 USING YOUR ELECTRONIC LIBRARY ~ Compendex Plus

What is Compendex Plus?
A bibliographic database with abstracts of engineering and technical literature produced by Engineering Information. The complete database contains thousands of English-language abstracts from over 4,500 journals, 2,000 conference proceedings, technical reports, and professional society publications. This database corresponds to the print publication Engineering Index which is available on the 3rd floor of the Main library at RB 016.62 ENG (1940-1995).

Where is Compendex Plus available?
Available online at www.dialogatsite.com for the years 1989-present in five yearly datasets. Access to the site is IP authenticated and limited to the Durban campus. It is also available to users on CD-ROM for the period 1992-2001 via NAL.

Who should use Compendex Plus?
Suitable for academic staff and postgraduate students seeking citations and abstracts on engineering related topics.

How do I search?
The Basic search allows searching by subject, author, title, journal title and date.

The advanced search offers additional search fields which support more specific search strategies. To assist searchers, details of the information indexed in a particular field field is just a click away using the question? link and indexes allow search terms to be easily selected.

Other features of this database include ~
• displaying search results in a number of different formats depending on the amount of detail required.
• marking relevant records and creating a file of clippings.
• saving, emailing or printing search results.

Are other Engineering databases available?
Other databases providing engineering and technology information are:
• ASCE Civil Engineering Database
Who can assist me with Compendex Plus?
Contact the Engineering subject librarian
Mrs Avenal Finlayson for assistance
Tel: 2602064 or Email:
finlaysona@nu.ac.za

WEBWATCH

**AHDS Literature, Languages & Linguistics** - [http://ahds.ac.uk/](http://ahds.ac.uk/)
This site is hosted by the Oxford Text Archive, and the collection covers a wide range of textual material. The core activities of the AHDS are to collect, distribute, and preserve high quality digital resources both within the UK and the worldwide community and to advocate the use of open source, non-proprietary software and encoding schemes (such as the Text Encoding Initiative). Visit the site for information regarding depositing with the Oxford Text Archive.

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**The Bibliotheca Alexandrina**
[www.bibalex.gov.eg](http://www.bibalex.gov.eg) in Alexandria, Egypt was opened by Mrs Suzanne Mubarak, wife of Egyptian President Hosny Mubarak, in October 2003.

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provides a current 2 year searchable file of bibliographic citations and abstracts for doctoral dissertations and masters theses from over 1000 universities. The print edition entitled *Dissertation Abstracts International* is available in the EG Malherbe Library at RB 013 DIS.

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**IEEE Xplore Links**
Following an agreement between Google and IEEE, the Google search engine now retrieves content from IEEE scholarly journals and other publications. Google users are now able to see the linked IEEE content in their search results. For best results limit your search to the IEEE Xplore domain using the advanced search option.

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**MEDICAL LIBRARY JOURNALS**

Since the end of November, staff at the Medical Library have been busy on a project to reclassify and move journals shelved on open shelves on the ground floor of the library on to compact shelves. This will make more study space available for students.

The journals used to be arranged in alphabetical order according to title, but they have now been arranged in subject categories according to the Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme (DDC). This means that issues of a journal which changed its title are now shelved together. Previously this was not possible with the alphabetical arrangement.

The magnitude of the project has meant that thousands of volumes of journals have been packed into boxes, over 1000 journal titles have been reclassified and their records amended in the library catalogue, new spine labels for each volume have been affixed, the compact shelves installed and finally the journals repacked onto the new shelves. It is hoped that the project will be completed before the year-end break.
DID YOU KNOW?

NEW DATABASE
Child Abuse, Child Welfare & Adoption (1965-present) provides citations and abstracts on child maltreatment, safety and well-being in books, journal articles, final reports from federally-funded grant, conference papers, unpublished papers, reports on completed or continuing research, as well as descriptions of service programs and prevention and treatment strategies. Materials cited are primarily in English and originate from US research and service programmes http://biblioline.nisc.com/scripts/login.dll?Biblioline

RENEWAL
Our subscription to the EbscoHost databases has been renewed for 2004, when we will also have access to a new online database - INSPEC - which will replace our print subscription. The Oxford English Dictionary is now available at http://dictionary.oed.com/entrance.dtl

AVAILABLE LINKS
The SAPSE journal list for 2004 is now composed of journal lists from the Institute of Scientific Information (ISI), the International Bibliography of the Social Sciences (IBSS) and a list of recognised South African journals. These 3 separate sites must be consulted for information as to which journals are included:
ISI: http://www.isinet.com/cgi-bin/jrnlst/jloptions.cgi?PC=master
IBSS: http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/IBSS/about/alphabeticalJournals.htm
SA Journals: http://www.nu.ac.za/research/extra.asp?id=37&dept=RESEARCH

BORROWING PRIVILEGES
The Library Merger Task Team has agreed the following borrowing privileges at all campus libraries in 2004 –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Borrower category</th>
<th>No. of books</th>
<th>Loan Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honours students (including 4 year undergraduate years)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>21 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters, Doctoral &amp; Post Doctoral students</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>30 days (Med School)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>42 days (all other libraries)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff - permanent</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30 days (Med School)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>90 days (all other libraries)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff - contract</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting academics</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign/Exchange students</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IULC / ESAL members</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Agreement still has to be reached for other borrower categories, so current policy will continue to apply for these library users. Inter Library Loan facilities can now be used by staff and students at any of the libraries. RP
ESAL SYSTEMS PROJECT

The Eastern Seaboard Association of Libraries is engaged in a project to examine library systems and select one which will be appropriate for the whole consortium, i.e. tertiary education libraries of KwaZulu-Natal, as the present system, URICA, will be replaced by a Web-based system within the next three years. Project groups for each module have been identified, needs examined, and a Request for Proposals compiled. A representative selection of users from all the institutions were consulted as to their needs, and thanks are due to those who made time in the midst of many other pressing duties, to respond.

The first round of vendor demonstrations have been held and evaluated and it is hoped to be able to have more intensive demonstrations of short-listed vendors in the first quarter of 2004.

CD

STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to these Library staff members who received long service awards-

Mr Balkasor Ramphal, (known as “Ram” to his colleagues) started work at the University of Natal, Durban on 20 April 1978 and moved from Postal Services (as Registry was then called) to the Library Bindery on 16 June 1980. He has been in the Bindery since then and is due to retire on 31 December 2003. Ram enjoys spending his free time servicing and repairing motor vehicles and has acquired a sound knowledge of engine mechanics and spray painting. He loves to travel and can often be seen on the road to Port Elizabeth where he frequently visits with his relatives.

NB

Mrs Brenda van der Berg started work in the Library on 1 February 1976 as an Administrative Assistant. She worked at the Issue Desk and helped with the Library’s financial records and cash control in the days when the Main Library was housed in the Memorial Tower Building. She resigned at the end of November 1981, just before her daughter was born, but came back to work in the Library in January 1984 – in the Periodicals Department – on a temporary, part-time basis. At the end of that year she transferred to a full-time permanent post in the Book Orders Department and in November 1990, she was promoted to the post of Senior Library Assistant at the Medical Library, where she still works, handling the Medical Library’s financial records and controlling the cash.

NR

Mr Shalisi Mhlongo started work for the University in 1978 at Building Services before becoming a messenger in the Library on the 1st January 1983. In October 1986 he was promoted to the position of Library Attendant. In 1999 he was promoted to the position of Supervisor: Collection Maintenance which is a position he still holds. He always cheers up the library staff with his favourite phrase “Don’t worry, be happy!”.

MW

DISPLAYS

Portraits of Italian Cinema
Ramadaan & Islam
African Scholarship Workshop

QUOTABLE QUOTE

To most of us the future seems unsure; but then it always has been; and we who have seen great changes must have great hopes.

- John Mansfield