Electronic Library: An initiative taken by Sardar Vallabhbhai Regional College of Engineering and Technology (SVRCET), Surat.

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ABSTRACT

This paper describes the electronic library services of the college. It includes automated library systems with web OPAC, CD-ROM databases, Electronic contents, Online Journals including Virtual Library created at URL **http://www.geocities.com/ghosh_tbd** and other available collection of Electronic Library and future plan for development of Electronic Library in SVRCET.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

With the advances in Information Technology (IT) and in particular, the inception and growth of WWW (World Wide Web), the Electronic Library or E-library is to day very much popular. The e-library effort is progressing with the goal of migrating from the traditional book environment to a digital library environment. E-library has the potential of changing the entire publication process. It allows disseminating of information at low cost and high speed that cannot be represented on paper. The role of publishers, distributors and library professionals is also gradually changing because of different ways found to disseminate the information from the creator to the end user.

2.0 CONCEPT OF ELECTRONIC LIBRARY

The electronic library is a library that holds a collection of resources in electronic format and is made accessible to users through electronic systems and networks. It will need to provide internally generated and externally acquired academic and scholarly information. The primary aim is to support the learning, teaching and research in

institution. The establishment of e-library, within the traditional print dominated library is a desirable proposition from the point of view of readers, librarians and faculties.

3.0 BACKGROUND OF THE SVRCET

Sardar Vallabhbhai Regional College of Engineering and Technology, Surat was established in 1961 with three major branches of engineering i.e. Civil, Electrical and Mechanical. At present four more braches i.e. Electronics, Computer, Production and Chemical engineering are added. All major department are having facilities for Post Graduate (P.G.) studies and Ph.D. The college also is conducting PDDC (Post Diploma Degree Course). Most of the faculty members publish papers in reputed journals and present papers in various National and International Conferences. In addition to teaching the college has been providing consultancy services and conducting Research Projects from time to time. Science and Technology Development Cell is also an additional unit, which is run by the college to train new entrepreneurs for starting new industries and existing entrepreneurs to develop their products.

4.0 THE SVRCET LIBRARY SYSTEMS

The Central Library of SVRCET is satisfying the information needs of its user within its limited resources and sources from outside. Total collection of the library is 80,000 including Books, Back Volumes, Standards, Technical Reports. It provides lending, reference, book bank and reprographic services to its 2,500 users including industries in surrounding areas. There is enormous growth of literature on development and input of information in the engineering domain. As a result the demand for information is bringing enormous pressure on the management of the library setup attached to engineering institution. Simultaneously, the Internet and other global networks have brought the worldwide resources closer and nearer to the users both at the institute and also in the outskirts of their walls. Hence it was not possible to satisfy the information needs of the users with the traditional systems. As a result use of Information

Technology and to establish an electronic library is felt and the initiatives have been taken in the following phases:

- **Automation of Library System**
- **Development of Electronic Collection**
    1. Subscription of CD-ROM Databases and procurement of CD-ROM Publications.
    2. Subscription of Electronic Journals
    3. Subscription of Electronic Contents Service
    4. Document retrieved from Internet
    5. Digitization of Newspaper Clippings

- **Compilation of important URLs of Free e-Journals, e-books, e-databases etc**

4.1 AUTOMATION OF LIBRARY SYSTEMS

In 1998 the LIBSYS Software was installed in SCO UNIX Platform with 5 users license. The data entry work and circulation work were undertaken simultaneously from the very date of installation of the software. In 1999 the LIBSYS Software was upgrades with Client / Server Internet embedded version. Again it is again upgraded in to LINUX Platform with Web OPAC. Now the Library is fully computerized and available on the Net at URL http://www.svrec.ernet.in or directly at http://202.141.85.210. At present it has the limitation of frequent non-accessibility due to low bandwidth. A lease line of 2 MBPS is under process and it will be completed within a month or two.

4.2 DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRONIC COLLECTION

Attempt has been made for electronic collection development through subscription of CD-ROM Databases, subscription of Electronic journals, availing Free

Content alert service from the electronic publishers, retrieving documents from Internet and putting the same in local server, digitization of newspaper clippings etc.

4.2.1 Subscription of CD-ROM Databases

In 1998 two CD-Workstations and One CD Tower/Server were installed and some Full Text and Abstracting Databases were subscribed. Among the CD-ROM databases followings are the important ones.

LIST OF IMPORTANT CD-ROM DATABASES

Sl. No.	CD-ROM Databases	Coverage	Type
01	IEL IEE/IEEE Electronic Library – All IEE, IEEE Journals, Conference Proceedings & Standards)	1988 to 1998	Full Text
02	ASTM Standards	Complete Set up to 2000	Full Text
03	Indian Standards	Complete Set up to 2000	Full Text
04	SAE Technical Papers	1994 to 1997	1996 Full Text (1994, 95 & 97 Abstracts)
05	Active Library of Corrosion		Full Text
06	DIGICAT (Information of different manufacturers of various products and Building materials)	Current	Full Text
07	ECOR (Engineering Corrosion)	Current	Full Text
08	Ei Compendex	1992 - 1999	Abstracts
09	ISMECH (International Mechanical Engg. Abstracts)	1973-1999	Abstracts
10	ICONDA (International Construction Database)	1976 - 1999	Abstract
11	Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology Abstracts	1977 – 1999	Abstract
12	MTech on CD (A Database on Manufacturing Technology and Machine Tools), CMTI, Mangalore		

In addition to the above mentioned databases other publications like Encyclopedia of Mathematics , Multimedia Encyclopedia of Science and Technology are also available in CD format.

4.2.2 Subscription of Electronic Journals

The College library has been subscribing several international journals in print form and many of these provide access to their electronic version free of charge along with print subscription. In addition to these the library is recently subscribing Applied Science and Technology Plus on CD-ROM and near about 105 journals are available online along with the subscription.

4.2.3 Subscription of Electronic Contents Service

Electronic content alert is available from Elsevier Science Publisher free of cost. The College library is taking this advantage. Contents of about 60 selected journals are being subscribed by the library through e-mail. Contents are received 2 to 3 months before the actual publication of the journals. After receiving the contents it is forwarded to the interested faculty member and the students to their e-mal address.

4.2.4 Document retrieved from Internet

Faculty members, students search regularly on the Internet and download documents, photographs etc. for their own study and research. These downloaded documents are either kept by the individual or thrown by them after the completion of their work. To develop this type of electronic collection an instruction is given to all the faculty members and students to submit their floppies in which they have downloaded their required information to the library. All these important retrieved documents are kept in Library Proxy server for future use. In this process an effort has been made to organize electronic collections within the limit and with less expenditure.

4.2.5 Digitization of Newspaper Clippings

News items regarding different aspects of the college was kept in a manual file. Due to initiative taken for developing Electronic library the news items are scanned and kept in local library server for internal use.

5.0 COMPILATION OF IMPORTANT URLs

While performing the day to day work and meeting the information needs of the different types of the users it is observed that a plenty of online electronic journals, electronic books, online databases are available free of charge. An attempt is being made to club the important URLs in one place under the scheme of Electronic Library. The author has started to compile these important sites at URL **http://www.geocities.com/ghosh_tbd** under the heading "VIRTUAL LIBRARY". This site includes link with Online e-books, E-journals, Engineering Institutions, Libraries-virtual libraries-digital libraries, online databases, online reference sources, online document delivery and other information services, Publisher's link, Earthquake Information etc.

6.0 FUTURE PLAN

The Library and the Departments plan to maintain and expand this Electronic Library. There is a plan to digitize the following materials and to keep these in Local Library Sever as a part of collection development of Electronic Library.

6.1 Students' Seminar and Project Papers

At present the students of BE and ME are submitting their Seminar and Project paper in printed book form. It is decided that students will submit one additional copy in floppy diskette in MS Word or HTML file.

6.2 Teachers' Papers and Presentations

Almost all faculty members are professionally active and presenting papers in national and International Seminar/Conference and publishing papers in reputed journals. The faculties will be requested to submit one copy of their paper to the Library.

6.3 Question Paper and Syllabi

Question papers of Different branches are gradually going to be damaged and it is decided that at least 10 years question papers and the syllabi will be added in to the collection development of Electronic Library. All these materials will be scanned and be kept in the Library server as a part of Electronic Library.

7.0 HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE USED IN SVRCET LIBRARY

7.1 COMPUTER

1. H.P. Net server 1 GB HD 32 MB RAM   1
2. Zenith Net server 9GB HD 128 MB RAM   1
3. HCL INFINITY Global line 1300 Server 20GB HD 256 RAM 1
4. HCL INFINITY 2000 1 GB HD 32 MB RAM   1
5. HCL INFINITY 2000 2 GB HD 64 MB RAM   1
6. HCL INFINITY 2000 20 GB HD 128 MB RAM with Multi Media   4
7. HCL INFINITY 2000 20 GB HD 128 MB RAM   10
8. HP Vectra 460 MB HD 8 MB RAM   2
9. HCL INFINITY 2000 Diskless PC   4
10. CD Net server with 7 drives 8X   1

7.2 PRINTER

1.	Dot matrix Printer 132 Col	3
2.	Dot matrix Printer 80 Col	2
3.	HP LaserJet 6P	1
4.	HP DeskJet Colour 1000C	1
5.	HP LaserJet 6L Pro	1
6.	HP DeskJet 610C	1

7.3 OTHER PERIPHERALS

1.	HP Flatbed Scanner	1
2.	HP CD Writer	1

7.3 LIBRARY AUTOMATION SOFTWARE

1. CDS/ISIS
2. LIBSYS 4 with Web OPAC

7.0 CONCLUSION

Most of the collection of this Electronic Library is an indigenous output of the college. From the time it was planned there is no expenditure involved in this matter. The faculties and students are coming forward to extend their help and expertise. The three components of an Electronic Library are (1) Documents (2) Technology and (3) People. The first item, the documents themselves are easily available and second item, the technology is also available. But if the people i.e. working force devote their time and take interest properly this Electronic Library will definitely take a big shape.

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