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Publisher Profile: PaperPath, Inc.

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Publisher Profile — PaperPath, Inc.

Edited by **John Long** (Consultant) <john-long@worldnet.att.net>

PaperPath, Inc. *streamlining the flow of information*
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Number of employees: 16

President: Julian H. Fisher, MD

Officers of the company: Julian H. Fisher, MD

Background: **Dr. Julian H. Fisher**, President and Founder, has worked for two decades in information systems development. A neurologist on the **Harvard Medical School** faculty since 1979 and Senior Associate in Neurology at **Harvard's Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center** in Boston since 1981, he developed the first CD-ROM medical textbook in 1987, for **Little, Brown & Co.**

Electronic Products: Advanced Web-based software to facilitate online review worldwide, including complete document tracking and management, online peer review and editorial decision-making and comprehensive workflow oversight and control. **PaperPath 2000 Editorial Suite** enables all participants in the editorial process, authors, reviewers, editors, editorial assistants and publishing staff, wherever they are located, to work locally or globally over the Internet on a shared database. The product utilizes two Web-based approaches technologically, with a simple browser interface for occasional users (authors, reviewers and advisory editors) and a unique marriage of Web and Windows technology (the new **Microsoft .NET** strategy) for power users (editorial staff and editors).

Key Developments: **PaperPath** has concluded an agreement with **British Broadcasting Corporation Technology, Ltd. (BBCT)** as a global application service provider (ASP) for **PaperPath 2000 Editorial Suite**. This service agreement offers end-to-end editorial management solutions for journals, societies, and small to mid-sized publishers who want to work over the Internet without maintaining Internet technology in-house.

Editor's Note: I think that all **ATG** readers are aware of how special our scholarly community is, and how we can sometimes get the opportunity to associate with awesome people who make our community unique. So it was a delight for me to actually meet **Dr. Fisher** on another occasion; and most important, to learn the salient features of his impressive company.

In closing, I wanted to ask **Dr. Fisher** to elucidate how the transition occurred from his work in neurology; to author of the first CD-ROM medical textbook for **Little, Brown & Co.**; to founding of **PaperPath, Inc.**

Here is Dr. Fisher's inspiring reply: As a physician, I was concerned about quality of care and errors in clinical care. When I lost both parents through medical malpractice, related to incorrect use of medical information, I decided to involve myself in new approaches to medical information for physicians and for patients. This led to my developing an online medical records system designed for group practices in the early 1980's (**PULSE**), the first CD-ROM textbook in medicine (1987) and the most widely distributed patient information kiosk system (**HealthTouch**) in the late 1980's and early 1990's in the nation, located in high-volume chain and small community pharmacies. A logical extension was to develop better ways for scholarly information to be evaluated and exchanged, with **PaperPath's** early versions appearing in 1996. As the desire for greater collaboration among researchers (authors, reviewers and editors) grew, we moved to take advantage of innovative technology, creating working communities of scholars — working together over the Web more cleverly and efficiently than they had been able to previously. Whether the area of interest is molecular biochemistry, archaeology or political science, the need to exchange information rapidly has grown from a wish to a requirement. That has been our interest in enhancing and further developing **PaperPath** — to speed the flow of information.

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named it after our very own **Charleston Conference!** That is so sweet!

Which reminds me of **Charleston 1997** when **Joe Farb**, then East-Coast Sales Manager for **Dixie Books**, after a few juleps threatened to name the two carp in his new garden pond **Errata** and **Ephemera**. Anyone know what became of **Joe**? Hello, **Joe**? You out there? Are those fish still alive?

Have you seen the new **ARL SPEC Kit #1234: Choosing Colors for Your Library?** It's not as simple as you think! You'll find a list of best practices, an outline of the theory of Color Management, a survey of colors used in all the best reading rooms past and present, a color wheel with everything from "asbestos white" to "spineless red," and an excellent bibliography. Don't start painting without it!

Speaking of legal news, the **Copyright & Libraries** newsletter just announced that it is suing **Danville Public Library** for

photocopying its January issue to distribute at a staff meeting. **Danville** claims fair-use, while **C&L** insists that it is definitely NOT aiming for a quick buck to keep its creditors at bay, and that the whole situation is definitely NOT ironic. "We have experts on staff," says the editor, "who know how to do this sort of thing. It's a test case." Hmmm...

And don't forget to read **Ned Kraft's** "Adventures in Librarianship" column somewhere toward the back of this issue. That guy is a hoot!