an industrial dusting system for libraries and archive



CONCLUSIONS

Oracle Srl has projected and carried out two machines to solve the problem of eliminating dust piled-up on books DEPULVERA and L'AURA.

Our technical peculiarity:

- **Brushes**: Horse-hair brushes to increase softness and dusting capability, avoiding catalisation risks
- **Book rotation**: It represents a real benefit to the user since it eliminates stress and fatigue
- **Book width**: a photocell reading system allows to determinate book dimension
- **Dust suction**: Hepa Filter; no dust dispersion
- Ordinary maintenance: very little and easy to be performed by the end-user