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What electronic forms of the catalog are currently available?

The Elsevier Catalog is available:

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How is the catalog structured?

Our catalogs are consistently arranged according to broad subject headings (what we call SuperAreas) and are then divided up into smaller subject disciplines within that category. For example, Engineering is presented as a "SuperArea" with sub-headings of civil engineering, structural engineering, electrical engineering and so forth.

How can I locate the information that I want in the catalogs?

Once you've selected an appropriate "SuperArea" of interest, the catalogs offer you a further breakdown according to subject type (journal, reference work, book, etc) or subject discipline. And, of course, it is possible to search for items within the SuperArea.

Are the catalogs searchable across these "SuperAreas"?

Users can search for any of our more than 12,000 publications either within a specific subject discipline or across the entire breadth of our catalogs. All three of the electronic catalogs provide a search engine appropriate to the specific environment (Web, gopher, or CD-ROM).

How do the three differ?

The search engines differ chiefly according to what can be made available as search parameters. The CD-ROM search facility permits very specific searches — it is possible to search the full record, by title, author/editor, publication years, ISBN or ISSN and even to locate keywords within tables of contents. In the online environment, our Web and gopher search engines are most successful if searched according to title, author and ISBN or ISSN.

Are there other navigational tools?

Navigation on our Web site naturally involves hypertext links but we also provide icons on each page of the catalog that will guide users to the information sought. For example, the icon of the Elsevier Tree returns the user to the Elsevier home page. The circular hot button returns the user to the main subject menu within a specific discipline. The up arrow returns to the previous level within a specific discipline (even if access to the original page was via the search feature) and not surprisingly, our magnifying glass icon takes users to our search screen. Help facilities can always be found by clicking on the question mark icon.

These same icons are part of our CD-ROM catalog which uses the Elsevier Science Active Library software. Anyone familiar with the CD-ROM catalog will experience no difficulty with the Web site.

Of course, the catalog accessible via gopher (gopher.elsevier.nl) has no icons but the hierarchical menus are clear and concise.

When are your electronic catalogs updated?

The CD-ROM catalog is produced annually in the fall and mailed to institutional customers as well as individual users upon request. As an annual publication, there are no interim updates provided for the CD-ROM.

The Web and gopher catalogs receive frequent updates. In the case of the Web, we post the date of the last update at the foot of the initial catalog screen. The gopher catalog is updated at the same time.

What other electronic resources has Elsevier Science made publicly available?

A new feature of our Home Page is the Elsevier Science Table of Contents service which offers tables of contents for all current issues to all 1100 journal titles published by Elsevier Science. Plans are to build an archive of the Tables of Contents as well.

The Elsevier Science Home Page (http://www.elsevier.nl/) is updated with new resources on a regular basis. One can obtain information about the TULIP experiment and read the TULIP newsletters online. Information about our participation in the University of Michigan Digital Library Project is also featured. And users can access current awareness services through the home page.

Who is the appropriate contact for further information about the Internet Catalog or to request a CD-ROM version of the catalog?

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The introduction of Elsevier Electronic Subscriptions (EES) represents an important step in Elsevier Science's commitment to assembling electronic primary information for the digital library. Following the experimental TULIP Project and the commercial availability of CAPCAS, EES is the next in a series of steps toward providing information for electronic libraries.

Elsevier Science is committed to working with customers in a highly interactive mode to define products and services for the electronic library and move journals to the desktop. Projects that have been initiated in the past, like TULIP and CAPCAS, have evolved around delivering information in open standards format to enable customers to provide for:

- flexibility in the way information is presented and used;
- safety of investments with regard to electronic infrastructure;
- possibilities for shaping solutions interactively with users.

An Important Step Forward...

Launched in early 1995 on a pilot basis with a limited number of institutions, EES is a licensing program which offers electronic versions of the entire range of Elsevier's paper journals — over 1100 journal titles totaling more than 1.5 million journal pages annually. The sheer volume available from Elsevier Science in electronic format is unprecedented in the scientific publishing industry.

EES enables customers to start developing a baseline system which provides sufficient functionality and content to form the foundation of a truly electronic library. This program represents an important step in the logical transformation of the fundamental ways in which information is acquired, used and shared within the scientific research community.

The major benefits of the EES program are the possibilities and level of flexibility it offers. Requirements can be defined or redefined through the program implementation and products adapted accordingly to better serve the requirements of end-users, information specialists and librarians.

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Availability...

This new subscription service, initially available on a pilot program basis, offers libraries electronic versions of Elsevier Science's traditional research and professional journals. The electronic editions are available either in addition to or in lieu of paper journals. Journals under the imprints of Elsevier, Pergamon, North-Holland and Butterworth-Heinemann are available under EES and will include not only full-length scientific articles but all editorial material including product reviews, correspondence, editorial notes, etc.

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Initially EES is delivered to pilot program participants on magnetic tape or CD-ROM, either weekly or bi-weekly depending upon a customized journal list profile of the customer.

EES in the Libraries...

EES is intended to be implemented with either a library's own or third-party software. For example, librarians may choose OCLC's SiteSearch® system, which allows building, maintaining and searching databases locally, and OCLC's Guidon® graphical user interface. Elsevier Science is also in negotiation with other technology providers to be able to offer users a broad scope of possibilities to implement EES, based on individual needs.

The technology basis for EES is a genuinely open architecture, in which content adheres to open standards making it inherently possible to use the information in any system that also adheres to these open standards. In this way libraries have the flexibility to build their electronic journal infrastructure on the basis of this service and then extend and modify it in the future.

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tured ASCII file created by applying an OCR (optical character recognition) process on the page image. This format is similar to the one used in TULIP, the experiment in full-text electronic journals undertaken by Elsevier Science and nine major research universities that began in 1991.

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EES AND OTHER ELSEVIER ELECTRONIC PROJECTS ...
EES is the broadest of several Elsevier Science projects based on the implementation of bitmapped page images and SGML-tagged bibliographic header information. Most notable among these are TULIP and CAPCAS, and EES builds upon the expertise gained through both of these endeavors. The technology used in EES is consistent with that being employed in a number of electronic full-text delivery endeavors, on both a commercial and test-pilot basis, currently offered by leaders in the scientific publishing industry.

At the same time, Elsevier Science is installing systems to ensure the possibility of delivering full text SGML-tagged and PDF or PostScript files on a broad scale in the future. Several projects already available use this technology to electronically deliver single journals in specific scientific areas. Further information about these programs is available from the contact name listed below.

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