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Innovations Affecting Us

SilverPlatter, NetPublisher, Pro CD, ColumbiaNet

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**** SilverPlatter Announces New Publishing Agreements****

• With Information Access Company

SilverPlatter Information has announced several new joint publishing agreements. They have contracted with **Information Access Company (IAC)** to publish **F&S Index Plus Text** and **Health Reference Center**. Both products will comply with SilverPlatter's ERL (Electronic Reference Library) Technology and will be available in both CD-ROM and hard disk format. Users will be able to access these databases using their choice of SilverPlatter's retrieval software for DOS, Windows, Macintosh, or UNIX. In addition, F&S Index Plus Text and Health Reference Center will also be accessible by other ERL retrieval clients developed by third-party vendors.

This partnership will allow SilverPlatter to publish other IAC databases in the near future, including **Expanded Academic Index** and **Business Index**, which will also comply with ERL Technology. **F&S Index Plus Text** is a comprehensive source for research on companies, products, markets, and industries, covering over 1,000 trade periodicals and general business journals with abstracts for most citations and full text from 180 titles. **Health Reference Center**, designed to meet a variety of health and medical information needs, provides index and abstract citations and full text from a broad range of periodicals, pamphlets, and medical reference books.

• With UMI

SilverPlatter has also entered a cooperative publishing agreement with UMI to publish five databases: **ABI/INFORM**, **Periodical Abstracts Research II Edition**, **Newspaper Abstracts**, **Dissertation Abstracts**, and **Pharmaceutical News Index**. **ABI/INFORM** offers comprehensive coverage of companies and products; business strategies and tactics; management tools and trends; case studies of successes and failures. It includes 25- to 200-word abstracts for articles published in over 1,000 business journals, including more than 350 published outside the United States. It comes with two options for coverage: 1971 to the present or 1985 to the present. A full-text version contains the complete text of selected articles from 550 major publications since 1991. **Periodical Abstracts Research II Edition** indexes more than 1,600 popular magazines, business periodicals, and academic publications covering 1986 to the present. A full-text version contains the complete text of selected articles from 300 major publications since 1992 and 1993. An additional 300 titles will be added in 1995. **Newspaper Abstracts** (27 Paper Edition) provides researchers with cover-to-cover access to articles appearing in the nation's leading newspapers. It includes complete bibliographic citations and concise abstracts covering international, national, regional, and local news, business and finance, editorials, commentaries, letters to the editor from prominent people, arts and leisure, special series and supplements, sports, and obituaries of eminent persons. It covers 1991 to the present. Backfiles covering material from 1989 to the present are also available.

Dissertation Abstracts provides access to original academic research from over 1,000 universities throughout the world, including most North American graduate schools and many European universities. Records include abstracts, authors, advisors, titles, institutions, degrees, dates, author-assigned subjects and descriptors, number of pages, and availability of information. Coverage is from 1981 to the present with an optional backfile dating back to 1961 also available. **Pharmaceutical News Index** contains bibliographic information and indexing for all articles published in 20 key U.S. and international pharmaceutical, health care, biotechnology, and medical device industry publications. It also includes citations to company and industry reports from **Thomson Financial Networks' Investext** database. Start dates of coverage range from 1974 to 1990. The UMI databases are available for hard disk storage and over the Internet, and are accessible using SilverPlatter's ERL Technology. **Dissertation Abstracts** and **Pharmaceutical News Index** are also available on SilverPlatter non-ERL platforms.

• With Congressional Quarterly

SilverPlatter also formed a publishing partnership with **Congressional Quarterly, Inc. (CQ)** which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. CQ is widely respected for its tradition of nonpartisan editorial excellence covering Congress and national issues. Among its many publications which contribute to this reputation is **The CQ Researcher**, a favorite research starting point for many librarians. This publishing agreement will permit SilverPlatter Information to make **The CQ Researcher's** current-events coverage available in electronic form.

The CQ Researcher is a good starting point for research on current, emerging, and often controversial, topics of the day, providing factual information on the subjects that have captured the nation's attention and are hotly debated around the country. An ideal research tool for both high school and college students, it presents many facets of opinion, provides important dates, details the latest developments and projections, explores the merits of opposite viewpoints, and provides sources for further research.

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The **CQ Researcher** often covers topics that are hard to pinpoint and for which it is hard to find accurate, up-to-date material. Now, **The CQ Researcher on CD-ROM** will give librarians and library researchers access to this information faster, easier, and more comprehensively than ever before. **The CQ Researcher on CD-ROM** will be updated quarterly and will run in both Windows and DOS environments.

• **With the H.W. Wilson Company**

SilverPlatter Information will publish **Biography Index** in cooperation with the H.W. Wilson Company. **Biography Index** is a comprehensive guide to biographical material which appears every year in more than 3,000 publications and in more than 1,900 current books of individual and collected biographies. It includes information about people from every field, every age group, and every nationality. This database covers books, autobiographies, memoirs, journals, diaries, letters, interviews, bibliographies, obituaries, fiction, drama, pictorial works, poetry, juvenile literature, and more. Updated quarterly, **Biography Index** includes over 150,000 records with coverage dating back to July, 1984.

**** Ameritech Library Services Announces NetPublisher ****

Ameritech Library Services recently introduced **NetPublisher**, a Microsoft Windows-based publishing tool for internal networks and the Internet. Available in early 1995, **NetPublisher** provides library staff with a system to make information widely available to patrons. **NetPublisher** is a World Wide Web, Gopher, and Z39.50 server that helps libraries catalog and organize resources of all media types including text, image, audio, video, and multimedia.

The system features point-and-click cataloging for information such as annual reports, product brochures, sales presentations, customer support, and other useful data. **John Kolman**, vice president of development, says "We developed **NetPublisher** to make it easy for staff to catalog and distribute many types of resources online. Our goal is to enable libraries to provide information on the Internet quickly and easily."

When a user stores or catalogs information with **NetPublisher**, the information only needs to be entered once. The server automatically formats resources for World Wide Web, Gopher and Z39.50. Patrons can easily access these files by using a World Wide Web client (such as Mosaic), Gopher, or Z39.50 client. Libraries can customize **NetPublisher** to utilize one, two, or three protocols.

"Patrons are more likely to use Mosaic or Gopher than a Z39.50 client; so we developed **NetPublisher** to support all three modes," said Kolman. "Until now, there hasn't been a simple, easy-to-use publishing tool for Gopher or Mosaic. Existing methods for publishing information on the Internet are extremely technical." Unlike other World Wide Web servers, **NetPublisher** eliminates the need to learn HTML (hypertext markup language) to deliver documents. A unique template feature lets users customize layouts by prompting them for headers, footers and other graphical information. **NetPublisher** then automatically delivers this information as an HTML page. An online **NetPublisher** demo can be viewed on World Wide Web via <http://netpub.notis.com>. **NetPublisher's** searchable information database can be fully integrated with OPACs (Ameritech Library

Services' or other vendor's systems). Additionally, it can stand alone as its own database.

**** Pro CD and OCLC Sign Online Agreement
for Phone America Telephone Directory ****

Pro CD, Inc., a publisher of telephone directories on CD-ROM, announced that it has signed an agreement to distribute its United States telephone directory information through the online services of Online Computer Library Center, Inc. (OCLC) under the name **Phone America**. **Phone America**, which contains telephone directory information for over 83 million business and residential listings, will be available through the **FirstSearch** and **EPIC** online services. **Phone America** joins over 50 other reference titles accessible through OCLC. The **FirstSearch** service provides libraries with easy online access to **Phone America** via subscription or per-search options. **EPIC** is a command interface system designed for the information professional. The **Phone America** telephone directory will become available through OCLC during the first quarter of 1995. The data will be updated on a quarterly basis. Each update represents a revision of approximately 25% of the listings in the database.

**** Columbia University Press and Columbia University
Join Forces to Create a "Digital Library" ****

John D. Moore, Director and President of Columbia University Press and **Elaine Sloan**, Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian at Columbia University co-signed a contract to create a "digital library" of online texts. The contract outlines a relationship in which the University's **Academic Information Systems (AcIS)**, headed by **Vace Kundakci**, Deputy Vice President, will develop and maintain electronic transmission capability for six reference titles owned and published by the Press.

The titles agreed upon in the contract are:

The Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia
The Concise Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia
The Columbia World of Quotations
The Columbia Granger's World of Poetry
The Columbia Chronicles of American Life 1910-1992
The Columbia Guide to Standard American Usage

According to **Peter Grenquist**, Chair of the American Association of University Presses, "this is a pioneering agreement between two major players in the scholarly world. It can prove to be a model for other university-centered strategic alliances." The Press's Reference Division, headed by **James Raimes**, created the titles, and is responsible for their content. **AcIS** is providing transmission capabilities for the titles on **Clio Plus**, the library information system of **ColumbiaNet**, an Internet information delivery system that will be available to Columbia University and to other institutions to which the Press sells the titles. **AcIS** will control user access and the downloading of texts and screens. **AcIS** will also incorporate updates and corrections provided by the Press. The contract represents a major commitment to and expansion of an electronic publishing relationship between the university and the Press that began in 1990 when **AcIS** provided online access and monthly updating of the **Concise Columbia Encyclopedia** on **ColumbiaNet**.