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Editor
PROJECT “EDILIBE”

A cooperative project has been launched in EDIFACT (Electronic Data Interchange Format for Administration, Commerce, and Transport) between libraries and booksellers in Europe. Libraries and booksellers in Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and United Kingdom have formed a consortium for the first phase of the project. The booksellers involved are B. H. Blackwell Ltd. (UK), Casalini Libri s.p.a. (IT), Otto Harrassowitz Buchhandlung and Antiquariat (FRG) and Starkmann Library Services Ltd. (UK). The participating libraries are Stadt und Universitätsbibliothek Frankfurt am Main (FRG), Bibliotheek der Rijksuniversiteit te Groningen (NL) and John Rylands University Library Manchester (UK).

Based on the experiences of a similar German project, the participants will promote the standardization process in their field using independent data formats and communication procedures. The purpose therefore, is to examine the feasibility for using EDIFACT as a data format and X.400 as a communication procedure. Those “key elements” are part of the “OSI-World” (Open Systems Interconnection) and not linked to any special hardware or software of single companies.

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