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Innovations Affecting Us/ Software AG

Judy Luther
The Faxon Company

Doina Farkas
University of Florida

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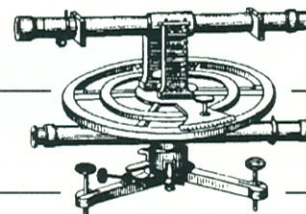
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Innovations Affecting Us

Column Editor: **Judy Luther** (The Faxon Company) and
Doina Farkas (University of Florida)



Beginning with this column, we are pleased to announce that Doina Farkas, Head of Acquisitions at the University of Florida, will be a co-editor. She had expressed interest in the new integrated library system called Tapestry, which will be available the end of 1992. Judy called Jim Kopp, the project leader of Tapestry at Software AG, to learn more about it. Jim was previously systems librarian and acting Assistant Director for Technical Services at Washington State University.

Software AG is an internationally known company founded in 1969 in Germany to create and market standard software products. During the 1970s and 1980s, they introduced leading edge products used in system design. Some of their large clients include Delta and MCI. In 1990, they created an Industry Solutions Group focused on three markets — health care, higher education, and state and local government. Tapestry is the development project for libraries and weaves together components developed at different libraries.

The initial phase of Tapestry includes the online catalog and authority control developed at the University of

Texas at Austin, circulation from the University of Missouri, serials control from Washington State University, and acquisitions from the National Library of New Zealand. Brown University and Washington State University are serving as beta sites.

All development work has been done using Software AG's technology: NATURAL for the application development environment (programming language), ADABAS as the database manager, PREDICT as the data dictionary, and TRS for the powerful search engine.

In keeping with international standards, Tapestry adheres to MARC, AACR2, and Z39.58. In addition, Software AG of North America belongs to NISO and is committed to implementing EDI and Z39.50.

Key features of the software design are greater functionality and flexibility to adapt the system to local requirements. The software runs on an IBM currently, but is highly portable and will be adapted to run in a Unix environment within two years. Links to other systems on campus enable the library to share information with administra-

tive systems such as the name/address file and accounts payable. A powerful search engine operates on the MARC record and provides full text retrieval capability for searching abstracts and indexing databases and full text databases. The acquisitions module supports multi-level fund accounting and enables the user to produce a variety of customized reports.

Members of the Advisory Board include: Joan Lippincott, Assistant Director of the Coalition for Networked Information, Maureen Pastine, Director of Central Libraries at Southern Methodist University, and John Ulmschneider, Assistant Director for Libraries and Systems at North Carolina State University. Phase Two of the Tapestry project schedule for 1993 will address other needs of library systems of the 1990s such as client/server applications, image processing, and decision support systems which enable libraries to download and manipulate data on a PC.

Software AG exhibits at ALA. For further information, contact Jim Kopp. Phone: 703-391-8354. Internet: kopp@wsuvm1.csc.edu.



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