

Reference Management

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New add-ons for bibliographic software, and a new free rival to Endnote

This column aims to keep UKeIG members up to date with developments in reference software. These include new packages, changes to old ones, case studies and any other resources or services which will help Information Professionals keep up with developments in this area.

Zotero: a rival for Endnote or Reference Manager?

A rival for the mainstream packages within reference software is Zotero (meaning “to acquire, to master”, based on an Albanian word) and is the work of staff within the Center for History and New Media, George Mason University. Zotero is essentially Web-based reference software package (running under Firefox). What is particularly appealing is that it uses a simple, iTunes-like interface and has the ability to intelligently scan online sources and collections. The program also allows storage space for PDF files, images, links and entire Web pages. A public beta version will be available shortly. The main drawback at the moment appears to be lack of integration with Word. Further details at <http://www.zotero.org>.

Reference Checker: a cheap alternative?

Reference Checker is aimed at the lone researcher or someone who is on a tight budget. This program checks references and citations in Word documents. It has been designed to check name and date (APA and Harvard styles) and numerical references. Effectively it checks the citations against the details in the reference list by checking years, correct spellings of authors, etc. It costs around £75 and runs under Windows and Word 2000 and above. There is a free, fully functional 10-day trial version available from <http://www.goodcitations.com>. Further details from Paul Sensecall paul@paulsen.demon.co.uk or 01869 347058.

Viewing your references differently? Use Citation Map

One of the useful features of Endnote is the additional add on called RefViz, which allows you to view your references visually based on key terms found in titles and abstracts of

the associated references. Another useful package that does a similar task is that of Citation Map. Citation Map is a graphical representation of the articles citing or cited by selected articles. The map (like RefViz) is based on the references found in the full text articles of the Hire Wire hosted journals. Further details can be found at:
<http://www.refviz.com/> .

Posting references on the Web

There are a number of options for posting references onto the Web. The usual approach is to export the library (whether Endnote or Reference Manager) into a file (such as delimited text) and import into a database. A common database now being used is that of MySQL, which is an open source programme. An example would be

<http://msf.whakatipi.com>

A more sophisticated example would be

<http://www.chernydatabase.org>

Is Endnote a Trojan Horse?

Ever wondered how you might convince users on the usefulness of reference software? Then the experience by Manchester Metropolitan University may help. In an easy-to-read article they compare reference software – specifically Endnote to a Trojan Horse, which helps to benefit both library staff and the wide range of users. Further details at

Endnote training for academic staff and students: the experience of the Manchester Metropolitan University Library. M. Harrison, S. Summerton and K. Peters. *New Review of Academic Librarianship* 11 (1) April 2005 pp31-40.

Evaluating reference software

To see if Endnote is really a Trojan Horse you can check the useful template that compares and contrasts several of the major packages (and includes a webgraphy as well). The template now includes Endnote X:

<http://www.burioni.it/forum/ors-bfs>

Training options

If you are struggling to get to grips with Endnote X you might find the following of use. The University of North Carolina has released their own online tutorial for Endnote X, which you can find at:

<http://www.hsl.unc.edu/Services/Tutorials/ENDNOTE/intro.htm>

Completing the circle: New OpenURL factsheet

OpenURLs have been developed to address the problem of seamless access to full text and other resources. A brief factsheet on the terminology, how they work, who provides them and other interesting facts about OpenURL can now be found on the UKeiG website.

New Social Bookmark Services

There is a new social bookmark manager called Netvouz, which can store links and you can then access them wherever you are. Details can be found at

<http://www.netvouz.com>

Bibliographies of electronic sources of information

A useful starting point for finding electronic sources of information dealing with all aspects of electronic publishing, and including print and non print materials, periodical articles, monographs and individual chapters in collected works, can be found at the following link. There is a corresponding index entitled "Subject index to literature on electronic sources of information". This service is freely available from

http://library.usask.ca/~dworacze/SUB_INT.HTM

A similar service is made available by the Scholarly Electronic Publishing Bibliography, which now has a pdf version available.

<http://epress.lib.uh.edu/sepb/sepb.html>

If you are interested in open access and how this might liberate scholarly publishing (using eprints, open access journals, etc), then the following link is more useful, and there is an additional link to a webliography on Open Access

<http://www.digital-scholarship.com/oab/oab.htm>

<http://www.digital-scholarship.com/cwb/oaw.html>

All three of the above links have been put together by Charles Bailey, who is the Assistant Dean for Digital Library Planning and Development at the University of Houston.

Index Appreciation

Finally an often overlooked (last-minute panic perhaps) activity related to reference software and publishing is that of Indexing, which comes at the end of the production process. In the next issue there will be an overview of the necessary tools, but in the meantime you might find the following useful. A useful brief guide and introduction into the type of index, necessary tools, cost, what to index, structure and design can be found at <http://www.against-the-grain.com/september2005> **Index Appreciation: A Publisher's Brief Guide** written by Sylvia Miller, formerly of Routledge (Taylor and Francis Group).