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Publisher's Profile I / The John Hopkins University Press

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Publisher's Profile I

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The Johns Hopkins University Press

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receipts, average price, average discount, number of outstanding orders, sorts by type of order or format, etc.). All one would have to do to get this data would be to look at the vendor file.

Fourth, the system would facilitate the tasks of housekeeping and documentation by having its extensive online profile replace paper files that list all the terms of business. Since the vendor file is accessible by anyone authorized to do so, it serves as the central and shared documen-

tation of the business terms. When the file is updated, immediate access to the updated information is provided.

Additionally, the system and the material received would also "talk" to each other. The material would, in effect, be smart enough to receive and pay for itself because it would have bar codes or diskettes, or some form of electronic information provided with it. As libraries access and pay for an increasing number of materials online, these electronic journals, databases, and files would tell the system when they are available and/or "received." Although automatic check-in is not predicted on having an extensive online ven-

dor profile, the existence of one would aid the matching of appropriate billing terms and invoice specifications.

Perhaps in this scenario libraries would also expand the definition of vendor to include access points and servers on networks and would profile them as well as to the kinds of files, subjects, and types of information that can be accessed/acquired and under what terms. The system would serve as the auditor of the proper use of or access to these electronic files, much like the systems that count number of searches, users, etc., and would ensure that payment is appropriate to the usage (or level

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