



Library Systems

An innovative overview of library automation

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"Copy Once, Access Always"

The Interlibrary Loan Service of the Library of Congress (LC) has adopted the motto "Copy Once, Access Always" for its new online interlibrary loan service. The program, which is still in its initial stage, fills interlibrary loan requests for small, fragile items by scanning the material and making the images available over the Internet. In the past, small items that were too fragile to circulate on interlibrary loan were photocopied. If the item was requested more than once, it was photocopied more than once. By scanning the material and linking the images to a bibliographic record on the Web, LC responds to the initial request, conserves the original item by eliminating the need for repeated photocopying, and makes the digital copy widely accessible.

In the initial stage, LC will scan titles in the public domain—noncirculating because of physical condition or age—able to be captured in a relatively small digital file, and it will provide a machine-readable cataloging record on the Web.

In preparation for digital delivery, an item is reviewed and treated by conservation staff as necessary, scanned and archived as a 300-dpi (dots per inch) TIFF image, converted to PDF format (a format that is easy to download and print from the Web), and stored as single-item files on a public accessible server. A link to the PDF file is also added to the bibliographic record on the Web.

The new service began mid-October with materials as diverse as a 19th century pamphlet on the Hawaiian reciprocity treaty, a Revolutionary War broadside, an item on freemasonry, and a small volume of African American dialect poems. Small items that meet the criteria set for the initial stage make up less than 1% of the items requested from LC each year and account for about 350 items. As LC gains experience, the percentage is expected to rise significantly.

LC has also announced it will no longer accept the multipart American Library Association interlibrary loan request form. All requests must now be submitted in electronic form. The decision anticipates the installation of an automated system for managing LC's interlibrary loan traffic.

Libraries that do not submit their requests through OCLC or RLIN should go to www.loc.gov/rr/loan and use the structured loan request form that is part of the Web site. Using this form does not require a library to have its own e-mail address, only that it has access to the Web.

Several other libraries are scanning materials requested on interlibrary loan. At least one plans to include copyrighted material and pay royalties as required so the program can encompass a broad range of materials. ■

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From the Publisher

Yes, you are reading Library Systems Newsletter and yes, it's still authored by respected industry consultant Richard Boss. The new design, however, is intended to be more visually pleasing and ultimately more useful to today's reader. Graphic elements and color have been added to allow clear definition of subjects and news categories. Our goal is to provide a lively read that more closely compliments Boss' editorial style. Please tell us what you think. Send your comments to mwuensch@ala.org, nwaller@ala.org, or DickBoss@erols.com. ■



Dublin Core Metadata Standard Balloting Completed

The National Information Standard Organization (NISO) has completed the balloting on draft standard ANSI/NISO Z39.85-200x and is reviewing comments received during the ballot period.

The Dublin Core Metadata Initiative began in 1995 with an invitational workshop. The initial effort produced a small set of descriptors for identifying information in electronic form regardless of the sponsor or subject area, a number that has grown to 15 in the draft standard. The 15 are title, creator, subject, description, publisher, contributor, date, type, format, identifier, source, language, relation, coverage, and rights.

Dublin Core would not displace other metadata standards and MARC cataloging, but would offer a simplified tool and would make more widely available resources for which there are no semantically rich descriptions.

Publication of Z39.85 is expected in the first half of 2001.

Contact: NISO
www.niso.org/Z3985.html

Gaylord's Polaris Scales to 400

Gaylord has announced that the Southern Oregon Libraries Information System (SOLIS) has accepted its Polaris system, a system supporting a database of 450,000 titles, 880,000 items, and more than 400 client workstations.

The acceptance confirms the ability of the company to scale and stabilize its NT-based system at a level substantially higher than that believed possible by many in the industry as recently as 18 months ago.

Contact: Gaylord Information Systems
 P.O. Box 4901
 Syracuse, NY 13221-4901
 tel. 800-272-3414
www.gaylord.com/automation

PEARSON HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERS WITH EBSCO

Pearson Education, the publisher of the Addison-Wesley, Allyn & Bacon, Benjamin Cummings, Longman, and Prentice-Hall imprints, has signed an agreement with Ebsco Information Services to develop customized online research collections providing access to content from selected academic journals and textbooks suitable for students and teachers in higher education.

The partnership will use ContentsSelect, an Ebsco software product that lets libraries organize and deliver content in specific sub-

ject areas. For Pearson Education, the initial areas will be psychology, education, sociology, information management, history, political science, medical sciences, economics and finance, marketing and management, chemistry, and biology. Access to the databases will be from password-protected Pearson Web sites.

Contact: Pearson Education
 tel. 201-236-6541
www.pearsoned.com

EOS International Relocates

Although this newsletter has previously announced the relocation of EOS International, here it is again because delays in forwarding are particularly serious when

RFPs are involved. The new address is One Carlsbad Research Center, Carlsbad, CA 92008-7258. The telephone number and Web address remain unchanged.

Contact: EOS International
 tel. 800-876-5484
www.eosintl.com

DIGITAL COPYRIGHT RULE POSTED

The Librarian of Congress has approved the posting of a rule stating that only two types of digitized works are exempt from the two-year-old Digital Millennium Copyright Act's prohibition against cracking access codes designed to protect movies, software, books, and other digitally recorded material from illegal uses. The Act went into effect October 1998, but the Library of Congress was asked to examine the prohibition and to determine whether there should be any exemptions to ensure the rights of users were not diminished.

The two classes that have been exempted are:

- Literary works and lists of Web sites blocked by filtering software
- Computer programs and databases that are protected by malfunctioning, damaged, or obsolete access controls

Only materials in these classes can be legally accessed by circumventing the access control.

ALA is one of several organizations that has argued that fair use should apply to electronic publications as well as to printed ones. The next Congress will likely pursue this issue. ■

Geac Reports Second Quarter Loss

Geac Computer Corp. Ltd. reported a loss for the second quarter of its fiscal year, which ended Oct. 31, 2000. Although its revenue declined from \$237.1 million to \$203.8 million for the same quarter a year ago, the greater concern is an increase in net loss to \$56.5 million from \$19.7 million for the same quarter a year ago.

No data is available for the Library Division, but it appears to be in a stronger position than the company as a whole.

Geac is looking at many strategic alternatives to enhance shareholder value that may include refinancing short-term debt, curtailing major acquisition activity, and trimming costs. There has been no visible activity with regard to the sale of the company or any of its divisions.

Contact: Geac Computers Corp., Inc.

tel. 800-825-2574
fax: 800-759-0126
www.geac.com

Ex Libris Adds Prestige Accounts

ExLibris, a relatively recent entrant in the U.S. market, has added the Harvard University Libraries to its customer list. The contract was signed mid-November and implementation planning has begun, but implementation is not scheduled until mid-2002.

ExLibris has also added one of the most prestigious research organizations in the world, the Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science. The contract entitles all Max Planck Institutes to connect to and use the central ALEPH 500 system at the organization's computer center in Goettingen, Germany. Fourteen of the 81 institutes will be included in the first phase of implementation in mid-2001. Each library will have its own database and system administration because they operate as autonomous units.

Contact: Ex Libris (USA) Inc.
tel. 877-527-1689 (toll free)
fax 773-404-5601
www.exlibris-usa.com

23rd National Online Meeting/IOLS 2001

The 23rd National Online Meeting and IOLS 2001 will be held in New York City May 15-17, 2001. The New York Hilton will once again be the venue.

Topics for the National Online Meeting will include medical information for the patient, digital library initiatives, intellectual property, voice recognition and synthesis, encryption, enhancing information retrieval, and virtual communities and portals.

The IOLS meeting will include the linking of systems, technology plans and RFPs, beyond Web browser interfaces to the OPAC, newer operating systems, integrating sounds and images, and serials automation. Registration information is available from Information Today, Inc. at www.infotoday.com.

Contact: Information Today, Inc.
tel. 609-654-6266
fax 609-654-4309



WEB & PRODUCT UPDATES

TLC Releases Library.Solution 2.1.1

Library.Solution 2.1.1, the latest release of the fast-growing TLC automated library system, focuses on enhanced cataloging features. In addition to an upgraded graphical user interface that has been streamlined to help catalogers make additions, modifications, and deletions with greater ease and accuracy, there is an improved statistics gathering function. The product can be tailored to a library's holdings structure so a collection code drop-down menu lists valid options for the library site to which items belong. The statistical package allows libraries to break down additions, changes, and deletions by branch. The release also supports the new numbering formats for MARC records to be implemented by the Library of Congress in January 2001.

The enhancement is free of charge to existing customers and will be included in all new purchases.

Contact: TLC
tel. 800-325-7759
www.TLCdelivers.com

DRA to Integrate netLibrary

DRA has signed an agreement with netLibrary, a leading provider of eBooks and Internet-based content management services, to integrate netLibrary eBooks into the acquisitions and patron access catalog modules of DRA's Classic and Taos automated library systems. The integration will enable librarians to select and acquire eBooks for their collections and library patrons will be able to search for eBooks purchased by their libraries. At the option of a library, patrons can request the purchase of an eBook not already in the library's collection.

Contact: DRA
tel. 800-234-0888
www.DRA.com

LibraryHQ.com Adds SiteSource Access

LibraryHQ.com, an information portal for library professionals, has extended access to SiteSource, a database of 20,000 cataloged Web sites selected and cataloged according to specific criteria by professional subject specialists and catalogers. The database is expected to grow at a rate of 1,000 Web sites per month. Access to the database requires an annual subscription.

MARCSite, a separate product available at LibraryHQ.com, enables libraries to download MARC records from SiteSource and integrate them into an online patron access catalog. Once integrated, Web sites will be included in the result sets of catalog searches.

Contact: www.LibraryHQ.com

iBistro Takes Off

Fourteen libraries have gone live with iBistro, Sirsi's Internet portal, since the product was introduced last summer. iBistro provides lists of the latest titles, best sellers, popular Web sites, library announcements, and links to library-selected databases. In addition, iBistro can enrich library catalog records with reviews, tables of contents, and book jacket images.

The libraries that have implemented iBistro represent a wide range of types and sizes, including Stanford University, Brigham Young University, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Chandler (AZ) Public Library, Hurst (TX) Public Library, and the U.S. Census Bureau.

Contact: Sirsi Corp.
101 Washington St. SE, Huntsville, AL 35801
tel. 256-256-7000
fax 256-704-7007
www.sirsi.com

EDIFACT / XML games

Recently a vendor refused to commit support for EDIFACT, the international standard for online ordering and claiming, during contract negotiation for an automated library system. It also refused to provide support for EDI x.12 because it claimed, correctly, that the standard had been superseded by EDIFACT. The reason given for not supporting the new standard was that XML might replace EDIFACT. Meanwhile, the library would not be able to send orders and claims online for the years it might take for XML to establish itself.

XML is an evolving technology that still has serious shortcomings. For one thing, it has become splintered, forcing users to convert documents between different vendors. There is a cost for this XML-to-XML document conversion. Perigrine Systems, a serv-

ice that converts electronic documents among formats, including EDIFACT and XML, estimates that only 5% of business-to-business transactions are done in XML. In the publishing industry, the percentage may be as low as 2%. When XML matures it will be more widely used, but it could be a wrapper for the EDIFACT format already in use.

Libraries preparing RFPs should require a vendor to support online ordering and claiming per EDIFACT, the current standard, and to provide migration to XML or EDIFACT in XML when EDIFACT ceases to be supported by major book jobbers and serials subscription agencies. The migration should be funded by the software maintenance and enhancement program to which the library subscribes, rather than separately priced. ■

MICROSOFT OPENS NEXT ROUND IN ANTITRUST CASE

Microsoft has submitted a 150-page brief to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Washington D.C. attacking U.S. District Court Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson, the judge who rendered judgment in the case—a judgment that Jackson stayed pending an appeal. The brief says Jackson misinterpreted the law and proceeded improperly with the case. The brief went beyond the decision to attack the judge for granting media interviews about his decision. This, argued the brief, demonstrated antagonism toward the company and violated judicial codes of conduct.

The government must file its own brief by Jan. 12, 2001. Hearings in the appeals court are set for Feb. 26 and 27. The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has previously ruled in Microsoft's favor in the case, overturning Jackson's 1998 injunction that required Microsoft to ship a version of windows without the Internet Explorer Web browser.

Microsoft must be confident about the outcome of the case because the recently released Windows Me, the successor to Windows 98, bundles Media Player and Movie Maker applications with Windows at no additional cost. Both of these applications compete with those of companies that provide multimedia players and

video-editing software. It is extremely difficult to remove these applications and many others.

Company information says a product called 98Lite Me, is designed to uninstall unwanted applications to gain valuable disk space and snappier performance. By inserting an unwanted program into the Add/Remove Programs control panel of 98Lite.ME, users can remove them without harm to other programs. If necessary, they can be reinstalled from the original Windows Me setup files at a later time. The product, which is available from the developer's Web site, is priced at \$25.

Contact: www.98lite.net/products.html



ICANN Board adds seven Internet domains

The organization charged with managing the Internet domain name system has approved the addition of seven new top-level domains: .biz, .info, .name, .pro, .museum, .aero, and .coop. The first, .biz, is expected to be the chief alternative to .com for corporate Web sites. The .pro name is intended for doctors and lawyers. Although .aero and .museum are self explanatory, .info, .name, and .coop may be defined by the actual pattern of registrations.

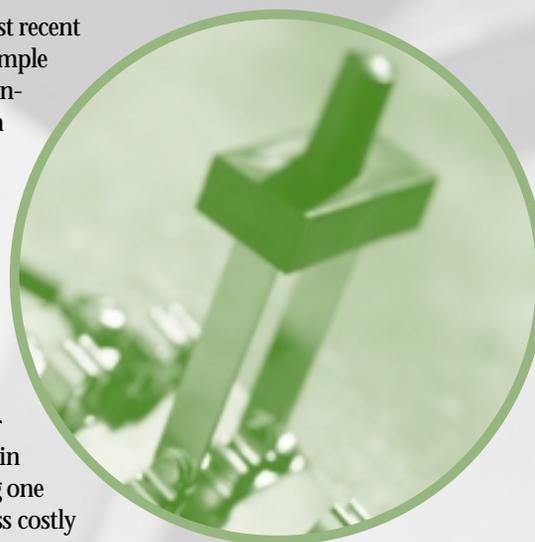
A frequently proposed name was rejected: .kids. ICANN was concerned that the name might imply some guarantees about the content of Web sites that would be registered as .kids.

ICANN's plan is to introduce more domains in the years ahead. More than 200 proposals have been submitted. ■

Frame Relay Costs Revisited

How much should a library budget for frame relay service? The most recent query came from a consortium. Unfortunately, the answer is not simple because rates vary a great deal from area to area and for varying contract periods. For example, a consortium covering several counties in a Midwestern state was quoted \$2,140 per month for a five-year contract; a similar consortium in a western state was quoted \$3,164 per month, but the prices were almost exactly the same at \$2,494 and \$2,511 for a three-year contract.

To get the best price, request quotes from multiple carriers and for multiple contract periods. Also, analyze the need to determine whether something less than full T-1 will meet the needs. Save money by hubbing locations in the local calling area before sending the data over the long-distance frame network. For example, if your headquarters is in one local calling area and eight remote sites are in another, connecting the eight sites into one network and only buying one long-distance frame link between the local calling areas is likely less costly than other setups. ■



Sun and IBM give wireless a boost

Wireless technology is still in its infancy, but two major server manufacturers are giving it a boost by developing products and purchasing wireless companies. Sun plans to launch a line of servers targeted at the wireless market and is pumping \$100 million into wireless start-up companies. IBM has launched a new version of its

WebSphere Everyplace middleware to help companies connect wireless devices to Web content and has introduced a server that

uses the company's copper-chip technology to support wireless applications.

IBM estimates the wireless market will reach maturity within three years and is laying the groundwork now for what may be a \$50-billion-a-year industry by the middle of the decade.

Although the present time may not yet be the time for the cautious to invest in wireless technology for their organizations, the technology is one that warrants watching. ■

Intel

Intel's Pentium 4 a mixed bag

Despite impressive clock speeds of 1.4 and 1.5 GHz, the Pentium 4 processors recently introduced by Intel are not substantially faster than the Pentium III generation. The main advantages of the machines using the Pentium 4 chips are a 400 MHz system bus to move information within the system more quickly and four USB ports instead of the two found on previous systems.

The Pentium 4 also reduces the number of instructions needed to complete a task by expanding the built-in set of Streaming SIMD Extensions, thus speeding speech recognition, video compression, encryption, image processing, financial calculations, and graphics processing. However, these instructions have to be supported by individual programs, so their effect will not be seen until the next round of software upgrades.

As to the greater clock speed, a test conducted by PC Magazine using Business Winstone 2001 resulted in a score for the 1.5 GHz desktops only 5% higher than the scores for the 1.0 GHz Pentium III desktops. ■

IBM

IBM's NetVista X40 All-in-One takes back the desktop

Most people keep their CPUs on the floor and their monitors on arms that raise them off the desktop. You must bend down to insert or remove diskettes and look up to see the monitor. A more attractive solution is available, albeit at higher cost than usually paid for a PC, with IBM's NetVista X40 All-in-One. It is a 667 MHz Pentium III with 64 MB SDRAM, 20.4 GB hard drive, CD-ROM drive, and integrated Fast Ethernet stuffed into the back of a 14-inch flat-panel monitor. All the user sees are the keyboard and monitor. The monitor is bright and crisp, offering a 1,024-by-768-pixel display.

The list price is \$2,099, but a little shopping around brings it in for under \$2,000, including Windows 98 SE and Lotus SmartSuite Millennium. ■

SuperDrive not widely used

The article "A Look at Desktop Storage Options" in the November 2000 Library Systems Newsletter did not include the LS-120 SuperDrive because it is not widely used and can be unreliable.

The LS-120 SuperDrive, a product of Imation that uses a superdisk (a 3.5-inch diskette that holds up to 120 MB of information) and also accepts the older 1.44 MB 3.5-inch diskette.

A check of computer stores in the Washington, D.C., area revealed not only that the Zip Drive outsells the SuperDrive by a wide margin, but the return rate of the SuperDrive is the highest of any optional PC component. Advertising probably accounts for the difference in popularity between the two, but the technology of the SuperDrive is the key to the higher failure rate.

Diskettes are flexible. Any storage medium that is flexible will, when it flexes, break the bond that holds magnetic particles to the medium. The more it flexes, the more magnetic particles flake off, along with the data. The storage density on the SuperDisk amplifies the effects of the flexing. Although the idea of the multicapable SuperDrive is appealing, reliability is more important. ■

Bell & Howell Reinvents Itself

Bell & Howell, a major provider of micrographics and imaging products and services for libraries and archives, is going to focus on Information Learning and Publications Services, its most promising division, and divest itself of its traditional products and services. It has sold its micrographics and imaging business to Kodak Document Imaging for \$150 million. Kodak not only gets Bell & Howell's products, but also its service business and the right to use the name Bell & Howell—the last for only 18 months. The deal also transferred the rights to reader/printers supplied to Bell & Howell by Minolta.

Bell & Howell will live on under the name ProQuest. ■



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