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Innovations Affecting Us

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Innovations Affecting Us

NetPublisher, HTML CD for Windows, Dataware Technologies, IBM Digital Library, Compaq and Microsoft

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NetPublisher Helps Libraries Extend Services

Ameritech Library Services announced positive customer feedback on their new Internet publishing tool, NetPublisher. NetPublisher is a Windows-based publishing tool for the Internet that supports HTTP, 239.50 and gopher search protocols. It can be used to deliver all types of information including text, image, audio, video, and multimedia on a local network or via the Internet. Two libraries, Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas and the Newberry Library in Chicago, are examples of sites that have already seen significant results in expanding patron access and enhancing community awareness with NetPublisher.

Southern Methodist University serves approximately 9,500 students with a "mini-consortium" library system holding about 1.3 million titles at a number of sites. The library selected NetPublisher both to protect its unique collections and to share them with the larger community via the Internet. SMU library staff use NetPublisher to incorporate photographs and artistic images along with material from Filmark Pro databases, text files and extracts from MARC records in their NOTIS LMS system.

A number of projects have been completed, including a new electronic collection entitled "To Delight the Eye." This project pulls together turn-of-the-century illustrations and text from 31 publications housed in the DeGolyer Library for Special Collections. Among other resources, the DeGolyer Library contains a large print collection of over 350,000 images that depict the development of the Southwest, including the effect of the locomotive on this expansion. These and other SMU collections can be viewed via http://images.library.smu.edu.

The Newberry Library, an independent research library concentrating in the humanities, selected NetPublisher to encourage use of the library's rich collections and to attract an ever expanding public into its doors. The Newberry Library holds world-renowned collections in history and literature of Western Europe, North and South America. The library offers seminars and other special events to educate the public about its collections.

So far, information on the NetPublisher server includes a general description of the library, including its history, a description of its collections and information about recent exhibits. NetPublisher also helps bring more people to the library. The World Wide Web pages (http://www.newberry.org) publicize upcoming events, exhibits, general interest programs and provide full seminar listings. Future plans include publishing image collections and full text, as well as providing a link to the OPAC.

Mary Wylly, Associate Librarian at The Newberry Library, says that by making bibliographies of library collections available on the Internet, NetPublisher enables researchers to save time. "It's a jumpstart for people whose time is precious," said Wylly. "Even though the library doors are shut at midnight, researchers can start their work on their own schedule. And, by laying out the ground-work ahead of time, visitors on site can use their research time more efficiently."

Ameritech Library Services offers librarians a 30-day free trial of NetPublisher. To register for the 30-day free trial, go to the NetPublisher Home Page at http://netpub.als.ameritech.com. Fill out the form for registration; and, within a few days, instructions will be e-mailed to you on how to download the NetPublisher software. For more information about NetPublisher, librarians can call 1-800-556-6847 or e-mail: academic@amlib.com. World Wide Web users can access a demo copy via: http://netpub.notis.com.

HTML CD for Windows

Prentice Hall PTR has published the HTML CD for Windows by Vivian Neou and Minni Recker. This CD is an Internet publishing toolkit for the Windows PC. It contains all of the software and information needed to turn a Windows PC into a World Wide Web publishing system. The book gives users a comprehensive introduction to HTML, design tips for building web pages, and marketing tips to promote web pages on the WWW. Filled with shareware and freeware, the CD-ROM contains four groups of software: HTML Editors — HoTMetaL, HTML Assistant, and Microsoft Internet Assistant for Word for Windows; an HTML toaster — containing image manipulation software, an image map editor, and an RTF to HTML converter; an HTML Document Treasure Chest — filled with home page templates, free web-compatible icons and clip art, order form templates and download links to 10 web browsers; and Server Software—WHTTP, a Windows Web server.

The CD-ROM also includes a special trial version of NetManage's Internet Chameleon and a trial version of NetManage's complete Internet software, including their WebSurfer browser. Users can download more than ten Windows Web browsers using Internet Chameleon and the Windows Web browser document included on the CD.

The toolkit lets users: learn how to create web documents with HTML with expert help; build interactive web sites with forms and other HTML features; use new HTML 3 and Netscape extensions to build cutting-edge web pages.

The CD-ROM requires an IBM PC or compatible computer running Microsoft Windows 3.1 or higher in enhanced mode, a 486/66 MHz or higher processor and 8 megabytes of RAM. Hard disk space requirements for each individual program included on the CD-ROM are provided on the CD.

Dataware Technologies, Inc. Unveils Expanded Internet Strategy

Dataware Technologies, Inc. has announced the key elements of its expanded Internet strategy, including the immediate shipment of its new NetAnswer products continued on page 36
Innovations Affecting Us
from page 34

and services targeted at Dataware’s key cus-
tomers—commercial publishers, corpora-
tions, government agencies, educational in-
stitutions, and professional firms.

Dataware’s strategy consists of six key
elements:
1. NetAnswer products and services for
commercial Internet publishing. Dataware
aims to offer a broad and growing set of
powerful software products and tailored ser-
tices to enable electronic publishers to man-
age and distribute their information any-
where in the world, through any viable elec-
tronic medium, including the Internet, CD-
ROM, online services, LANs, WANs, and
any combinations of these media.

2. Continued support for industry stan-
dards, both formal and de facto. NetAnswer
products support a wide range of important
Internet-related standards, including HTTP,
HTML 2.0, 3.0, and extensions; CGI 1.1
and above; and images in GIF, JPEG, and
PDF (Adobe Acrobat). The products are
compatible with browsers such as Netscape
and Spyglass, with free servers such as
NCSA and CERN, and with secure servers
such as Netscape Commerce Server and
Open Market Secure Web Server.

3. Solutions which will support custom-
ers’ mixed media strategies and which will
integrate into their existing computing envi-
rions. For example, NetAnswer can sup-
port mixed media delivery, such as combin-
ing Internet and CD-ROM in various ways
to meet the diverse needs of customers.
NetAnswer runs on a wide range of UNIX
and Microsoft NT server options, and sup-
ports standard or custom browsers on mul-
tiple platforms (including Windows, Win-
dows 95, Macintosh, and Motif).

4. Work with other leading industry or-
ganizations to offer a more complete solu-
tion to meet customer needs or to capitalize
on joint marketing opportunities.

5. Serve customers through multiple
channels of distribution, including direct
sales to existing and future information-pro-
viding customers, OEM sales to selected
customers who require imbedded Dataware
software components, and reseller arrange-
ments for certain geographic and vertical
market segments.

6. Increase the rate of investment in the
Internet marketplace, including expanded
product development, sales and marketing,
and administrative investments.

IBM Digital Library Makes
Information Easily Available
To Students in Florida

The Florida Center for Library Auto-
mation (FCLA) and IBM announced a
project that makes digital copies of more
than 100,000 journal articles available to
students and faculty online in its first year.
The organizations will add some 5,000 new
articles each month thereafter. More than
205,000 students and 9,000 faculty at 10
state universities — the University of
Florida, Florida State, Florida A & M,
Florida Atlantic, Florida International,
Florida Gulf Coast, and the Universities
of Central, North, South and West Florida
— will have immediate access to the infor-
mation.

Jim Corey, Director of the Florida Cen-
ter for Library Automation, says: "If you
look at how students use libraries now, they
go to the shelves, find the information they
want and photocopy it. We want to elimi-
nate that step, so they can push a button on
their computer and the article will be deliv-
ered to them electronically. Students will no
longer have to worry whether the library
was open or closed. The electronic library
will be open almost 24 hours."

The FCLA operates an integrated library
management system which supports the
online catalogs of all ten state universities
—a total of 50 library sites in 20 cities.
They had a vision of making information
available to students whenever, wherever,
and however they want it. The
IBM Digital Library offers
a technology solution that
stores and protects multi-
media information from all over
the world, maximizing the
value of copyright assets and
providing access to informa-
tion via either public or pri-
ivate networks.

Other institutions that have
adopted this solution include
the Vatican Library, the
Indiana School of Music,
Marist College, Case West-
ern Reserve University, the
Institute for Scientific In-
formation, DreamWorks Digi-
tal Animation Studio, Mul-
timedia Archive and Retrieval Systems
plc ("MARS") and EMI Music Publish-
ing.

The fastest, easiest way to get infor-
mation about IBM software is to go to the IBM
Software home page at http://www.soft-
ware.ibm.com. For more information about
the IBM Digital Library, go to http://
www.software.ibm.com/is/diglib/.

Compaq and Microsoft Help
Schools Move to Windows

Compaq Computer Corporation and
Microsoft Corporation have formed an ini-
tiative to bring together the world’s technol-
yogy leaders and educators to help expand
and enrich K-12 education. The initiative
provides educators with the resources they
need to learn about and choose solutions
that include Windows-based educational
software, Microsoft Windows operating sys-
tems and Compaq PCS and servers.

The initiative’s key programs are the
Windows School Connection and the Edu-
cation Application Server Evaluation Pro-
gram. The Windows School Connection, a
formal alliance of leading educational soft-
ware developers, is designed to provide edu-
cators with easy access to a wide choice of
top quality Windows-based educational
products and services. Eighty-one educa-
tional software developers have already
joined Compaq and Microsoft in the Win-
dows School Connection program to pro-
vide more than 1000 Windows-based edu-
cation applications.

The Education Application Server
Evaluation Program offers a no-risk, in-
school hardware and software trial evalua-
tion. Participating schools receive a Compaq
ProLiant server and three Compaq Deskpro
PCS running the Microsoft BackOffice fam-
ily of products, plus free installation and
technical support for a 90-day trial period.

Other components include a toll-free edu-
cation hotline for one-stop access to the
most current information on Windows-based
software applications designed for K-12; a
first-ever comprehensive directory of Win-
dows-based K-12 software arranged by grade
level, curriculum areas, and administrative
function. The directory includes phone num-
bbers for more information from each of the
Windows School Connection members.

The program includes hardware, soft-
ware, installation and technical support from
Compaq’s Certified Education Partners, a
group of skilled resellers who focus on the
education market. After a 90-day trial pe-
riod, educators can purchase any or all of
the products they have evaluated at special
prices, or return the products at no cost.

Information about Compaq’s education
programs is available at 1-800-88-TEACH or
via the Internet (http://www.com-
paq.com).