



GPO Access to FDsys Migration

In 1993, Congress passed the U.S. Government Printing Office Electronic Information Access Enhancement Act (Public Law 103-40), which expanded GPO's mission to provide electronic access to Federal electronic information. In June 1994, GPO launched GPO Access, which provides online access to information from all three branches of the Federal Government. As Internet technologies evolved, GPO evaluated and restructured its delivery of Federal information on the Web. As a result, GPO launched a beta version of its Web site, called FDsys, in January 2009.

FDsys enables GPO to manage Government publications from Congress and Federal agencies that are submitted to GPO in digital form, gathered from Federal Web sites, and created by scanning previously printed publications. Through FDsys, GPO is utilizing new technologies and methods for acquiring, authenticating, preserving, and providing access to Government publications in digital form.

GPO is currently transitioning from GPO Access to FDsys. In the upcoming months, all content from GPO Access will be fully migrated to FDsys. Shortly after this migration, FDsys will completely replace GPO Access and become the new system of record.

Federal depository libraries should start planning for the public launch of FDsys and the replacement of GPO Access.

Benefits of FDsys

In keeping with GPO's mission of Keeping America Informed, FDsys continues to give the American people a one-stop site to authentic, published government information, while enhancing the searching and browsing capabilities found on GPO Access. Some of the unique benefits inherent to FDsys include:

- A single search box to access multiple Government publications or collections.
- Advanced search capabilities with robust metadata about each publication with the ability to construct complex search queries using advanced Boolean and field operators.
- Searching publications to a more granular level to locate more targeted topics within publications.
- Refining and narrowing searches by filtering, sorting, and searching within search results.
- Browse features by collection, Congressional committee, and date.
- Access to multiple file formats for each search result along with metadata or information about Government publications in standard XML formats, such as MODS and PREMIS.
- Ability to bookmark search results for long-term access.
- Ability to download content and metadata packaged together in a compressed (ZIP) file.
- Assurance that Federal publications will be preserved in perpetuity.



Affect on Federal Depository Libraries

As GPO transitions from GPO Access to FDsys, depository libraries will need to update literature, presentations, Web pages, and other materials that are used to promote, teach, or utilize GPO Access. In addition, staff will need to learn the features and capabilities of FDsys. For instance:

Branding

Libraries should start planning for the following:

- Replacing uses of the GPO Access name and logo to the FDsys branding.
- Updating screenshots of GPO Access pages to reflect the FDsys pages.
- Ordering the new promotional brochures.

Additional details and guidelines on FDsys branding and promotional material ordering will be released in the coming weeks.



Web Links

GPO staff are working to create redirects from GPO Access Web pages and GetDoc links to mitigate the need to immediately modify links and bookmarks that have been created by libraries and users. Libraries should start planning, however, to use the FDsys URL for their Web links.

There will be no effect on how the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP) is utilized to find records and links created in OPACs and PURLs assigned will continue to resolve.

Learn About FDsys Features and Functionality

In order to effectively point users to the Federal information on FDsys, librarians should learn more about the features and functionality that are available. Use the following resources to learn more about FDsys:

- Training Manual http://www.gpo.gov/help/fdsys_user_manual.htm
- Tutorials <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsysinfo/tutorials.htm>
- Presentations <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsysinfo/presentations.htm>
- Outreach <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsysinfo/outreach.htm>