Doc Aquis - Have You Heard?

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A column reporting on news and developments relating to acquisition and document delivery...

Doc Aquis — Have You Heard?

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If the number of new product developments, enhancements, and cooperative agreement announcements that we’ve received to date is any indication, 1998 is indeed going to be a good year for library users! Something that we’ve noticed is that many of these announcements have been in the area of document delivery via the World Wide Web. Since this is an area that is of interest to many, we thought that we would also “deliver” this news to you and let you know what we’ve heard...

We begin with news of a couple of announcements that involve the British Library, the national library of the United Kingdom. In February, CAS announced details of a cooperative service agreement in which document orders sent to CAS will be filled directly by CAS or by referral to the British Library Document Supply Centre, allowing users to draw upon an expanded collection of documents when they order through CAS. Users of CAS’ information services will be able to submit document orders in several ways. Interested? Check out the CAS Document Detective Service at http://www.cas.org/support/detect.html to find information about how to order documents from CAS.

Also announcing an agreement with the British Library for document service has been Dawson Information Quest Inc. With this agreement customers will be able to order journal articles via IQ, Dawson Information Quest’s Web-based search and retrieval service, and receive them within 24-48 hours via facsimile from the British Library Document Supply Centre. For more information about the British Library and the many services that it offers, visit their Web site at http://www.bl.uk.

Other news from Dawson IQ includes the announcement of agreements with Scandinavian University Press, Blackwell Publishing, and Cambridge University Press that will link their fullest electronic content to IQ. Also being negotiated is an agreement with Oxford University Press in making their electronic content available through IQ. Combined, these organizations will add approximately 270 new titles to IQ’s electronic content database. For more information on Dawson Information Quest, Inc. check out their Web site at http://www.informationquest.com.

We’ve heard quite a bit from EBSCO, including an announcement from EBSCO Document Services (EBSCOdex) of its newest customer option, EBSCO Mentor. This new service permits librarians to control user access to document ordering. Features include allowing administrators to load local title holdings and notify and/or block users from ordering those titles; providing immediate ordering to end-users; and allowing different user groups to have different permission and spending levels. EBSCO Mentor complements another new service, EBSCO Exness, which is now in testing. This service allows users to search a citation database and order documents for delivery. Both of these services are expected to be fully operational with the final stages of the Relais document management system currently being implemented at EBSCO Document Services’ offices. To get more information about EBSCO’s Document Services check out their Web site at http://www.ebscodoc.com.

And, for those seeking agricultural related research information, good news came with word that EBSCO has reached an agreement with the National Technical Information Service to make the AGRICOLA (Agricultural Online Access) Database available on EBSCO’s online service EBSCOHost. The entire database dating back to 1970 will be offered.

In our last column we mentioned several linking partnerships that ISI had announced. Those appear to have just been the beginning because more agreements have been announced in 1998! In January, ISI and Derwent Information announced a planned collaboration to create links between the ISI Web of Science and Derwent’s Patent Explorer. This means that an institutional subscriber to Patent Explorer will be able to link directly from the references or citations published with the patent record to the citation record and related records found in the ISI Web of Science. This effort is expected to be available in the first half of 1998.

Derwent Information covers journals, conferences and patents worldwide. For more information visit their Web site at http://www.derwent.co.uk.

A collaboration between Kluwer Academic Publishers (KAP) and ISI to develop links between Kluwer Online Web content and bibliographic information available in the ISI Web of Science has been announced. Kluwer Online provides Web access to the fulltexts of 116 journals in the fields of natural, applied and social sciences. The coverage will extend throughout the course of this year to all of Kluwer’s 400 journals ready for full commercialization in 1999. ISI also announced plans to release Discovery Agent, an alerting service that enables subscribers to create, manage, and edit their own personal profiles on the Web. It filters its profiles against the ISI Current Contents data, with alerts delivered weekly directly on the Web and also by email as an option. Users may access their personal portfolio Web page at any time to find the results from the six most recent weeks. In addition, librarians or other information professionals can create profiles for individuals in their organization and automatically email the results to the appropriate individual. A Web demo of Discovery Agent is available at http://alerting.isinet.com. Click on Discovery Agent and begin your tour. For more information about ISI or its products and services, visit their site at http://www.isinet.com.

News out of Dublin, Ohio is that Johns Hopkins University Press has agreed to make its Project Muse journals accessible to users of the OCLC FirstSearch Electronic Collections Online service. Beginning in 1998 users will have access to all 43 journals from Johns Hopkins University Press through Electronic Collections Online. This is the 24th publisher to sign on with Electronic Collections Online, which will offer users more than 1100 electronic journals. Included in the announcement was information that also in 1998 OCLC will begin linking the 65 databases from the OCLC FirstSearch service with the fulltext journals available on Electronic Collections Online, creating a fully integrated system for library users. For more information about Electronic Collections Online, including a list of available journals, visit the Web site at http://www.oclc.org/oclc/mnvr/ecop.htm.

Exciting news for UnCover users came when the UnCover Company announced in February the expansion of the UnCover S.O.S. (Single Order Source) service. With S.O.S. users will be able to order conference proceedings, patents and material from UnCover’s new in-house collections in addition to journal articles. This service will be especially helpful to those users who want to forward all document requests for fulfillment. For more information about the UnCover Company visit the Web site at http://uncover.carl.org.

WLN has announced that it will offer two products through the World Wide Web: WebLN and WebLN PAC. WebLN, a Web interface to the WLN database, will provide access to WLN’s 11 million MARC record database while WebLN PAC will provide customized Web PACs for individual library and library consortia bibliographic databases. For more information visit http://webln.com.

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