The World Wide Web and Technical Services: What can it do for you?

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We've grown accustomed to hearing the term "Internet" used as the catch-all word to describe the massive world-wide network of computers. The word "internet" literally means "network of networks." In itself, the Internet is comprised of thousands of smaller regional networks scattered throughout the globe. On any given day it connects roughly 20 million users in over 50 countries. Another term which we hear and read about with increasing frequency is the World Wide Web. The World Wide Web is mostly used on the Internet and it is helpful to remember that they do not mean the same thing.

The World Wide Web refers to a body of information—an abstract space of knowledge while the Internet refers to the physical side of the global network, a giant mass of cables and computers. The Web is officially described as a wide-area hypermedia information retrieval initiative aiming to give universal access to a large universe of documents and to provide a consistent means of access to a variety of media in a simplified fashion. The Web, loosely, is a collection of resources, which can be accessed using Gopher, FTP (File Transfer Protocol), HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol), Telnet, Usenet, WAIS (Wide Area Information Servers), and other Internet tools without requiring the user to have an extensive background in information technology. To navigate and manipulate resources on the Web, a researcher must have a Web browser, computer hardware, and a connection to the Internet.

The World Wide Web uses the Internet to transmit hypermedia documents between computer users internationally. The operation of the Web relies mainly on hypertext as its means of interacting with users. Hypertext is basically the same as regular text—it can be stored, read, searched, or edited—with an important exception: hypertext contains connections within the text to other documents. Hypermedia connects users on the Web to documents containing links not only to other pieces of text, but also to other forms of media, such as sounds, images, and movies.

Via the Internet, increasing numbers of people around the world are making and accessing information available from their homes, schools, and workplaces. Technical services departments in academic libraries have created home pages to present examples, policies, and tools specifically related to work handled in the areas of acquisition and cataloging. The list of World Wide Web sites presented here is by no means comprehensive; by the time this article appears in print, new home pages will have appeared. Rather, the list tries to give a broad introduction to the variety of applications of the World Wide Web to help with work in technical services. Part One identifies the home pages of technical service departments and is arranged in alphabetical order by institution. Part Two lists World Wide Web tools created for use in technical services departments. Part Three includes a mixed bag of assorted other sites. While the sites reflect work at academic libraries, they are applicable to any library and available to all.

PART ONE. *Selected Technical Services Home Pages*

- Colby College Libraries Technical Services Department - Department working papers: cheat sheets, forms, jobs, policies
  http://www.colby.edu/librarybase/tech.serv/tsd.html
- Cornell University Library Technical Services Manual - Detailed technical services manual with regular updates
  http://www.library.cornell.edu/tsmanual
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology Library Cataloging Oasis - The Cataloging Oasis page has information catalogers need on a daily basis
  http://macfadden.mit.edu:9500/colserv/cat

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- University of Maryland Libraries Technical Services - Collection Statistics FY94 - FY96 provided by the Technical Services Division
http://www.itd.umd.edu/UMS/UMCP/TSD/tsd_statistics.html
- University of Michigan-University Library - Unit and library documentation, useful tools for catalogers, and national organizations
http://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/ocu
- University of Virginia Library Cataloging Services Department - Policies, procedures, online tools and special cataloging projects
http://www.lib.virginia.edu/cataloging

PART TWO. *Useful WWW Technical Services Tools & Projects*

- Cataloguer's Toolbox
http://www.mun.ca/library/cat/
- Cataloguing Tools by format
http://www.mun.ca.library/cat/formtool.htm#mrdf
- Interactive Electronic Serials Cataloging Aid
http://www.library.nwu.edu:80/iesca
- Internet Resources for Technical Services - Provides access to lists, newsletters, tools and other resources specific to technical services
http://www.itd.umd.edu/UMS/UMCP/TSD/tsd_links.html
- Library of Congress Catalog Distribution Services (CDS)
http://lcweb.loc.gov/cds/cdsintro.html
- QTech Web - Offers ready-access to a comprehensive body of Internet resources supporting technical services and collection activities
http://stauffer.queensu.ca/techserv/qtechweb.html

PART THREE. *A Mixed Bag of Assorted Other Sites*

- Cataloging Resources
http://www.indiana.edu:80/~librcsd/resource/library/cataloging/

- HKUST Staff Page - A broad range of staff resources on the Internet
http://library.ust.hk/staff.html
- ACQNET - Resources on acquisitions and collections
http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/law/acqs/acqs.html
- Bookbinding - A Tutorial.
http://www.cs.uiowa.edu/~jones/book/
- Bibliographies of the Bibliography Network Project (BibNet).
http://liinwww.ira.uka.de/bibliography/Bibnet/index.html
- Glossary of bibliographic information by language.
http://130.15.161.74/techserv/biblang.html
- Innovative Internet Applications in Libraries.
http://frank.mtsu.edu/~kmiddlet/libweb/innovate.html
- Library Forms Lists - Library WWW sites with online forms for various library services
http://hertz.njit.edu/~robertso/LibForms.html
- Serials in Cyberspace - Birdie MacLennan, University of Vermont.
http://www.uvm.edu/~bmaclenn/
- SERIALST (Serials in Libraries Discussion Forum) Archives
gopher://moose.uvm.edu:70/77/.index/wais-indexes/serialst
- University of Houston Libraries - Special Collections on the Web.
http://info.lib.uh.edu/specspec.html
- Survey of Bibliographic Tools
http://www.ecst.csuchico.edu/~jacobsd/bib/tools/
- University of California, San Diego - Technical Processing Online Tools (TPOT)
http://tpot.ucsd.edu/
- University of Michigan - Z.39.50 Accessible Libraries. ZWeb.
http://zweb.cl.msu.edu/
- Z39.50 Accessible Library WWW Servers
http://vinca.cnidr.org/reference/reference.html
- Z39.50 Public Domain Software - National Library of Canada
ftp://ftp.nlc-bnc.ca/public/irtool/

Chan, Lois Mai. *DEWEY DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION: A PRACTICAL GUIDE.* Forest Press. 1996. 246 p. index
ISBN: 0-910608-55-5 $40.00

Don't look for the new edition of *Dewey Decimal Classification: A Practical Guide* to ease your transition from DDC20 to DDC21. While the timely text is based on Dewey21, there are no separate chapters on the specific differences between editions.

Do look for practical, methodical, and concise explanations on assigning and building DDC numbers, a wealth of background information, as well as the philosophical basis of the scheme. All the tricky bits are carefully explained.

Those of us familiar with the first edition of this text are happy to see that the authors have kept the familiar structure intact. It is easy to zero in on the section best able to answer specific questions. There are lots of examples and test questions, with information for both beginning and experienced catalogers.

The book is available from OCLC's Forest Press and is being marketed along with the new edition of DDC21.

Keeping Current with Listservs: GSAFD

Providing subject access to fiction materials can present quite a challenge for those of us using *LCSH* as our thesaurus. The headings that exist in the *LCSH*, subject headings assigned to children's materials, and genre terms currently being devised by OCLC, the Library of Congress and ALA sometimes conflict with each other, or seem to overlap. If you are interested in keeping current with the latest developments in this area then consider subscribing to GSAFD.

GSAFD is an unmoderated discussion list for those interested in providing subject access to individual works of fiction in library databases and catalogs. Discussion focuses on theoretical and practical problems in assigning topical, character, setting, and genre headings to individual works of fiction. The list also serves as a means of communication for members of the OCLC/LC Fiction Project, and those engaged in revising the *guidelines on subject access to individual works of fiction, drama, etc.* The list is named for the USMARC code gsafd used in the 655 field's subfield 2.

Many of the regular contributors to this list are true authorities on subject access. Topics can get theoretical, but practical information is available as well. For example, quite useful scope notes under development at various institutions recently have been made available to the list. The volume of traffic is not too high, and the content is quality.

To subscribe send a message to: listserv@listserv.uta.edu Leave the subject line blank. The message should only contain: subscribe gsafd Your Name

It's Election Time!

OLC elections are held each July, and once again an excellent group of candidates have volunteered to run for office in the Technical Services Division. Division officers help determine chapter and annual conference programs, plan and produce workshops and other training opportunities, and create publications of interest to division members.

Please take a few minutes to read these statements provided by the candidates.

and how it can help them, as well as how they can help us. The other goal is to encourage activities that give us access to ongoing education and training.

Running for Action Council this year are:

ROCHELLE J. BAKER, Technical Services Coordinator, Amherst Public Library.

I think the Technical Services Division should provide more support for members from small libraries. These libraries lack the time or resources to keep current on the changes in our challenging field.

MARIAN BENJAMIN, Technical Services Supervisor, Mansfield/Richland County Public Library.

I think the Technical Services Division should keep abreast of trends and developments concerning technical services staff and the technical services department as a whole. Those with questions and problems should be able to turn to the division for support and quidance.

RHONDA A. MARR, Technical Services Manager, Portage County District Library.

I think the Technical Services Division should encourage the Chapters to include more programs sponsored by the division at the conferences, and help technical services librarians keep current and improve their skills.

JANE MYERS, Librarian, Southern Ohio College, Akron Branch, and Audiovisual and Fiction Cataloger, Westlake Porter Public Library

I think the Technical Services Division should have two goals. One goal is to promote outreach to other departments of the library so they will understand what we do,

Running for Secretary this year are:

FRED GAIECK, Librarian, Ohio Reformatory for Women, Marysville.

I think the Technical Services Division should aggressively consider our role in the library. Political and technological changes have dramatically changed the role of the cataloger.

MARGARET MAURER, Catalog Department Head, Taylor Memorial Public Library, Cuyahoga Falls

I think the Technical Services Division should foster excellence within technical services departments throughout the State. We can only do this by listening to the ongoing needs of our division members, and then acting on them.

Running for Assistant Coordinator this year is:

GEORGIANNE BALCAS WIERSCH, Catalog Department Manager, Cuyahoga County Public Librarary

I think the Technical Services Division should work to encourage members from various types and sizes of libraries to become more active in sharing information with one another. This could be accomplished through informal e-mail communications or discussion sessions at programs and meetings, or formally, through division sponsored workshops.

LC's Very Own Millennium Problem

Lest we think that only computer geeks need to worry about the coming of the year 2000, the Library of Congress has revealed that it has a millennium problem of its own. LC began to print catalog cards in 1898 and to distribute them in 1901. What was then the Library of Congress Card Number has evolved into the LCCN we use today. This number is currently structured to include only the last two digits of the year, with no way to distinguish between 1898 and 1998, and therefore has no method to prevent duplicate numbers.

Because LC can't restructure the LCCN immediately, they have had to come up with an interim solution and a long term restructuring. The interim solution is to block the assignment of ranges of numbers used in 1898, 1899 and 1900.

The long term restructuring will look like this:

Element	Length	Positions
Alphabetic Prefix	2	00-01
Year	4	02-05
Serial Number	6	06-11

Examples:		
##2005256543	may be displayed as:	2005-256543
##2010014589	may be displayed as:	2010-14580
gm2005005810	may be displayed as:	gm2005-5810

This restructured LCCN will not be implemented prior to the year 2000, and may lag somewhat after that. However, your software vendor needs to be making plans now to accommodate the changes, to ensure you will still be able to access your marc records by LCCN, and that they will list in true chronological order.