

RENOVA THIS

When we turn on the faucet, we expect water to flow. When we flip the power switch, we expect light. We want a house to work and to look good. This old house of on-line databases is getting a new look and, in some cases, a new foundation to make it more attractive and robust for 2006.

Much of the value of a renovation lies in respecting history while reinforcing the foundation to keep the house intact. Information providers are using state-of-the-art technologies to create digital historical back files and collections.

Publishers extending their back files this year included Oxford University Press, JSTOR, H.W. Wilson, ProQuest, Springer, and Wiley. IEEE plans to go back to Volume 1, Number 1, while Nature has digitized back to the 1960s. ProQuest continues to digitize a vast array of historical newspapers and paid obituaries. Wilson is adding to its Retrospective databases, and Paratext is adding OpenURL links to its 19th-century full texts. Full-text digital back files are fast becoming the expectation rather than the exception.

Others added to or introduced special historical collections. Rotunda, part of the University of Virginia Press, brought out several historical papers and letters collections. Alexander Street Press extended its historical collections in women's studies, African American history, and social theory, while Greenwood Electronic Media introduced the African American Experience multimedia collection, and Oxford University Press launched Oxford African American Studies Center and the Western Civilization and Literature Collections. There is even a database on antiques and collectibles (Antiques Reference Database) from p4A.com.

Massive book digitization projects promise to bring

millions of volumes online. Google Book Search will be matched by the European Commission's new plans to fund centers across the Continent to digitize at least six million books in four years. Both of these projects are proceeding despite controversies regarding copyright and digital rights management (DRM). Many in the general public erroneously believe that all information is already online—but massive digitization projects bring us a bit closer to making that perception reality, including the Open Content Alliance (see *LJ NetConnect*, Spring 2006, p. 2–6).

A sense of security

Several information companies feature homeland security collections. ProQuest introduced an online guide to Terrorism: An International Resource File to complement its Digital National Security Archive of U.S. foreign and military policy documents. CQ Homeland Security 2.0 reports on and analyzes news and primary materials related to the topic, including daily updates. Other homeland security database products include EBSCO's International Security & Counter-Terrorism Reference Center and Praeger's Security International.

Librarians, those in professional societies, and other publishers are working together in ambitious projects to protect digital assets. CLOCKSS (Controlled Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe) builds on LOCKSS (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe) to create a large archive of scholarly materials that will serve as a "fail-safe" repository in case of major business interruptions or abandoned content. The many libraries participating in LOCKSS each locally preserves its own digital collections, using robust technology created by major university and foundation developments. CLOCKSS uses the same technology but with just a few high-profile libraries and publishers including HighWire Press participating to secure digital resources on behalf of the broader scholarly community.

At the same time, librarians and publishers are working together on the Portico project, a permanent print-quality archive of electronic scholarly journals that would be available to libraries if a publisher ceases business, no longer supports a

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TING OLD HOUSE

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title, no longer offers back issues, or suffers a sustained technical failure. It began as the Electronic-Archiving Initiative by JSTOR and is funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Library of Congress, Ithaka, and JSTOR.

New windows to content

New ways to display search results help users get a better feel for what is inside their search results and give information systems a new, modern look from the outside. Several online services added clustering, concept maps, and other visualization tools to help searchers improve and better understand their search results.

Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) and FIZ Karlsruhe introduced STN AnaVist (analysis and visualization software) for the CAPlus and patent databases on STN. Results are displayed in spreadsheets and graphs. For several years, Xrefer has used interactive concept cluster maps to display connections among items retrieved in a search of reference books it sources. EBSCOhost offers the Grokker visualization software

vide links to full text on the proprietary systems. (Users must be affiliated with a library that subscribes to the collections or pay per view.) Most scholarly publishers in all topics (including such diverse content providers as JSTOR, IEEE, Thomson Gale, and Project MUSE) now work with Google to provide access to their collections. Yahoo! Search Subscriptions allows subscribers to Factiva, LexisNexis, IEEE, Thomson Gale, and other services to integrate their web searches with searches on these fee-based services.

OpenURL linking and link resolver software in libraries gives users quicker access to full text from library catalogs, indexes, and other online systems. While OpenURL linking is becoming old hat, there was some linking news this year. Google Scholar enabled OpenURL linking, OCLC bought the link resolver vendor Openly Informatics and plans to use its knowledge base to enhance WorldCat applications, and OCLC also developed the OCLC Alpha Global OpenURL Resolver Registry. OpenURL linking is not the only linking in the house, however—Thomson Scientific continues to

do direct linking agreements, and in 2005 it signed with American Chemical Society, JSTOR, and HighWire.

In some cases, renovation requires a total redo of the foundation. Thomson Gale's redesign includes a new interface and cross-searching

OLD CONTENT IN DEEP BACK FILES, PLUS NEW TOOLS, OPEN ACCESS, AND DIGITAL ARCHIVING CHARACTERIZE THE DATABASE INDUSTRY

to display results in a set of relatively sized topic circles. Factiva 2.0 uses bar graphs to represent the top industries, companies, and subjects in a search set. Although each of these systems displays its concept clusters in different ways, all of them go beyond traditional lists of results. Concept clusters can be selected and searches easily modified to provide a window to more content, inspiring users to go deeper into search results than the typical first screen of ten to 12 documents.

Another way to improve access is to let Yahoo!, Microsoft, Google, or Google Scholar crawl bibliographic data and pro-

vide links to full text on the proprietary systems. (Users must be affiliated with a library that subscribes to the collections or pay per view.) Most scholarly publishers in all topics (including such diverse content providers as JSTOR, IEEE, Thomson Gale, and Project MUSE) now work with Google to provide access to their collections. Yahoo! Search Subscriptions allows subscribers to Factiva, LexisNexis, IEEE, Thomson Gale, and other services to integrate their web searches with searches on these fee-based services.

Opening the doors

New products and new features in old products may cost more than most library budgets can bear. No wonder that open access continued to be a topic of conversation this year.

TABLE 1 FIRMS AND THEIR DATABASE SERVICES

ORGANIZATION	SIGNATURE PRODUCT	FIRM FOCUS	PRIMARY LIBRARY MARKET	NEW ACQUISITION OR PARTNERSHIP	DIRECT LINKS TO SOURCES
AARP	Ageline	Create and Add value	Academic	No	Some
ABC-CLIO	Historical Abstracts	Create	School	Yes	Some
American Chemical Society	Scientific Databases	Create and Add value	Special	No	All
American Council Learned Societies	History E-Book Project	Add value	Academic	Yes	All
American Psychiatric Association	DSM-IV-TR	Create and Add value	Academic	No	All
Answers	1-Click Answers	Create and Add value	NA	Yes	All
ARTstor	ARTstor Digital Library	Create and Add value	Academic	Yes	No
Berkeley Electronic Press	ResearchNow	Create	Academic	Yes	No response
BioOne	BioOne	Add value	Academic	Yes	All
Bowker	BooksInPrint.com	Create and Add value	Academic	Yes	No
Brill Academic	Encyclopaedia of Islam	Create	Academic	Yes	Under Consideration
CABI	CAB Abstracts	Create	Academic	No	Some
Cambridge Information Group	CSA Illumina	Create and Add value	Academic	Yes	Some
CISTI	CISTI Catalogue	Create and Add value	Academic	Yes	Some
Columbia University Press	Granger's World of Poetry	Create and Add value	Academic	No	Some
CQ	CQ Press Electronic Library	Create	Academic	No	Some
Walter de Gruyter	Atlas of North American English	Create	Academic	No	Some
ebrary	Academic Complete	Add value	Academic	Yes	All
EBSCO	Business Source	Create and Add value	Academic	Yes	Some
Experian	BizInfo	Create and Add value	Special	Yes	No
Factiva	Factiva.com	Add value	Special	Yes	All
Facts On File	American History Online	Create	School	Yes	Some
Facts On File News Service	Facts On File World News Digest	Create	Public	No	Some
Greenwood	Daily Life Online	Create	Public	No	All
HighWire Press	HighWire	Create and Add value	Academic	Yes	All
Idea Group	InfoSci-Online	Create and Add value	Academic	No	Under Consideration
IEEE	IEEE/IEEE Electronic Library	Create and Add value	Academic	Yes	No
infoUSA	ReferenceUSA	Create	Public	No	Some
Ingenta	IngentaConnect.com	Create and Add value	Academic	No	All
JSTOR	JSTOR Archive	Add value	Academic	Yes	No
LexisNexis	LexisNexis Academic	Add value	Academic	No	Some
McGraw-Hill	AccessScience.com	Create	Academic	Yes	Some
Marquis Who's Who	Who's Who on the Web	Create	Public	Yes	No
OECD	SourceOECD	Create and Add value	Academic	No	All
Oxford Online	Oxford English Dictionary	Create	Academic	No	Some
Project MUSE	Project MUSE	Create and Add value	Academic	Yes	All
ProQuest	Historical Newspapers	Create and Add value	Academic	Yes	Some
Readex	Archive of Americana	Create and Add value	Academic	No	All
Routledge	Europa World Plus	Create	Academic	Yes	Some
Salem Press	Magill's Survey of American Literature	Create	School	Yes	Yes
Scholastic Library Publishing	Grolier Online	Create and Add value	School	No	All
Snapdata International	Snapshots Series	Create	Special	No	All
Springer Science and Business	Springerlink	Create	Academic	Yes	All
Thomson Gale	InfoTrac	Create	Public	Yes	Some
Thomson West	Westlaw	Create and Add value	Special	Yes	All
H.W. Wilson	Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature	Create	Academic	Yes	Some
Xrefer	Xreferplus Ready-Reference	Add value	Academic	Yes	No

SOURCE: LJ Database Marketplace Survey 2006 NOTE: Organizations listed responded to a detailed survey

The Directory of Open Access Journals now lists about 2000 titles, and additional publishers are making some tentative steps in that direction by opening up archives including everything except the most recent six months.

In other developments, Thomson Scientific's Web Citation Index began indexing ProQuest's Digital Commons, an open access service for institutional repositories; Oxford University Press extended its Oxford Open initiative to additional journals and continues to gather information on the viability of open access economic models; and Springer created the position of director of open access specifically for open access advocate Jan Velterop, formerly of BioMed Central.

Despite these experiments, traditional licensing and subscription schemes remain the most common access methods.

Good tools help

New tools for online systems help information users succeed as they move the use of databases beyond search and retrieval.

Connotea from the Nature Publishing Group is a free social bookmarking service. A new version of DialogLINK makes it easier to search Dialog, plus it provides new functions for postprocessing of results into reports. Thomson Scientific continues to improve tools such as EndNote by adding a web-based version, and it introduced KnowledgeLINK, a resource center for librarians similar to librarian-focused sites offered by Factiva, Dialog, and others. Safari Tech Books Online allows professors to build their own textbooks with SafariU.

Both Thomson Scientific's Web of Knowledge and Elsevier's Scopus brought out new tools to get citation and bibliometric analysis to end users. Thomson's Analyze Tool lets users examine

PRIMARY SUBJECT	PERCENTAGE OF FULL-TEXT CONTENT	Z39.50 COMPATIBLE	MOST POPULAR PRICING OPTION	PERPETUAL RIGHTS	USAGE DATA PROVIDED
Social sciences	<25	Under Consideration	Flat subscription	Few	No
Social sciences	>75	Some	Concurrent	Few	All
Other science & technology	NA	Some	NA	NA	Most
Arts & humanities	>75	Under Consideration	Flat subscription	Few	NA
Life sciences	>75	NA	Potential users	Some	All
General	>75	No	Free	All	No
Multidisciplinary	NA	No	Flat subscription	Few	Under Consideration
Business	>75	No	Not ranked	Most	Under Consideration
Life sciences	>75	No	Potential users	Most	All
General	<25	Some	Flat subscription	Few	All
Arts & humanities	>75	All	Concurrent	Most	All
Life sciences	<25	Under Consideration	Concurrent	Few	some
Social sciences	<25	Some	Flat subscription	Most	All
Life sciences	<25	Some	Flat subscription	Few	Most
Social sciences	>75	Under Consideration	Flat subscription	Few	All
General	<75	NA	Potential users	Some	Most
Social sciences	>75	NA	Flat subscription	Few	some
Business	>75	All	Concurrent	Some	All
General	>51	All	Flat subscription	Few	All
Business	>75	Under Consideration	Flat subscription	Few	NA
News	>75	All	Flat subscription	Few	Most
Social sciences	>75	Under Consideration	Potential users	NA	NA
General	>51	No	Potential users	NA	NA
Social sciences	>75	Under Consideration	Concurrent	Few	All
Life sciences	>75	Under Consideration	Flat subscription	Some	All
Business	>75	Under Consideration	Potential users	Few	No
Other science & technology	>75	Under Consideration	Flat subscription	Few	All
Business	<25	All	Flat subscription	Few	All
Life sciences	>75	Under Consideration	Other	Some	All
Multidisciplinary	>75	No	Other	Few	All
News	>51	Some	Flat subscription	Some	Few
Other science & technology	>51	NA	Concurrent	Most	Under Consideration
General	<25	Under Consideration	Flat subscription	Few	Few
Business	>75	All	Flat subscription	Most	Some
Arts & humanities	>75	Some	Concurrent	Few	All
Multidisciplinary	>75	No	Flat subscription	Most	All
General	>75	Some	Potential users	Few	All
Arts & humanities	>75	Some	Other	Some	All
Social sciences	>75	Under Consideration	Concurrent	Few	All
Arts & humanities	>75	No	Flat subscription	NA	NA
General	>75	All	Other	Few	All
Business	NA	Under Consideration	Potential users	Few	Under Consideration
Life sciences	>75	No	Flat subscription	Most	All
General	>75	Some	Concurrent	Some	All
Law	>75	Some	Concurrent	Some	All
Multidisciplinary	>26	All	Concurrent	Some	All
General	>75	Under Consideration	Flat subscription	Few	Under Consideration

publication trends on specific topics, incorporating visualization and text-mining software techniques. Elsevier's Citation Tracker provides citation analysis for an author, date, article, or subject.

Other new tools include Questel*Orbit's redesigned patent management tool; Thomson Scientific's sciPROOF program to verify scientific spelling and formatting; and Infotrieve's Electronic Laboratory Notebook. Useful tools to assist librarians in their training or marketing efforts can now be seen in many places, including Emerald Librarian Toolkit and web training modules from CSA, LexisNexis, Thomson Scientific, D&B, Engineering Information Village 2, and others.

Information flows

If plumbing works correctly, water flows at your chosen rate and temperature. Information providers are improving access

to their products in many ways. News or tables of contents alerts fit well with RSS feeds. American Institute of Physics, Nature, BioMed Central, Chemical Abstracts Service, EiV2, HighWire, PubMed, and Cambridge University Press are among the many information providers to offer RSS feeds.

Podcasting is particularly useful for course-related or any type of information that lends itself to audio or visual presentation. Thomson Gale added podcast feeds to InfoTrac through its PowerSearch and Resource Center products, including Student Resource Center, Opposing Viewpoints, Resource Center, and History Resource Center. Weekly radio addresses from President Bush are podcast by Thomson Gale.

Naxos and Alexander Street provide streaming audio, while Films Media Group and Thomson Gale's Health & Wellness Resource Center offer streaming video on demand.

New image databases include Wilson's Art Museum Image Gallery and RLG's CAMIO. ARTstor forged new agreements with the Artist's Rights Society and several content providers.

Reading the meter

Homeowners want to be assured that the utility meter is being read correctly and they aren't being overcharged. Meter reading of online services is done with usage statistics, and there were many innovations on this front. COUNTER continues to attract new publisher members so libraries can get consistent usage statistic reports. SUSHI (Standardized Usage Statistics Harvesting Initiative) goes the next step by automating request and delivery of COUNTER reports. EBSCO now integrates SUSHI with EBSCOhost Electronic Journals Service for users of Innovative Interface's Millen-

nium system. Innovative and EBSCOhost customers will be able to get automatic EBSCO usage reports.

MPS ScholarlyStats consolidates usage reports from multiple online vendors. Thomson Scientific's Journal Use Reports works with ScholarlyStats to link usage data with scholarly output and impact factor. In addition to COUNTER-compliant reports, Ingenta's Advanced Statistics Solution allows data manipulation and graphical display.

The old house looking new

This old house of the database industry is looking like new with its redesign, reimagined search and display features, and an emphasis on tools that let users go beyond simple search and retrieval. Building a strong foundation and preserving the past are just as important to make sure the industry is relevant and strong for the future.

Company Profiles

AARP

**Research Information Center,
Washington, DC; 888-687-2277
www.research.aarp.org/research**

AARP produces two online databases. AgeLine, its premier database, contains abstracts from books, articles, and reports on topics related to aging research and policy. AgeSource Worldwide is a database of links to over 300 information resources (libraries, clearinghouses, databases, etc.) on aging all over the world. Both are freely available on the AARP web site.

ABC-CLIO

**Santa Barbara, CA; 800-368-6868
www.abc-clio.com**

ABC-CLIO, which recently celebrated its 50th anniversary, offers a collection of almost 500 ebooks. The new interface to America: History & Life and Historical Abstracts databases provides more user control on search and output options, exports records to citation management software, and has a search history. In addition, it provides links to the ProQuest Dissertations and Thesis Database. ABC-CLIO's newest database, United States at War, covers themes and consequences of all major U.S. wars and conflicts.

Accessible Archives, Inc.

**Malvern, PA; 610-296-7441
www.accessible.com**

A provider of online primary source material from 18th- and 19th-century American periodicals, Accessible Archives' products include the Pennsylvania Gazette 1728-1800, African American Newspapers: The 19th Century, and The Liberator 1831-1865.

AccuWeather Education Division

**Fort Washington, PA; 888-438-9847
education.accuweather.com**

In addition to being a leading provider of weather information for several years, AccuWeather also produces AccuNet/AP Multimedia Archive, a collection of photographs, graphics, text, and audio clips, covering over 150 years of history, from the Associated Press. It is a useful resource for K-12, public, and academic libraries.

ACLS History E-Book Project

**New York; 212-838-0641
www.historyebook.org**

A collaboration of learned societies, publishers, and the University of Michigan's Scholarly Publishing Office, the ACLS History E-Book Project has produced a collection of over 1230 ebooks in several fields of history. In January 2006, it announced a partnership with Cambridge University Press to develop XML-encoded books. New areas for titles include Caribbean studies, methods/study, and women's studies. MARC records are downloadable and free.

Alexander Street Press, LLC

**Alexandria, VA; 800-889-5937
www.alexanderstreet.com**

Known for its excellent indexing of primary sources, Alexander Street Press continues to develop new collections in seven major areas: Black History and Literature; Drama, Theatre and Film; North American History; Latino and Latin American History and Literature; Music; Religion and Social Thought; and Women's History and Literature. Titles to be released soon include African American Music

Reference, Black Women Writers, Social Theory, The Gilded Age, Publications on the Status of Women—1950 to Present, and Social Theory.

American Institute of Physics

**Melville, NY; 516-576-2200
www.aip.org**

The American Institute of Physics (AIP) uses the Scitation interface to provide access to over 100 e-journals, conference proceedings, and the SPIN database for physics and astronomy. Usage reports are now compliant with COUNTER, revision 2. RSS feeds for journal content are available. AIP partners with several other learned society publishers in a venture called Virtual Journals in Science and Technology (www.virtualjournals.org), where abstracts of articles from the different publishers appear under one of the virtual journal titles and are freely available to researchers.

American Psychiatric Publishing, Inc.

**Arlington, VA; 800-368-5777
www.appi.org**

This wholly owned subsidiary of the American Psychiatric Association publishes books, journals, and multimedia. All of its online products, including electronic journals and the latest clinical and research news, are part of PsychiatryOnline.com. The major reference product, the well-regarded *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, 4th ed., also known as DSM-IV®, is available in print, CD-ROM, and online.

American Psychological Association

**Washington, DC; 800-374-2722
www.apa.org**

The American Psychological Association (APA) produces a number of electronic resources associated with the field of psychology. PsycINFO is its widely used da-