

NOTIS_{es}

*For users of
NOTIS
library
information
systems*

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Oklahoma Libraries Build Network throughout State with NOTIS Systems

Oklahoma State University (OSU) and Tulsa City-County Library System purchased NOTIS' PACLink and PACLoan systems to create a network of libraries throughout the state of Oklahoma. The network ultimately will include both NOTIS and non-NOTIS sites.

OSU chose NOTIS in 1990 primarily because of its networking capabilities. Tulsa City-County Library has been a NOTIS customer since 1983.

"We have been keenly interested in a statewide network for a long time....Some of the largest libraries in the state are NOTIS libraries. It made sense to go with PACLink since NOTIS is ahead of the other vendors in terms of commercial availability of Z39.50," said Dr. Ed Johnson, Library Director, at OSU.

OSU and Tulsa City-County Library participate in a network of ten libraries, primarily academic, called ORACL (Oklahoma Research and Community Library Network).

"We foresee seamless interfaces among these ten libraries. Our vision is that we can provide either online or dial up access for all citizens of Oklahoma to most of the unique titles in Oklahoma," said Jon Walker, Manager of Technical Services, at Tulsa City-County Library.

Together, PACLink and PACLoan enable patrons to easily access information and materials held by other libraries. PACLink allows patrons to search other libraries' collections and PACLoan lets them initiate online interli-

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Release 5.1.1 fixes are in this month's Support Solutions.

NOTIS NEWS

NOTIS is pleased to announce that we have a new National Sales Manager, Tom Burns, and now all of our sales territories are covered. Below is a list of who you can contact for product information at your site. If you have any questions, you can call NOTIS' sales group at 708-866-0156.

Cindy Lazarra-Plains
Phone: 913-345-2234
Fax: 913-345-2678

Arkansas	Colorado
Kansas	Louisiana
Missouri	New Mexico
Oklahoma	Texas

Diane Lewin-Northern Midwest
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Iowa	Minnesota
Nebraska	North Dakota
South Dakota	Wisconsin
Manitoba	Saskatchewan

John Florian-Eastern Great Lakes
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Illinois	Indiana
Kentucky	Michigan
Ohio	Tennessee

Jim Lewis-Mid Atlantic
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Delaware	DC
Maryland	New Jersey
Pennsylvania	Virginia
West Virginia	

Kerry Hanna-New England
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Massachusetts	Rhode Island
New Hampshire	New York
Vermont	Ontario
Quebec	New Foundland
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Alabama	Florida
Georgia	Mississippi
North Carolina	South Carolina
Caribbean	South America

NOTIS^{es}

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CONTRIBUTIONS: We welcome articles and suggestions from the user community. Please call for formatting suggestions before submitting items for publication.

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**Problem
after hours?
No problem!**

You can call a systems engineer to help you resolve your technical problems Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (CST). From 7:00-8:30 a.m. and from 5:00-7:00 p.m., the system engineer on duty will handle incoming calls in correlation with the voice mail system. Simply call Customer Services at (708) 866-1100 or fax us at (708) 866-4908.

Oklahoma...Continued from page 1

brary loan and document delivery requests from an OPAC terminal.

A private grant from a foundation will connect OSU, Tulsa City-County Library, and two non-NOTIS sites. They are waiting for the state legislature to authorize public funding to link four more NOTIS sites and one more non-NOTIS site. Tulsa City-County Library and OSU want to demonstrate PACLink to others in the state to help everyone understand the benefits of networking.

OSU wants to be on the leading edge of telecommunications and they view this project as a way to demonstrate their ability to link public libraries and state universities. Connecting the ten libraries in ORACL gives patrons access to about 3.6 million bibliographic records in the database plus provides shared access to general periodicals, business periodicals, newspaper indexes, and abstracts.

"The primary benefit to working with OSU is that it allows us to share information and resources which will enhance both collections and give our patrons greater access to more information. Because we are a public library, OSU has a more in-depth collection in several areas. Through PACLink and PACLoan, our patrons can get access to materials online. It makes a lot of sense to share resources and networks," Walker said.

Since the interface looks the same, patrons at Tulsa City-County Library won't know they are accessing information from OSU. This saves Tulsa City County both hardware and database costs.

In addition to purchasing PACLink and PACLoan, OSU purchased DocDirect, NOTIS' document delivery product. With DocDirect, patrons can print online fulltext and image records while they search citations and abstracts. Patrons now have the option to request and immediately receive copies of materials. ORACL also plans to utilize a shared access to DocDirect.

OSU's main campus is in Stillwater, with three other campuses throughout the state. OSU celebrated its Centennial in 1990 and has 29,000 students. It is a land grant university heavily oriented in agriculture, engineering, and science.

Tulsa City-County Library is a county-wide system serving about one-half million people. There are twenty-two libraries that are part of the

system; a central library and twenty-one branches. They have one million holdings in their system and have been a NOTIS customer for ten years.

A Sonnet for NOTIS Horizon

*by Alan Alexander-Manifold,
Purdue University*

When I look east, where sunrise brings the dawn,
A dark and jagged line against the sky
Marks off a limit for my straining eye:
The far horizon, past which none have gone.
Few features of that distant land are clear
Besides a forest vast, some lofty peak.
Of hidden secrets these dim outlines speak,
But we know not if we should hope or fear.
A new Horizon also is in view,
Which like the first by distance still is blurred,
And we feel hope and fear both intertwined.
To us, however, that course is not new;
Dismissing threats and promises we've heard,
We'll sally forth and find what we shall find.

Products to Fit Your Needs

The NOTIS product line continues to be expanded to meet your needs now and in the future. Are you wondering how they all fit together, what hardware platforms they run on, and what "open systems" features are part of each product?

Following is a brief overview of the four categories of products we offer.

- **Systems for Library Management**

Integrated library management systems that offer complete functionality: Cataloging and Authority Control, Circulation, OPAC, Acquisitions and Fund Accounting, Serials Control, and Report Generation.

- **Database Servers**

Systems to locally mount citation databases and abstracts, as well as full text and customized local databases.

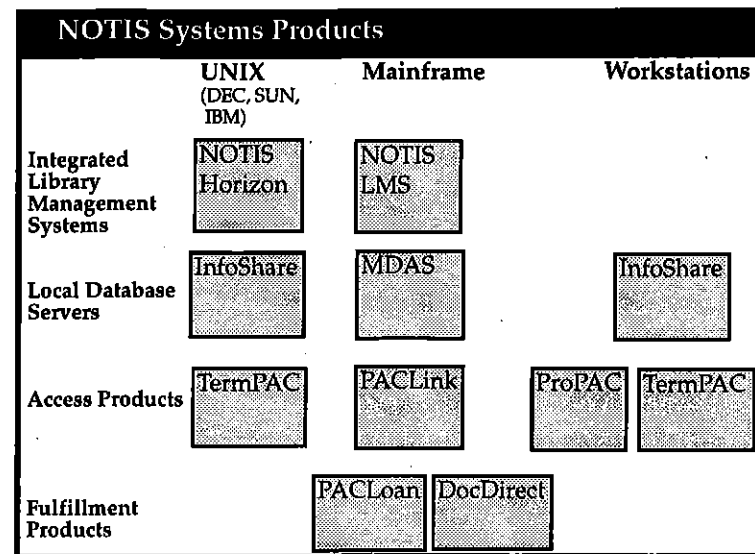
- **Access Products**

Client products that allow patrons to easily access local or remote Z39.50 servers.

- **Fulfillment Products**

Products that satisfy patron requests for materials and articles.

All our products are based on the client/server model of system architecture and incorporate the "open systems" standards for seamless linking with disparate systems. The chart below lists these features for each product.



Open System Features					
	Client/Server	Z39.50	TCP/IP	UNIX	Graphical
NOTIS HORIZON	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
NOTIS LMS	Yes	.....	Yes	.....	.....
InfoShare	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....
MDAS	Yes	.....	Yes	.....	.....
ProPAC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
TermPAC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....
PACLink	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....
PACLoan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
DocDirect	Yes	.....	Yes	Yes	.....

New Advisory Council Represents Librarians

The Advisory Council's first meeting will be held at NUGM. This council is based upon the Team NOTIS model, but is made up of librarians from customer sites rather than Tech1's.

The Advisory Council's mission is to act in a liaison role to foster a sense of cooperative communication within the NOTIS community. They will advise NOTIS staff on the issues related to system functionality and support from the library perspective. The council's goal is to develop a replacement to the enhancement ballot. To accomplish this goal, they will gather information from SIGs, customers, and NOTIS.

The selection committee has chosen four members for the council, they are:

- Pat Ramage, Systems Librarian, University of South Alabama. Pat is a Lib1 and has 11 years of experience working with LMS. Her duties include directing the operation of the NOTIS system for the libraries. She said, "The Users Council has the potential to become a positive communication channel for both NOTIS and NOTIS users. I believe that the communication skills I use in my work, as well as my experience with NOTIS, would contribute to the successful formation of a NOTIS Users Council."
- Carol Caro, Automation Librarian, Head Library Systems Department, Boston College. Carol plans, implements, and manages all automated systems and products for the Boston College Libraries. She's interested in serving on the council because "I would like to continue to play an active role in the direction NOTIS will be moving in the next few years."
- Beverly Ryan, Systems Librarian, California State University. Beverly is the Lib1 and is responsible for their KeyNOTIS system, overseeing other types of library automation, evaluating new products, and ordering and installing new equipment. Beverly would like to see a KeyNOTIS representative as a member of the council and enjoys "being a part of the NOTIS community and would like to be involved in

continuing development and improvement of the system."

- Joyce McDonough, Director of Technical Support and Acquisitions, Columbia University Libraries. Joyce has been working with the NOTIS software since 1986 both at the University of Louisville and Columbia University. She has worked with the system at an operational level as well as at a planning and policy development level. Joyce worked to establish the Acquisitions SIG and said "I have had the opportunity to work with NOTIS staff in other areas and I think that I would enjoy working in this venue as well."

Members of the Advisory Council will hold their first meeting at NUGM and will decide the length of terms and how to handle recruiting and selecting new members to continue the committee into the future.

Team NOTIS Gets Two New Members

Team NOTIS is getting two new members. Beginning with the NUGM meeting, Maryanne Vaughan and Gordon Schumacher will replace Leigh Williams (Stephen F. Austin University) and Tim Prettyman (University of Michigan), who both volunteered to make room for new Team NOTIS members.

Team NOTIS was involved in selecting the new members with the goal of maintaining a balance among new and experienced NOTIS customers and MVS and VSE customers. Team NOTIS and NOTIS also wanted a Tech1 who had a lot of direct involvement with the NOTIS products.

Maryanne Vaughan, Systems Analyst and Tech1, has five years experience with LMS at Vanderbilt University. She's responsible for maintaining all aspects of the VSE system and for installing and maintaining systems and applications software for InfoShare and the TAG.

Maryanne said one of her reasons for wanting to serve on Team NOTIS is because "I would like the opportunity to work together with NOTIS to improve upon the level of communication and support that has already been established, and to assist NOTIS in its efforts to deliver the best system possible."

Gordon Schumacher, Tech1 and Assistant Director of Library Technologies at Cornell University, is responsible for LMS installation, maintenance, and troubleshooting. Cornell has also recently installed InfoShare and the TAG.

Gordon said he is "looking forward to being a resource and a liaison to NOTIS in terms of product and service direction."

Alan Alexander-Manifold at Purdue University, and Paul Asay at Indiana State University, will continue into their third year as members of Team NOTIS. Alan said he enjoys being a part of Team NOTIS because "It's a way to get involved and have an impact on making changes in NOTIS."

Paul said his role in Team NOTIS gives him a better perspective on NOTIS and has been a good way to get closer to Customer Services.

Team NOTIS is made up of Tech1's from customer sites and acts as a liaison between NOTIS and the user community—primarily the technical community. They have met quarterly

since February 1992. The meetings are held at NOTIS where Team NOTIS has the opportunity to pass on any user concerns they hear, react to proposals from NOTIS, and give feedback on issues that have come up.

Carole Norris, Customer Support Services Manager, said "Team NOTIS has always worked well together to make suggestions that NOTIS has used to improve its services and products." ☞

Keeping You in Touch with Current Issues

Team NOTIS Meeting Minutes

by Paul Asay, Indiana State University

Team NOTIS met July 21 with Customer Support Services and other departments within NOTIS to discuss current issues affecting Tech1's.

The first major topic concerned the current bulletin board, NOTISrv. We had suggested in our last meeting to make the Problem Tracking System (PTS) available on Gopher. To accommodate that request, Customer Support Services is testing moving the system to an InfoShare database and making it available to search via ProPAC. The next step is to make it easier to contact NOTIS via e-mail, and we will discuss that issue further.

Customer Support Services shared with us the changes they will be making to NOTIS Direct, the phone support system. With the addition of several new products, Customer Support Services is trying to make it as easy as possible to connect to the right engineer to solve problems.

They are also taking steps to better organize engineers around the new products, with the goal being to organize around products not just platforms, such as Windows versus VSE and MVS. This will also be an important issue for each Tech1 to consider now that Windows and UNIX products are becoming part of our work.

Jim Miesse, Manager of Release Integration & Distribution, met with us to discuss how the Customer Service Review Committee had been restructured into the new Quality Review Committee. This committee contains members from each key area within NOTIS.

NOTIS formed the Quality Review Committee to recognize that documentation and general issues were as important as software issues and are best handled in one forum in which consistent treatment could be ensured. Each member of Team NOTIS thinks this is a good way to solve tough problems that may not have been solved in the past.

Two new members were selected to replace the members rotating off the team (see accompanying article on page 6). This is the first time members have rotated off. Each year, two new members will rotate off, allowing each member to stay on for two years.

Gordon Schumacher from Cornell, and Maryanne Vaughan from Vanderbilt, will join the team starting at NUGM this fall. Tim Prettyman and Leigh Williams will be sadly missed, not only because of their excellent abilities, but also because they have become close friends.

John Kolman, Vice President for Sales, Marketing, and Service, and MariBeth Ward, Vice President for Systems Development, led a product update session. They demonstrated the latest version of ProPAC and discussed networking and how sites need to prepare for its use.

ProPAC is a very exciting product and each site may want to start considering networking issues for the OPAC to take advantage of its use. The NOTIS Horizon project along with NOTIS' Windows-based Gopher client was also discussed.

At the next team meeting we will be discussing enhancements requested by Tech1's. Tim Prettyman will be asking Tech1's for enhancements they would like to incorporate into the various NOTIS products soon. In the past, this has been split between VSE and MVS, but we will be including Windows and UNIX issues as well this time. ☞

Frequently Asked Questions about NUGM—and Some Answers

Members of the NUGM Planning Committee report that NOTIS customers often ask the same questions about NUGM. So it seems worthwhile to publish the answers for all customers.

Why Is NUGM at the Palmer House?

When we outgrew the meeting facilities available to us at Northwestern University, we decided to move NUGM to the Palmer House since: (1) the hotel is known to many users due to its venue as an ALA meeting site; (2) it is convenient to reach from the airport; (3) it offers attractive room rates; and (4) its meeting and catering facilities are suitable for an event like NUGM.

Because of our first meeting's success there, we signed a contract with the Palmer House to use it as the NUGM site through 1993. This guaranteed certain rates and dates for us. This is a standard practice since hotels typically book large meetings at least three to five years in advance. We are currently evaluating a renewal of the contract—a process that also includes a look at other sites in downtown Chicago. If better rates and facilities become available at another hotel, we may very well move NUGM. At this point, NUGM will most likely continue to be held at the Palmer House based on initial feedback from other hotels.

Why do We Have the Current NUGM Schedule?

This was the preference expressed by many users on the NUGM evaluation forms collected in 1992. Several attendees indicated that this schedule justifies a Saturday night stay allowing them to secure much cheaper airfares—more than offsetting the additional hotel room cost.

The NUGM Planning Committee always reviews attendees' evaluations. If the preference clearly changes, so will our schedule.

Why Are Vendors not Invited to Attend NUGM?

NUGM is intended to be a "family affair" for users only. Other vendors and their activities might detract from the focus on NOTIS issues and concerns. If you feel that there is a role for other vendors at NUGM, please let us know on this year's evaluation form.

Why Do the October Dates Change Every Year?

Most attendees have indicated that they prefer October as the NUGM meeting month. Ideally, this means that we have to find a time not in conflict with: (1) Canadian Thanksgiving; (2) Yom Kippur; (3) Columbus Day (a big event in Chicago that often puts hotel space at a premium); (4) EDUCOM (a conference attended by many NOTIS users and NOTIS staff and whose dates in October have varied from year to year); and (5) other events booked at the Palmer House.

Meeting planners have suggested and our experience confirms that it is better to commit to a hotel for a fixed number of years even if you cannot always get the exact dates you might prefer—on the whole, you get better service, which results in meetings without any major glitches.

As stated above, our current meeting contract is up for renewal. Our ideal situation is to find a hotel that has attractive rates, meets all of our logistical requirements, and can guarantee a fixed time slot for the next few years. Attendee comments in the past suggest that the latter requirement is the one we can be flexible about.

We look forward to seeing you in October in Chicago! ☞

The "Ideal" Acquisitions System to be Discussed at NUGM '93

By Nancy Boggess-Korekach, Session Moderator, Vanderbilt University

Calling all Acquisitions librarians and other interested persons to put on their thinking caps and open up their imaginations for a discussion on what you think of as the "ideal" acquisitions system. We would like this session to be open and have all members of the audience participate.

Floyd Zula from Tulane and Julie Nilson from Indiana University will be talking briefly in the first few minutes to get us started, but after they get the ball rolling, everyone is invited to join in the discussion. This will be a true "brainstorming" session and the rules for brainstorming will apply. These rules essentially state that everyone is entitled to share their ideas however wild or unorthodox they may be and no one will be ridiculed or dismissed for any ideas they may present.

Some of the issues you may want to begin thinking about before you come to the session are:

- How do you communicate with your requesters/selectors and how could that be improved?
- How do you communicate with your vendors/suppliers and how could that be improved?
- Is your fund structure ideally suited to your needs and how would you change it if it is not?
- Are your procedures for receiving items and paying invoices that efficient, or can you think of other ways these procedures could be done if you were not constrained to work within the limitations of your system?
- If you were going to design an acquisitions system from scratch, what would be your main points of concern—what would you want it to do in order to make your life easier?

These are just some ideas to get you started before you come to the meeting. If you can set some of these ideas down on paper ahead of time, so much the better.

Let's come to this meeting determined to have a stimulating and progressive discussion with no ideas too wild or crazy to be considered! ☞