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OCLC Electronic Archiving

John A. Hearty, OCLC
Columbus, OH

OCLC Electronic Archiving

- Goals of Electronic Archiving (EA)
- Obstacles to Implementation of EA
- Dimensions of Ideal EA System
- OCLC Strategies and Strengths
- Electronic Archiving Pilot
- EA System Functionality
- Pilot Business Model
- Content Providers

Goals of Electronic Archiving

- Offering broad access to information
- Preservation
- Reduce storage cost

Obstacles to Implementation of Electronic Archiving

- Libraries reluctant to give up physical copy
- Property rights in electronic media are ill defined
- Initial scanning required for creation of electronic archives

Dimensions of Ideal Electronic Archiving System

- Security
- Access
- Economy
- Openness
- Library needs
- Publisher needs
- Information user needs

Dimensions of Ideal Electronic Archiving System: Security

- Destruction due to natural hazard
- Physical deterioration of the storage medium
- Technological obsolescence
- Business failure

Dimensions of Ideal Electronic Archiving System: Access

- Standards for header information to support creation of index files
- Cost-effective search and retrieval capabilities
- Provision for sustaining accessibility
- Contract protection for access arrangements

Dimensions of Ideal Electronic Archiving System: Economy

- Archiving cost must be lower than existing cost
- Opening up shelf space/reduction in capital expense
- Less expensive access
- No longer dual subscription
- Cost recovery

Dimensions of Ideal Electronic Archiving System: Openness

- Facilitates greater access
- Ease of adaptation as better technologies appear
- Linking with other systems, both archival and online

Dimensions of Ideal Electronic Archiving System: Library Needs

- Guaranteed permanent availability
- Low and predictable costs
- Leverage existing library investments

Dimensions of Ideal Electronic Archiving System: Publisher Needs

- Provision for compliance with intellectual property rights
- Credible protection against unauthorized use
- Subscription/usage fee models which reduce publisher risks

Dimensions of Ideal Electronic Archiving System: Information User Needs

- Unprecedented power for searching and browsing archival contents
- Unprecedented power for making the contents available worldwide, around the clock, matter of minutes

OCLC Strategies

- Leverage OCLC online system
- Leverage existing OCLC services
- Leverage scanning activities
- Leverage OCLC membership and cooperative tradition
- Focus on what is practicable in the near term
- Maintain flexibility for future

OCLC Strengths

Membership & Mission

OCLC is uniquely positioned to participate in a cooperative endeavor to address the archive problem.

- Such a role is appropriate to OCLC's charter and mission.
- OCLC's library membership constitutes a powerful basis for cooperative approaches.
- OCLC has the requisite capabilities.

OCLC Strengths

Storage Technology

- OCLC's robotic tape silos will allow for very cost effective storage of large amounts of data.
- Disk can be used in conjunction with tape to offer rapid access to frequently used material.
- OCLC will guarantee ongoing migration to current technologies

OCLC Strengths

Access

- Using FirstSearch as the front end, OCLC can offer intuitive access using non-proprietary technology.
- FirstSearch users offer a large, ready outlet for archived collections.
- OCLC has the systems in place to charge for access (and thereby offer cost recovery).
- OCLC is staying current with access technology.

OCLC Strengths

Scanning, Indexing, Cataloging

- For libraries that need to digitize collections, OCLC can offer both scanning and indexing through Preservation Resources and our New Albany operation.
- Tech Pro, Prism, PromptCat, RetroConn

Electronic Archiving Pilot Project

- Selected collections mounted
- Partners include 11 content providers representing thirteen collections
- Functionality from FirstSearch/FS ECO
- Scheduled implementation: Fall 1997

Goals of the Pilot Project

- Test the technology with a variety of formats.
- Gain input from "real" users, and study usage issues.
- Demonstrate a working prototype by fall
- Validate the concept and costs in preparation for commercial release.

Electronic Archiving System Functionality

- Comprehensive search capability
- Automatic classification of each document by Dewey, LCSH, and other
- Browsing by topic areas, collection name, physical media & journal/issue
- Displays of citation, abstract and header, and full text (image, PDF, ASCII)
- Hyperlinks to GPO home page, similar documents, etc.
- Comprehensive statistics, reports, and billing if desired
- 7 day by 24 hour availability

Pilot Project Business Model

- OCLC assumes costs of loading, storing, and offering access to the data
- Content providers sign a non-exclusive license allowing OCLC to use their data through 1997 without compensation
- Statistics on usage of their material are shared with content providers

Content Providers

- Irish American Advocate
- Grand Rapids Public Library
- New York Public Library

- Follett and University of Illinois
- Northwestern University
- University of Chicago
- Council on Preservation and Access (Knox College and The Museum of the Confederacy)
- Library of Congress
- GPO