Profiles Encouraged:

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Geography: Born in the Naval Hospital in Bethesda, MD, then moved to Newport, RI, before settling in St. Petersburg, FL at the age of five. Discovered air conditioning in 1960 and grew up with daily doses of sunshine and fresh grapefruit. After two library degrees from FSU and 13 years in the academic world, moved to Atlanta as a convenient location for the SE. Completed an executive MBA at Emory University before relocating to Philadelphia. Now I have a closet full of coats and my very own snow shovel.

First library job: While in high school, I spent summers working at the Science Center in St. Pete where kids worked on projects. The first summer I was a volunteer, and then was paid the next two summers. I regularly ask what draws people to library work and believe that more than half of us decided on a career in libraries after working in them or spending time in them while working on graduate degrees.

Current position: Market and Business Development Consultant. After 25 years in the industry, half on the library side and half on the publisher/vendor side, I'm enjoying a bird's eye view of the industry.

Building blocks: While at Florida State, I worked in their film library booking educational films to be shipped all over the US. On leaving Tallahassee, I became Documents Librarian at Stetson University in Deland and then Library Director at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, FL. I was always presenting ideas and services for approval at Embry-Riddle as the school grew, so I went into sales with Faxon feeling that the skills would serve me well in management. The business path led me to Philadelphia and the Institute for Scientific Information until I left in the fall of 1996 to work as a consultant.

Adventures: Whitewater rafting in GA and the Guale in West VA. Most memorable trip was a week down the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. An Earthwatch trip in Idaho working with a research team led by a faculty member tracking mountain lions to their habitat, was a lot of fun. The four corners area of UT calls me back to canyon country every year.

Hobbies: Photography, hiking, gourmet vegetarian cooking, exploring the metaphysical realm including meditation and workshops on world religions.

Philosophy: We create our own reality.

Favorite quote: "Frontiers of any type, physical or mental, are but a challenge to our breed. Nothing can stop the thinking of men, not even man. If we will it, not only the wonders of space, but the very stars are ours." Quote from science fiction work I read in high school.

FullText Journals
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are presented in a variety of formats including HTML, PDF and Tex. Links to helper applications are available from the Link helper site with customer support provided by Springer.

The electronic editions will offer access to supplementary material such as color images, sound, video, datasets and software. An alerting service is planned for later this year. New issues will be matched against user interest profiles and users will be alerted via email when articles of potential interest have been added to the LINK server.

For a subset of Springer's life sciences and medical journals, hyperlinks from reference citations to Medline records in the NCBI PubMed database, have been added. Links from Chemical Abstracts are being developed to supply fulltext for their index.

SWETS
<http://www.swetsnet.com>

Launched in spring of 1997 with 600 journals, SWETS, has a goal of growing to 3500 journals by year end. SWETS is hosting some publishers' titles and providing gateway access to other publisher sites for electronic fulltext access.

Tables-of-contents (TOCs) for all fulltext titles in SWETS are browseable free of charge to anyone with Web access. Subscribers to the service can access both TOCs and authors which are searchable in HTML with fulltext displayed primarily in PDF. Links to publishers' homepages are available and links to journal holdings is a future development, using Z39.50 protocol by the end of 1997.

Every user on the system can establish a profile of subscribed journal titles and have the TOC of the most recent issue sent via email. Keyword searchable profiles will appear in a future release.

SWETSCAN, their TOC service of 13,000 journals, has been integrated into SWETSnet providing users broader search capabilities. Electronic document delivery may be available for users who need articles that appear in the index, for journals for which they don't have a subscription.

CONCLUSIONS

All providers are looking at ways to add value to their products, whether they are the publisher of the content or the aggregator offering enhanced access. Publishers are speaking about adding links for color images (not practical in print journals), multimedia and expanded Web sites with a community focus. Three of the four subscription agents offer an index to a broad number of journals, with document delivery complementing fulltext online.

Libraries will need to determine which approach will best suit their needs. In reviewing the possibilities, libraries may wish to consider the following questions, as they examine their options.

1) How easy to use is the search engine? Does it provide for a basic and advanced level of searching? Does it index the fulltext level or the header data (bibliographic and abstracts)?
2) Is there a way to narrow the search to those titles which are held by the library and does it indicate if the title is held in a print and/or electronic format? Is a link to library holdings important and how will that work for your institution?
3) Are you intending to replace your print with the electronic version and is archiving a consideration?
4) What is the match between the titles which are offered and those that would best fit the needs of your users?
5) Are you looking for a large index to many titles, with accompanying document delivery (horizontal solution) or increased access to selected fields with additional source material included (vertical solution)?
6) What provision has been made for security (IP addresses or passwords) and how does that fit your environment?

As with any rapidly developing field, the questions come faster than the answers and each library will want to evaluate their needs in terms of the ever-increasing options available to them. With the market evolving quickly, product life cycles are shrinking, as providers attempt to introduce new products for their users before the technology shifts. Libraries are challenged to select the option which will provide the greatest access for their users given the budget pressures they experience.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

George Machovec, Technical Coordinator at CARL, provides an excellent overview of the issues in the Electronic Journal Market <http://www.coalliance.org> including: pricing, security, page layout, copyright, backfile availability, and reliability of access to the data.

Charles W. Bailey Jr., the Assistant Dean for Systems at the University of Houston Libraries, maintains the Scholarly Electronic Publishing Bibliography on the Web which is updated frequently <http://info.lib.uh.edu/sep/sep.html>.

Ann Okerson, Associate University Librarian at Yale, is the Project Coordinator for Liblicense, a Website and online discussion group.

RECOGNITION

My thanks to the many people (you know who you are) who contributed to this article in such a timely fashion. Your help, in both asking and answering questions, is greatly appreciated.