



Keeping Current While Maintaining Sanity

Paula J. Hane
News Bureau Chief



Information Today, Inc.

Our part-time Master's program teaches the systematic and technical skills necessary to create, gather, organize, and maintain information systems.

Master of Science in Information and Archive Management
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

INFORMATION SESSION
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From the Editor: Print publishing schedules don't always accommodate the FLASH! of breaking news in the information industry and library world. So, we post weekly by-lined stories by expert industry reporters—folks like Barbara Quint, Marydee Ojala, and Rich Wiggins. We also feature a weekly news digest that highlights important developments.

Sign up (below) for our free weekly NewsLink e-mail newsletter for notification and links to stories as they are posted. We also offer an RSS feed. And, please drop me a note with tips of any breaking news. Thanks for visiting!

Paula J. Hane, NewsBreaks Editor
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NewsBreaks/Weekly News Digest [5/30/06]



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- Moreover Introduces Newsdesk 3.0 Search Portal
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 - Inight to Extend Google Search Capabilities
 - CRIBIS Adds U.S. Company Credit Reports
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5/15/2006	Pick of the Litter: Google Co-op
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5/8/2006	The Federal Research Public Access Act of 2006
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5/1/2006	Weekly News Digest
4/24/2006	New Siderean Software Navigates from Bird's-Eye to Bug's-Eye View
4/24/2006	Google Launches OneBox for Enterprise
4/24/2006	Weekly News Digest
4/17/2006	Microsoft Offers Alternative to Google Scholar: Windows Live Academic Search
4/17/2006	Windows Live Academic Search: The Details



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- American Library Directory
 - DestinationCRM
 - EContentMag
 - EMediaLive
 - Enterprise Search Center
 - EventDV
 - Faulkner Information Services
 - Fulltext Sources Online
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ProQuest: A Question of Financing

by PHILLIP BRITT

ProQuest Co.'s financial future came into question in May as the publisher of information and education resources reached an agreement with its bank lenders and with private placement note holders in which both parties granted the company a waiver from current defaults under its credit agreements.



Despite the company's financial difficulties stemming from an accounting irregularity, at least one industry analyst said suppliers and customers have yet to see any negative results.

The news about the accounting problem arose in early February 2006, only 3 months before the company moved into a new \$34 million facility in Ann Arbor, Mich.

The company plans to look at the potential sale of different assets, in particular the Business Solutions division, which, according to ProQuest chairman and CEO Alan Aldworth's prepared statement, would "be attractive to potential buyers with a structure and resource base to invest in its full potential."

The Business Solutions division's reported unaudited revenue for 2005 was \$183 million, while unaudited earnings before interest and taxes were \$49.2 million.

The division provides management, technical, and e-commerce solutions to the automotive and power equipment markets. The di-

vision's products are designed to turn complex technical and performance measurement data into easily accessed answers.

As part of the new financial agreements, ProQuest also granted a security interest in "substantially all of its and its domestic [subsidiaries'] assets and to provide guarantees from all of its subsidiaries with respect to the credit agreements," reported the company in its S-K filing with the Securities Exchange Commission in early May.

Addressing the Issues

In a letter to shareholders posted on the company's Web site, company president David "Skip" Prichard reported: "While deeply disappointed about the accounting irregularities, I was heartened to know that we dis-

covered them ourselves and acted immediately to address the issues."

He also calls some reports about ProQuest "inaccurate" and says the company has chosen not to respond to such articles. ProQuest didn't return multiple calls to *Information Today* for this article.

Prichard also reported that the company will "only comment publicly when we have facts to communicate—and then to communicate directly with our customers, partners and employees."

According to Michael Meltz, securities analyst at Bear Stearns, New York, the latest agreement with creditors requires ProQuest to pay 175 basis points higher than existing interest rates. The company reportedly said this would produce

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Gaming: The Next Hot Technology for Libraries?

by DONALD T. HAWKINS and BARBARA BRYNKO

Gaming in libraries? No, we're not talking about gambling. We're talking about using video game technology to produce "virtual worlds" to deliver library services. Although still in its infancy for the library world, this technology once used only for entertainment is now being adapted for a host of uses, especially social networking.

Video games are based on the principle that the user will become immersed in an imaginary virtual world—an interactive online environment also known as virtual reality. With the widespread availability of broadband Internet connections and sophisticated hardware, early single-user video games have progressed to the world of the Web and can be played online simultaneously

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Data Security: An Ounce of Prevention

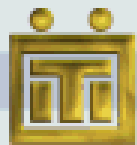
by PHILLIP BRITT

Just when we thought security efforts to curtail breaches were taking hold, the Reuters news agency reported in May that a laptop had been stolen from an Aetna employee's car. *Editor's Note:* See Shirli Kennedy's column on page 17 for more on this story. The computer contained personal information on about 38,000 members who were employees from two companies that were Aetna customers, including names, addresses, and Social Security numbers.

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Cast your vote for *Information Today's* new 2006 People's Choice Awards (p. 16).

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A Failure to Communicate

Politics, Scams, and Information Flow
During Hurricane Katrina
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**ITI to launch
 new enterprise
 search portal**

Information Today, Inc. (ITI, iti.com) has announced the launch of a new portal covering enterprise search and related technologies. The site, enterprisearchcenter.com, is to be launched in beta version May 22, coinciding with the first day of the Enterprise Search Summit (enterprisearchsummit.com) conference.

According to Dick Kaser, VP of content for Information Today, Inc., "Enterprise search and the technologies that surround it have emerged as a hot button topic for IT managers, content managers, knowledge management professionals and business executives at companies across the

SEARCH continues on page 30

Are your digital assets protected?

BY ANDY MOORE, *KMWorld* publisher

It should come as no surprise that digital asset management (DAM) and digital rights management (DRM) are quickly emerging as the "have-to-have" content management tools of the year. Considering the implications of everything from RSS feeds (outgoing and incoming) to intranets to portals, efforts to control and protect oneself from liability have become front-of-mind for many information managers.

But are existing content management tools up to the job? Depends on whom you ask, of course. But a recent survey could shine a bright light on the perceived shortcomings of today's standard enterprise content management (ECM) software when it comes to digital rights management.

First of all, what do we mean by "digital rights management"?

Sometimes also known as "digital asset management," it is an additional layer of control and protection above and beyond the standard publish/retrieve/check-in/check-out/retain functions that are presently available from content management systems. DRM implies that the information in question is especially sensitive (such as internal board-of-directors communications), or susceptible to a higher level of regulatory compliance scrutiny (such as Sarbanes-Oxley documentation), or at high risk of becoming part of a legal discovery motion. Other content that may be under DRM control could be revenue-generating content (in the case of an information provider) that is simply too valuable not to apply additional controls to its access and distribution.

Naturally, content management vendors will maintain that their

products are adequate to the task. And in fact, many very sensitive documents—such as contracts, legal proceedings, HR and personal health-related information—ARE regularly trusted to be maintained and controlled by such systems. And records management (RM) software is commonly applied to the retention and disposition of content according to the many regulations and practices associated with RM.

But it's also becoming clear that information professionals feel the need to apply even more stringent controls on their most sensitive content. A February 2006 survey of CIOs commissioned by SealedMedia

**Trend
 Watch**

DIGITAL continues on page 3

Wikis—a disruptive innovation

BY CINDY GORDON

Innovation is ranked a top priority by global CEOs. Yet, few CEOs manage innovation by linking strategy to structure. Currently, most CEOs focus on sustaining innovation practices vs. disruptive practices.

Disruptive innovation, framed by author Clayton Christensen, is where products or systems create new markets. Disruptive innovation patterns are difficult to see because they are complex and diffuse more rapidly.

One of the most promising and rapidly emerging disruptive innovations

in knowledge management is the *wiki*. According to Wikipedia (wikipedia.org, "the free wiki encyclopedia that anyone can edit"), a wiki is a "type of Web site that allows anyone visiting the site to add, remove or otherwise edit all content, very quickly and easily, and sometimes without the need for registration." Ward Cunningham, a software architect, invented the original wiki to help people contribute into existing documents.

WIKIS continues on page 26

**Worldwide Secure
 Content Management
 Product Revenue**

By Segment
 2006-2009 (\$M)

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Antivirus	4,455.7	5,079.5	5,714.4	6,366.2
Anti-spam	353.1	481.6	565.1	641.4
Web filtering	622.1	724.0	829.5	929.0
Messaging security	1,237.4	1,634.9	2,098.4	2,597.5
Total	6,668.3	7,920.0	9,207.4	10,534.1

Source: IDC

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■ JUNE 2006

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THE CyberSkeptic's GUIDE TO Internet Research

EDITOR'S NOTE

I've been quietly covering in the corner, trying to hide my ignorance. I confess: Until Brian Smith's article on podcasts, I didn't have any idea what podcasts were. Yes, I knew they had something to do with another way to receive news and information but I didn't know the what's, how's, who's, where's, etc. I finally have a basic understanding of podcasting so I don't have to hide when the subject is discussed. I am, however, the only one in my family without an iPod—or any other MP3 player—so for now I won't be able to get on the podcasting train.

In January, Pam Wegmann wrote the article "Internet Sites Become Lifelines in a Disaster," which dealt with the difficulties encountered finding information in Hurricane Katrina's aftermath. This month's Legal/Government Spec Scan explains where to find the final report on governmental response to Katrina. The timing is perfect, as next month's issue will contain a follow-up by Pam on Katrina and its effects on business.

Believe it or not, it's nearly hurricane season again! Let's hope it's calmer this year.

—Sheri R. Lanza
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An Information Today, Inc. Publication

HONcode

<http://www.hon.ch/HONcode/>

By Susanne Bjerner

Eons ago, after earning my M.L.S. degree, I was reference and adult services librarian for a suburban public library outside Boston. This was pre-Internet, decades before Viagra, even years before AIDS. I soon learned that, contrary to accepted reference practice, it was not always a good idea to follow people into the stacks when they were searching a medical issue. Questioners were more private than about their personal health concerns.

Jump to the late 1980s, when mediated searching of commercial online databases was popular in academic and special libraries but, due to cost, still scarce in suburban libraries. No longer in a public library, I nevertheless remember reading that MEDLINE was the most frequently searched database in a suburban public library system that had deployed the new technology for its patrons. At first, this startled the business online searcher that I had become. I remembered how motivated public library users had been about medical questions, but I also remembered how cautious they had been in disclosing their research needs. I was impressed with the reference interview skills that the librarians in this survey had employed

to get beyond patron privacy fears while serving as search intermediaries.

Now we have the Internet, with thousands of medical sites, direct access for all, and no need for search intermediaries when we have a personal medical question. I now have lots of medical issues to research, whether for myself or for friends and relatives. But I've done enough health and pharmaceutical industry searching in my career, both for research and marketing purposes, to be extremely wary of the quality of healthcare information available on the Web. That's why, after I found what sounded like good information to explain a crisis situation recently—but from a site I did not know well—I was glad to see the HON seal at the bottom center of the page.



HON

HON is the Health On the Net Foundation, a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization (NGO) recognized by the United Nations, that promotes and guides "the deployment of useful and reliable online medical and health information, and its appropriate and efficient use." It was founded in September 1995 in

CyberSelection continued on page 2



The Challenges

- 24-hour news cycle
- Pressure to get the scoop
- Pressures to stay connected
- Information Overload!



Paula's 3 Ps

- Planning
 - Patience
 - Placement
-
- And, a 4th... Persistence



Paula's Theories of Keeping Current

- Let someone else gather it
- Target top minds/sources
- Have information pushed to you
- Scan for the nuggets
- Network with others
- Cast a wide net

Paula's Strategies



Use an RSS news reader

- <http://www.bloglines.com>
- <http://www.pluck.com>
- <http://www.newsgator.com>
- <http://www.feedException.com>
- <http://my.yahoo.com>



Keep feeds to a manageable number

- Add one, drop one rule
- Reevaluate sources and purge relentlessly
- Reduce redundant information



Great feed source – Moreover

Choose feeds

http://w.moreover.com/site/products/ind/rss_feeds.html

List of feeds

http://w.moreover.com/site/other/categories_rss.html



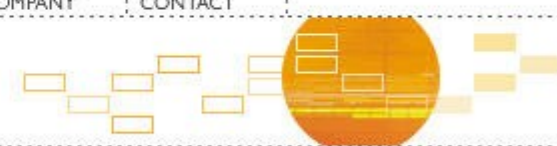
Address http://w.moreover.com/site/products/ind/rss_feeds.html



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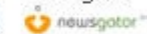
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To optimize the delivery and display of our aggregated RSS feeds, we recommend you use an RSS reader:

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Newsgator



FeedDemon



Clovis



Deepnet

Explorer



Optimal

Access



Saved feeds

No Saved Searches



Recommended e-newsletters



- ITI's NewsLink
<http://www.infotoday.com/newslink>
- EContent Xtra
<http://www.econtentmag.com/Newsletters>
- Edupage
<http://www.educause.edu/Edupage/639>
- SearchDay
<http://searchenginewatch.com/searchday>
- TVC Alert Research News
<http://www.virtualchase.com/tvcalert>

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<http://www.libraryjournal.com>
- Resourceshelf
<http://www.resourceshelf.com>
- Librarians' Internet Index
<http://lii.org/pub/htdocs/understandingrss.htm>
- The Scout Report
<http://scout.wisc.edu>
- Neat New Stuff
<http://marylaine.com/neatnew.html>



Industry analysts

- Shore Communications, Inc.
<http://www.shore.com>
- Outsell, Inc.
<http://www.outsellinc.com>



Alerts

- RSS feed alerts for keywords
- <http://www.google.com/alerts>
- <http://www.highbeam.com>
- <http://www.northernlight.com>
- <http://www.factiva.com>
- <http://www.lexisnexis.com>

Library Blogs



- NewsliBlog
<http://newslib.blogspot.com>
- Steven Cohen's Library Stuff
<http://www.librarystuff.net>
- Marydee Ojala's Online Insider
<http://www.onlineinsider.net>
- Infotodayblog.com



More Library Blogs


- Tame the Web: Libraries and Technology
<http://tametheweb.com>
- LISNews.org
<http://lisnews.org>
- Peter Scott's Library Blog
<http://blog.xrefer.com>
- Internet Public Library list
<http://www.ipl.org/div/blogs/#libraryblogs>

Discussion Lists



- NewsLib
<http://parklibrary.jomc.unc.edu/newsliblyris.html>
- BusLib-L
<http://listserv.boisestate.edu/archives/buslibl.html>
- Liblicense-L
<http://www.library.yale.edu/~llicense/index.shtml>




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Product News from Vendors

- Factiva
- CSA
- LexisNexis
- OCLC
- ProQuest
- Etc...



Web Page Watcher Tools

- WatchThatPage.com
- TrackEngine.com
- Trackle.com
- WebSite-Watcher: <http://www.aignes.net>



More Resources

- Webcasts
- Journals
- Conferences
- Business and tech media
- Citizen journalism



Productivity Tools

- Desktop Search
 - Google, Yahoo, Copernic, X1, etc.
- Web page saving tool
 - Yahoo! MyWeb
- Social bookmarking service
 - <http://del.icio.us> or <http://www.furl.net>
- Desktop package
 - <http://www.onfolio.com>
 - <http://www.netsnippets.com>



Final word of advice

Take a Break!!



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