Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

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Energinfo Vol 8 No 9

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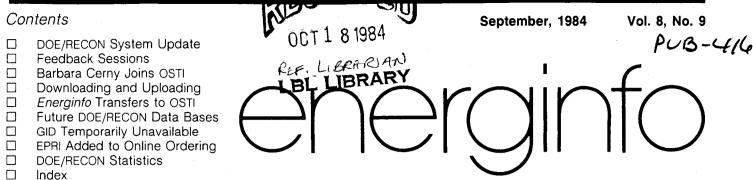
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

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Contents

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THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ABOUT DOE'S TECHNICAL INFORMATION PROGRAM, PRODUCTS, AND SERVICES

OSTI Program Directions

Feedback Sessions

During the Technical Information Meeting held at OSTI in Oak Ridge June 6–7, attendees divided into small groups to discuss plans and needs. Following are summary reports of those feedback sessions.

Group A: OSTI Products and Services

This working group was led by Dora Moneyhun, Director, Technical Information Division, and Tom Laughlin, Assistant Manager for Information Acquisition and Appraisal. The two major topics were distribution and microfiche.

Standard distribution. Session attendees expressed the need for a more refined distribution system. OSTI is currently analyzing the automatic and secondary distribution systems and exploring the use of new technology for disseminating DOE reports. In addition, OSTI is working with program managers both to establish effective category systems and to verify addresses to ensure that program materials are indeed reaching the proper audiences.

Limited distribution. The processing of limited-distribution reports is being reviewed, and proposals have been made to clarify and simplify the announcement procedures. Any resulting modifications to the distribution system should help solve current problems and ensure that reports are available

to all DOE contractor personnel who need them while maintaining the protection necessary for limited reports.

Microfiche. The recent changes in microfiche report distribution were discussed. As part of the quality control system, reports that will not fiche well are being made available only in printed form. OSTI currently provides microfiche headers for these reports with the regular fiche; this header instructs the recipient to contact OSTI or NTIS for printed copy. It was suggested that the production of these "fake fiche" be discontinued. The attendees discussed providing notice of these reports on cards that could be filed with the fiche. Further discussion indicated that perhaps this notice was not necessary since the information is available on EDB and in printed documents. This question will be given further consideration.

'Energinfo' Transfers to OSTI

With the completion of DOE/RECON training videotapes and the accompanying workbook, the contract with Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory (LBL) for DOE/RECON training is being phased out. The videotapes will replace the beginning training sessions, and advanced training will be given in conjunction with the annual Technical Information Meeting at the DOE Office of Scientific and Technical

EPRI Added to DOE/RECON Online Ordering

DOE/RECON has added the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) as a new supplier to its online ordering service. EPRI will not accept credit cards, and users who want to order from them must first establish an account with EPRI.

To set up a deposit account, contact:

EPRI Research Reports Center
P.O. Box 50490
Palo Alto, CA 94303
(415) 965-4081

A $200 minimum is required to set up an account for users in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. A $500 minimum is required for all other users. (These fees are applied to document requests.) The price of individual reports for users in the United States, Canada, and Mexico begins at $7, plus $1.50 for each additional 25-page increment. For other users, the price begins at $14, plus $3 for each additional 25-page increment. Microfiche is the same price as hard copy.

Though individual papers from a report such as a proceedings may be indexed in the Energy Data Base (EDB), the full report must be ordered from EPRI Research Reports Center (RRC).

There is no charge for technical reports requested by EPRI members, affiliate members, U.S. electric utility industry trade associations, and U.S. government agencies. The RRC

Barbara Cerny Joins OSTI Staff

Barbara Cerny, recently named Assistant Manager for Information Systems and Technology by Joseph G. Coyne, Manager of DOE's Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI), has assumed her new duties in Oak Ridge.

In her new assignment, Dr. Cerny will manage OSTI's computer complex for controlling, processing, and retrieving energy information generated from DOE's research and development efforts. In addition, she will develop a nationwide communication and networking capability for accessing DOE's data bases, using the most advanced telecommunications technologies.

A native of New Jersey, Dr. Cerny comes to OSTI from Palo Alto, California, where she was Manager of Technology Applications for Lockheed's DIALOG Information Services. While at DIALOG, she was responsible for developing and managing online information service activities such as electronic mail and information delivery and personal computer interfaces. From 1978 to 1982, she was a principal investigator in computer and information science at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory.

Dr. Cerny has an undergraduate degree in physics and a Ph.D. in psychometrics from the University of California, Berkeley. Her earlier work was in statistical and scientific computer methodologies. She is the author of numerous scientific publications.

Dr. Cerny has two sons; Keith is a concert pianist and conductor in London, and Mark is a computer designer and programmer for Atari in California.

—*Meg Jared, OSTI*

Barbara Cerny

Videotape Update

The five DOE/RECON training videotapes are completed and ready for distribution. The series is intended to familiarize new searchers with the system and is suited for both individuals and small groups. A companion manual, "Video Training Workbook," contains problems that use the commands and techniques presented in the tapes.

The first videotape, "DOE/RECON On-Line Retrieval System: Overview," can be used alone to introduce the information retrieval capabilities of the DOE/RECON system or as the beginning of the instructional series. The other four tapes in the series are totally instructional, teaching students how to log in, the basic commands necessary to manipulate the system, subject searching, search strategy techniques, etc. The tapes also deal with basic theory, such as the concepts involved in building data bases, indexing, and how subject categories are used in creating the Energy Data Base.

The videotapes will replace the beginning training sessions. Advanced DOE/RECON training will be given in conjunction with the annual Technical Information Meeting at the Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI).

Copies of the training tapes will be on permanent loan to DOE laboratories and are available to DOE and contractor offices on temporary loan (one month) from OSTI. Those who have already inquired about using the tapes have been placed on the request list. Other interested persons should contact:

Barbara Goad
Office of Scientific and
   Technical Information
Technical Information Center
Technical Information Division
P.O. Box 62
Oak Ridge, TN 37831
Commercial: (615) 576-5636
FTS: 626-5636

Be sure to list the number of people in your group, so that a workbook can be included for each student.

This Month's Inserts

Enclosed with this issue are the Data Base Summary Sheets for the Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSC, file 8) and the Epidemiology Information System (EIS, file 21).

DOE/RECON: Problems and Progress

Editor's Note: This talk was presented June 6 at the Technical Information Meeting. Webster Gudmundson and Karl Haeuslein are the directors of the DOE/RECON System.

Since the last Technical Information meeting, the entire EDB file was reloaded for proximity searching. Many problems had to be overcome before the reload could be completed; these included problems with disks, IBM software, and large, difficult sorts (180 million terms had to be sorted with ten jobs running 8–10 hours each and two jobs running for more than 12 hours). Also, the inverted index file more than doubled in size. The proximity feature brought many new benefits, but not without cost. One of the primary drawbacks has been an increase in response time, but such delays should be reduced in the future.

Another problem is the need for more disk space. DOE/RECON began in 1971 with five terminals and 150,000 entries. There are now over 700 users and more than 3,600,000 citations. At last count, EDB alone had 1,285,773 citations and is growing at the rate of 200,000 citations per year. Last year, a total of 362,217 citations were added to all data bases. The current rate of growth requires 57 million bytes of disk space each month, and this figure does not include space needed either for new data bases or for reloads for proximity searching of additional files.

Currently, 25 IBM 3350 and 5 IBM 3330 disk storage volumes are being used. This allows a current capacity of over 9 billion bytes of storage. Even so, the computer room floor space where the disk storage volumes are housed has been exhausted. Martin-Marietta's centralized IBM facility managers have decided to expand disk storage at ORNL by replacing old storage devices with new IBM 3380 disks. These, however, require new controllers and other equipment. A plan is being drawn up to take advantage of all the new features of the 3380s.

Since available storage space is nearly exhausted, some data bases may be established with online searchable indexes but with linear files offline. Prints will be accepted but performed in batch mode overnight. Displays would not be possible during user sessions for these files. Look to the online news at logon and *Energinfo* for future announcements.

Two new truncation features were recently added to DOE/RECON. You can now restrict truncation to index entries having a stem plus a specified number of additional characters. Another feature prompts an interrupt after 5 minutes, showing current merge results and asking whether to proceed or not. Other changes disallow truncation immediately when an excessive number of index merges would occur. Although these changes were made to reduce the impact of the reloaded EDB on search times, they are available for other files.

A new command, "CHARGES," allows users to list their DOE/RECON charges for the previous month. The totals for each session contain overhead. New charges will appear sometime in the final week of the month. The charge period is not a calendar month but will vary in beginning and ending days from the 25th to the 29th of the month.

Recently, HELP file processing was improved to allow an 80-character line. All HELP information eventually will be reworked from 40 to 80 character line widths, and the command information will be updated. Your suggestions for improvements in this area will be welcome.

With its large files and many users, DOE/RECON has been heavily tested. There has been some downtime in the past six months because of operations outgrowing program and file limits. Even though this downtime is small, the frequency has occasionally been high. Steps have been taken to reduce these problems. It is hoped that users have been able to log back into old sessions and carry on

without any trouble. Remember that you can enter the command "=USER" at logon time in place of your ID; this will bring you a list of suspended accounts. Your old session number can be found this way if you have not saved it.

New capabilities continue to be developed. One is a "SORT" command, on which work has been started. With it, users will be able to sort sets by report number, contract number, author, corporate author, subject category, or distribution category. An online sort for displayed or printed listings and an offline sort for printed output will be offered. The number of citations that can be sorted online will be limited (probably to about 200).

Other enhancements are further down the road. One will enable users to customize display formats. With another, users should be able to display a range of citations without page headings.

—C. Webster Gudmundson and G. Karl Haeuslein, DOE/RECON Staff FTS 624-5391, Commercial (615) 524-5391

Why GID File Is 'Down'

DOE/RECON users selecting file 30, Government Industry Data Exchange (GID), will have seen a notice that the file is not available. The reason is that DOE/RECON disks, which have been IBM-3350, are being upgraded to the newer, higher-capacity IBM-3380. The transition has taken longer than originally anticipated; as a result, one of the larger files had to be sacrificed to accommodate Energy Data Base updates. GID was selected because it is one of the few files large enough to provide the required space. We hope to have it available again in the near future. In the meantime, we regret this inconvenience to the user community.

Future DOE/RECON Data Bases

At the Technical Information meeting in June, Julia Redford, Thesaurus Specialist, reported on 14 planned data bases to be added to DOE/RECON in the future. These data bases are described briefly below.

☐ *Foreign RIP (6,000 records; file 50)*. This file will consolidate all research-in-progress records received under bilateral agreements. Initially, it will be made up of records from the Federal Republic of Germany, the Nordic Group, and the IEA/Coal Information Center. Records from France and the Netherlands will be added later. OSTI plans to merge all of them into one common data base.

☐ *Australian Solar (5,000 records; file 54)*. This bibliographic file resulted from an initial exchange of information with Australia. The information it contains is primarily of the general-and-practical type.

☐ *SLAC Preprints (6,000 – 8,000 records)*. The Stanford Linear Accelerator Facility serves as the world's best-known source of particle physics preprints. This file represents the preprints announced and made available. Preprint records will be dropped from the file when formal reports or journal articles are published and included in EDB (Energy Data Base).

☐ *Excess Property (3,000 records; file 56)*. This file will serve as an inventory and notification of available excess property at DOE sites. It will be reloaded with new information at each update.

☐ *Conferences (2,000 records)*. In processing conference papers and proceedings into OSTI's data bases, a file is built that records pertinent information about each conference. This file is used to prevent duplicate numbering and processing and also to prepare the conference listings in *Energy Meetings*.

☐ *CRBR Unicorn (250,000 records; file 55)*. Records of all information—drawings, correspondence, specifications, etc.— pertinent to the initiation, conduct, and closeout of the Clinch River Breeder Reactor Project are included in this file. Access will be restricted to participants in the CRBR program.

☐ *Space Propulsion (25,000 records)*. This restricted file represents the first significant use of the "Gateway" concept. The Space Propulsion file will be based initially on historical information from the Defense Technical Information Center, NASA, and DOE relating to the space propulsion program of the 1960s.

☐ *Technical Training Programs (300 records)*. Oak Ridge Associated Universities is building this file of descriptions of available training courses. It will be extended to nontechnical training also, which will add another 1500 records.

☐ *AEC Hearings (4,000 records)*. This historical file contains summaries of the hearings of the Atomic Energy Commission, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, and the Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeals Board.

☐ *Fedrip (2,000 records)*. The R&D of other Federal agencies sometimes overlaps that of DOE. For that reason, research-in-progress records for energy-related R&D of other agencies will be loaded.

☐ *NTC Translations (150,000 records)*. An index of translations available from the National Translation Center (John Crerar Library) is being prepared for loading.

☐ *Germantown Library Holdings*. This file contains the holdings of the DOE Germantown Library and is in MARC format.

☐ *NRC Data (300,000 records)*. Efforts are under way to form a useful subset of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) file. Technical documents from NRC are included in EDB, but some nontechnical NRC documentation is also needed. The Library Operations Working Group (LOWG) is helping to identify information so that the subset may be built.

☐ *Nuclear Physics Preprints (1,000 records)*. The Michigan State University Physics Laboratory maintains a file of nuclear physics preprints. This file will complement the SLAC Particle Preprint file.

Downloading, Uploading, and Transloading

Editor's Note: This talk was presented by Lois Holmes of Battelle Northwest Laboratories at the June 1984 Technical Information Meeting held at TIC.

Hanford Technical Library staff at Battelle-Northwest have been involved in downloading, uploading, and transloading search strategies and results for some time. As we use the terms, *downloading* is shorthand for saying "capture the results of a literature search off DOE/RECON onto a floppy diskette." *Uploading* means to work out the search strategy on a microcomputer, then go online with the mainframe and send it. We also use the term to describe moving the search results from a microcomputer onto a mini, but we use *transloading* to describe the electronic transfer of data from micro to micro.

The literature can provide you with lots of reasons to download citations. We have encountered four main situations when we think downloading pays off for our users:

1. To have temporary back-up of the results of a large search.
2. To save online connect time even though the end product is an unedited printout.
3. To edit the results.
4. To use the results as data entry when building indexes to small, specialized collections.

INDEX to *Energinfo*

Volume 8, January — September 1984

(Citations indicate issue no.)

EPIDEMIOLOGY INFORMATION SYSTEM

SOURCE

Toxicology Information Response Center (TIRC)
Building 2024
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
P.O. Box X
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

REPRESENTATIVE

M. R. Miles
TIRC/ORNL
FTS 626-1743   Comm. (615) 576-1743

DESCRIPTION AND SUBJECT COVERAGE

The EIS file contains information on the distribution and health effects of food contaminants, especially unavoidable contaminants, and on natural toxicants in foods. Data is indexed from published literature and unpublished documents in the files of the Epidemiology Unit (EU) of the Food and Drug Administration's Bureau of Foods as well as from results of literature searches performed for the EU by TIRC

SIZE

8,077 citations as of August 1984.

INCLUSIVE DATES

1960 to the present, including pre-1960 support documents.

UPDATE FREQUENCY

Monthly.

SEARCH AIDS

1. *Medical Subject Headings—Annotated Alphabetic List, 1982.* National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD, July 1981. PB81-227480. Available from NTIS. Price code E09.

2. *Chemical Abstracts Index Guide.* (Chemical Abstracts Service, Columbus, OH, 1977)

3. *Serial Sources for the BIOSIS Data Base.* (Biosciences Information Service of Biological Abstracts, Philadelphia, PA, 1981).

AVAILABLE FORMATS

0 Full record
1 Accession number
2 Bibliographic citation, keywords, registry number
3 Bibliographic citation
4 Accession number, title
5 Bibliographic citation, keywords
6 Accession number, title
7 Bibliographic citation

TYPICAL RECORD

	<ACCESSION NO.> 00*0005949
AU=	<AUTHOR> KENYON DJ; ELFVING DC; PAKKALA IS; BACHE CA; LISK D
TL=	<TITLE> RESIDUES OF LEAD AND ARSENIC IN CROPS CULTURED ON OLD ORCHARD SOILS.
SO=	<PRIMARY CITATION> BULL. ENVIRON. CONTAM. TOXICOL. 1979, 22(1-2) 221-223.
DN=	<DOCUMENT INV NO> 005949
IT=	<KEYWORDS> ARSENIC; ANALYSIS; HYDROGEN-ION CONCENTRATION; LEAD; NEW YORK; SOIL POLLUTANTS; SOIL; VEGETABLES; UNITED STATES; CORN; CUCUMBER; SQUASH; FOOD; TOMATO; ANALYSIS, RESIDUES; MELON
RN=	<CAS REGISTRY NO> 7439-92-1 (LEAD); 7440-38-1 (ARSENIC)

RETRIEVAL METHODS

SUBJECT APPROACH, TEXT*			
PREFIX	FIELD	AUTHORITY/ DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLE
IT=	Keywords	MeSH	IT=HYDROGEN-ION CONCENTRATION
TL=	Title Words		TL=ARSENIC

SUBJECT APPROACH, CODES			
RN=	CAS Registry Numbers	CA Index Guide	RN=7439-92-1

*Note that the LOOK command may also be used on the title field,
e.g. LK10/'potassium propionate'

OTHER SEARCHABLE FIELDS			
PREFIX	FIELD	AUTHORITY/ DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLE
AU=	Author		AU=KENYON DJ
DN=	Document Number		DN=005949
SO=	Source	Serial Sources, BIOSIS	SO=BULL. ENVIRON. CONTAM. TOXICOL.

NUCLEAR SAFETY INFORMATION CENTER

SOURCE

Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
P.O. Box Y
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

REPRESENTATIVE

Gary T. Mays, Director
Nuclear Safety Information Center
FTS 624-0391   Comm. 615/574-0391

DESCRIPTION

Prior to FY 1982, NSIC was funded by the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Under RES, the NSIC provided broad coverage, reflected in 23 different subject categories, of information on nuclear power plant safety, including operating experience and ongoing research and development programs.

Since the beginning of FY 1982, the NSIC has been funded by the NRC's Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data (AEOD). Under AEOD, information added to the NSC data base pertained primarily to operating experience of light-water-reactor nuclear power plants. Under terms of an ad hoc research contract in effect in FY 1983 and the first half of FY 1984, information from sources in addition to licensee event reports (LERs) was added to the file. These sources included NRC topical and contractor reports, journal articles, and "docket" material (correspondence between utilities and the NRC).

Beginning in April 1984, only the LERs are being added to the NSC file. Other document types (topical reports, journal articles, etc.) will still be searchable, but this type of information will no longer be kept current in the NSC data base.

SUBJECT COVERAGE

Nuclear safety information, in particular, covers operational experience as it relates to the safe operation of nuclear power plants. Coverage is limited to LER document types and focuses on the following subject categories: electrical power systems; heat transfer and thermal hydraulics; nuclear instrumentation, controls, and safety systems; operational safety and experience; and reactor transients, kinetics and stability. The subject areas associated with these categories are searchable only by keywords since category 17 (operational safety and experience) is the only searchable category number indexed to the LERs.

SIZE

174,145 citations as of August 1984.

INCLUSIVE DATES

1963 to present.

UPDATE FREQUENCY

Monthly.

SEARCH AIDS

1. *NSIC KWIC Thesaurus.* Issued semiannually.

2. *System Code List.* Inactive January 1984.

3. *Component Code List.* Inactive January 1984.

4. *Subject Category Code List.*

All of the above may be obtained free by writing to NSIC.

5. *Licensee Event Report System.* NUREG-1022. Available from NRC/GPO Sales Program, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20555, for $4.50.

6. *DOE/RECON User's Manual.* DOE/TIC-4586-R1. Available to DOE/RECON users from TIC.

AVAILABLE FORMATS

0 Full record
1 Accession number
2 Bibliographic citation, keywords, subject category number, LER number
3 Brief bibliographic citation, LER number
4 Title, LER number, abstract
5 Full record
6 Title, LER number
7 Bibliographic citation, LER number, abstract, system & component codes

TYPICAL RECORD

<ACCESSION NO.> 00Z0187879

TL=   <TITLE> HPCI PUMP DISCHARGE CHECK VALVE STICKS OPEN AT NINE MILE POINT 1

<CORPAUTH> NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

YR=   <DATE> 1983

<TYPE> Q

<MEMO> LTR W/LER 83-035 TO U.S. NRC, REGION 1, DEC 05, 1983, DOCKET 50-220, TYPE--BWR, MFG--GE, AE--NM, DCS NO.--8312200264

<AVAIL> NRC PUBLIC DOCUMENT ROOM, 1717 H STREET, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555 (05 CENTS/PAGE--MINIMUM CHARGE $2.00)

NC=   <CATEGORY> 170000

ED=   <EDITION> 0162

CC=   <CORP CODE> NMP

CO=   <COUNTRY> A

LN=   <LER NO> 83-035

<ABSTRACT> Date of event--100583. Power level--076%. On November 5 at 1500 hours, feedwater pump #12 (HPCI pump #12) was removed from service due to an overheating bearing. When taken out of service, the pump's discharge check valve failed to close, resulting in reverse rotation of the pump. The consequences involved damage to the speed increaser/pump and reduced redundancy of the HPCI system. An operability test of the redundant system was performed as well as additional surveillance testing per tech spec 3.1.8(b). Damage to the speed increaser/pump consisted of scored bearing inserts and pinion gear shaft caused by the pump running backwards. The check valve was successfully seated after several attempts and the drive and pinion gears and bearings were replaced.

CP=   <COMPONENT CODE> PUMPXX-PUMPS

SY=   <SYSTEM CODE> CH-FEEDWATER SYSTEMS & CONTROLS

IT=   <KEYWORDS> FAILURE; REACTOR, BWR; NINE MILE POINT 1 (BWR); BEARING; HPCI; HIGH TEMPERATURE; VALVES; VALVE, CHECK; PROPERTY, MECHANICAL; DEFORMATION; MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR; DRIVE; PUMPS; REACTOR POWER; MODIFICATION; OPERATION; FAILURE, EQUIPMENT

RETRIEVAL METHODS

SUBJECT APPROACH, TEXT*			
PREFIX	FIELD	AUTHORITY/ DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLE
IT= TL=	Keywords Title Words	NSIC KWIC Thesaurus	IT=THREE-MILE ISLAND 2 (PWR) TL=OPERATOR

SUBJECT APPROACH, CODES			
CP= NC= SY=	Component Code Subject Category Code System Code	Component Code List DOE/TIC 4586-R1 NSC Chapter Subject Category Code List System Code List	CP=INSTRU NC=17 SY=RB

*Note that the LOOK command may be used to retrieve title and abstract words,
e.g. LK5/a,t/´operator error´

OTHER SEARCHABLE FIELDS			
PREFIX	FIELD	AUTHORITY/ DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLE
AU= CC= CO= ED= JO= LN= RN= YR=	Author Corporate Author Codes Country Codes NSC Edition (Update) Number Journal CODEN (first 4 letters) LER Number ACRS Reference Number Significant Date	DOE/TIC-4586-R1 NSC Chapter ibid. ibid. ibid.	AU=CHADWICK DR CC=BGE CO=A ED=0137 JO=ECOL LN=83-073 RN=02000 YR=1983

Downloading takes time, software, and equipment. It is not appropriate for every search, just because you can do it. (This seems a good place to insert a warning about downloading copyrighted data bases—don't do it without good legal advice and permission.)

Uploading has been useful for

> **Don't download copyrighted data bases without good legal advice and permission**

us in only two kinds of situations. When the search strategy is lengthy and the searcher is a rotten typist, preparing the strategy offline saves connect time, lowers the frustration level, and allows the search to be input by someone who can do it rapidly. Uploading citations to a minicomputer can assist in building a small data base which requires search software not available on micros. For example, Battelle's BASIS is used to control some local collections, but it is not available in a micro version. Uploading citations to a mini reduces data entry time for the staff using BASIS.

The primary piece of equipment we use in these procedures is an IBM Personal Computer with dual disk drives. The drives take 360K double-density, double-sided diskettes. One disk will hold roughly 300 EDB citations in format 2 or 700 citations in format 3. We also have a monitor, printer, hard disk drive, printer buffer, and modem.

The key to effective results is software. The communications package we use, INSTANTCOM, was written for online literature searching. It allows offline development of the search, uploading, and downloading. Most important, it allows continued interaction with the host computer. If the prepackaged search turns out to be less effective than expected, you can refine it while still connected to the mainframe.

Finding software that you like and that actually works on your existing hardware is not easy, however. Terminal emulation software presents you with a wonderful array of options—but you have to choose. You must understand your own equipment and the requirements of the data base software. If your questions are not answered well, the trial-and-error process could be tedious.

Once you have downloaded records, you have to do something with the data. One option is to hand the end user a diskette with the search results, or simply to print the citations. At Battelle, we can also edit the results, either with a simple line editor like "Edlin," which is part of the IBM PC operating system, or with a much more sophisticated word processor.

Occasionally, you may want to transfer the citations electronically. Sender and receiver must have compatible equipment and software. Be sure to ask your user if she/he has a modem and a telephone. The problems with transloading are compatibility issues, phone-line disturbances, and staff time. Since you are first downloading and then retransmitting, staff time for the search is effectively doubled.

Software to search downloaded data (and originally input data) is vital to make the information truly useful to most end users. A number

> **Uploading has been useful in two kinds of situations**

of excellent packages are available. One that allows you to either designate key words or let words in context be the keys (free-text) is FYI 3000. This package has Boolean capability and can be used with DOE/RECON records, requiring no data tagging at all. You may, of course, want to tag or edit fields for search efficiency, but you do not have to do so. With this software, as with any package, you must understand how the host system records are constructed and how the software will handle those records. If the software thinks a blank line means a new record and the system automatically puts in blanks as part of the second screen on a long record, you will have to delete those blanks to tag the start/end of each record. That in itself is not a difficult task, but recognizing what is happening to the data can be.

A few common-sense recommendations may help you.

□ *Read*— lots— and then stop. You have to start sometime.

□ *Phone everybody.* If you can, try out a package before you

> **The key to effective results is software**

buy. If it is not available, call users and call the people who wrote the software. If they won't help you understand how it works before you buy it, they may not be helpful afterwards. In our experience, small software firms want to help.

□ *Have money—lots.* Be prepared for the possibility that you will buy something that won't quite do what you thought it would, or that you need the latest upgrade, or that the perfect thing becomes available shortly after you have purchased something else. You should not feel that you must have the most expensive product even though it may indeed do more, if you and your users do not need the "more" that it does.

□ *Find interested staff.* The most important element is a committed staff which is personally challenged by the possibilities. Avoid "assigning" someone if you can.

—Lois Holmes and Nick Carter,
Battelle Pacific Northwest
Laboratories

FEEDBACK, *continued*

Communications between OSTI and users. Another area discussed was that of communications between OSTI and information users concerning bad fiche, old reports, etc. Questions or problems concerning any OSTI product should be addressed to Request Services personnel in the Technical Information Division (FTS 626-1541, 626-2413, or 626-2312). Routine requests for reports (when the requestor has the DE number, report number, title, and author—the information necessary to identify the document) should be directed to Request Support (FTS 626-1301).

Group B: Systems and Technology

Ed Coppock, Director, Information Systems Division, and Bill Vaden, OSTI Deputy Manager, led this group. The topics discussed were:

Shared cataloging for reports. Much interest was expressed in shared cataloging. The two suggestions for accomplishing this were through GATEWAY network access to existing laboratory systems and access to OSTI electronic accession lists.

Full-text/electronic demand printing. Electronic printing is needed to reduce costs and the space required for large collections of manuscripts. Current work on national and international standards will make full ASCII feasible in a two- to three-year time frame. The problems of phasing in a new system or existing with a dual system were discussed, and concern over the cost to the field sites was expressed.

Electronic mail. Attendees felt that electronic mail is much needed immediately. It was suggested that OSTI take the lead in trying to facilitate a central system, e.g., BITNET or GATEWAY.

Standard UC distribution vs. EDB category distribution. The overwhelming consensus was that OSTI should revise the standard unclassified (UC) distribution, perhaps in the direction of EDB categories.

DOE/RECON access over value-added networks. The consensus was that there is no significant difference between TYMNET, TELENET, and UNINET. However, it was felt that additional access through TELENET and UNINET would be advantageous. OSTI will investigate this possibility.

Access to classified information. Session attendees expressed much interest in and need for access to classified information. About one-fourth of the group would like access.

Automated indexing. The group briefly discussed the work OSTI and others are doing to automate indexing. Julia Redford will follow up for OSTI.

Group C: OSTI Policies

This session was led by Charles Spath, Assistant Manager for Information Acquisition and Appraisal, and Bill Buchanan, Program Analyst. The participants included DOE Technical Information Officers (TIO's), DOE Headquarters program representatives, and DOE contractor personnel. Several key policy issues were discussed as summarized below:

DOE Orders 1430.1 & 1430.2. A question was raised about the status of Operations Offices' implementation of DOE Orders 1430.1 and 1430.2. These Orders concern the Department's technical information program. It was explained that the Orders are in various stages of implementation at different sites. Questions about the status at a particular site should be referred to the TIO for that office. (See box for a list of the TIOs and their FTS telephone numbers.)

DOE Technical Information Officers

Office	TIO	Phone
Albuquerque	Steve Taylor	846-3303
Chicago	Eric Motz	972-2156
Idaho	Carl Robertson	583-0271
Nevada	Grace Plummer	575-1129
Oak Ridge	Jim Cooke	626-0737
Richland	Gail Rokkan	444-8274
San Francisco	Don Holz	536-4428
Savannah River	Ed Bowser	239-3931

Scientific and technical information. It was suggested that the term "scientific and technical information" needs to be better defined to express what OSTI would like to receive from the performing sites. Chapter I, Paragraph 1, of DOE order 1430.2 contains a fairly comprehensive description of scientific and technical information. It was explained that the definition should be somewhat broad so as not to preclude the submission of any form of technical information product that has potential value to other DOE researchers and program managers. It was also suggested that the originating site is in a better position to determine which products they generate have technical value and would be of value to others. OSTI agreed to examine this issue and to coordinate any necessary clarification with the Department's Technical Information Officers.

Standard distribution. The submission of standard distribution copies of technical reports to OSTI was discussed. The participants felt that OSTI's position concerning the printing of copies for standard distribution by the originating sites should be clarified so that a consistent policy can be applied throughout DOE.

The OSTI position was explained. DOE Order 1430.1 states that when printing copies of documents for their own use, originating sites should print sufficient copies for standard distribution. It was recognized by OSTI that not all documents are worthy of standard distribution. However, it is assumed that if the site prints for their own use, in most cases the document would be of sufficient value to justify standard distribution.

It was also noted that an analysis of OSTI's distribution practices is currently in process. Pending the outcome of this analysis, OSTI's position is that the printing of standard distribution quantities should be maximized.

Journal article preprints. A question was raised as to whether OSTI wants preprints of journal articles. DOE Order 1430.2 states that

preprints should not be sent to OSTI unless they are not accepted for publication by a journal. If not accepted for journal publication, the preprint should be modified, if necessary, to conform to the quality standards of a report and submitted to OSTI with a DOE report number.

Procurement and Assistance Data System (PADS). DOE's procurement information system, PADS, does not accurately reflect whether the procurements shown will result in a technical information deliverable, but currently, it is the only way OSTI can determine whether such a deliverable is required. As a result, OSTI often asks the responsible DOE office about the status of a technical information deliverable when, in fact, one is not expected from that particular procurement action. To correct this problem, OSTI is working with the Headquarters procurement office to establish a reporting code in PADS that will indicate when a technical deliverable is required.

Group D: Planning, New Strategies, Policies, and Relationships

This group discussion was led by Bonnie Carroll, Director, Program Development and International Activities and Elizabeth Buffum, Associate Manager, OSTI Washington Office. A summary follows:

Microfiche. The consensus was that most end users of information do not like fiche. In fact, a few years ago this feeling was so strong that the attitude seemed to be, "Do whatever you have to do to get hard copy—just don't send me microfiche." It was suggested that, now that people are accustomed to using computer terminals, microfiche will be more acceptable if a good fiche reader for individual use can be found. One suggestion was that OSTI or CENDI (the Departments of Commerce, Energy, NASA, and Defense) might look into the availability of good fiche readers. This led into a discussion of the time required to get hard copy of reports. Session attendees said that it takes 3 to 6 weeks to obtain reports from NTIS, which can cause a loss of timeliness in the information. This is

of concern to OSTI. Microfiche legibility was discussed, along with the statements of legibility that appear on reports. This, too, will be looked into.

Distribution. The practice of some organizations (e.g., EPRI) of sending out a list of reports rather than the full copy of all reports was mentioned. Users can then review the listing and request the materials they need. Opinion was divided as

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Fiche will be more acceptable if a good reader can be found

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to whether this would be advantageous. It was noted that the logistics for Department-wide distribution in this manner would be much more complex than for a single organization.

Subcontractor information. OSTI expressed concern that it is difficult for DOE management to find out what subcontractors are doing. Millions of dollars are spent on subcontracting, but the procurement system documents primarily the relationships between DOE and its prime contractors and frequently does not get to the subcontractor level. OSTI is attempting to deal with this problem through its Research in Progress system. This subject will receive more attention in the future.

Historical records. The question was raised as to when the very valuable old abstracts in *Nuclear Science Abstracts* (NSA) will be put into the data base. These abstracts consist of approximately 900,000 items dating from 1948 to 1976. Another attendee felt that more important than digitizing these abstracts is reloading the NSA file for more refined searching— proximity searching, for example.

Foreign information. The question of the quality and comprehensiveness of foreign information received by OSTI was raised. Attendees wondered how comfortable OSTI feels with its foreign data collection in terms of quality and

comprehensiveness. In the nuclear area, OSTI feels that it has complete coverage through the International Atomic Energy Agency. In other fields, OSTI systematically reviews the information received for timeliness and checks quality and comprehensiveness of the open literature (journals and proceedings). Technical reports, however, are harder to check; some categories (e.g., applied technology) are always withheld. The new Headquarters international affairs office will be developing energy research profiles of different countries, and as OSTI negotiates Memoranda of Understanding, it will learn what research is being conducted and what literature we can expect to receive. OSTI also receives input from program offices and individuals who are aware of information that OSTI does not have. The need for clarification in this area is recognized, and work is being done.

Translations. The amount of translation being done was discussed. Two session attendees said that, because of the difficulties of determining whether a translation exists, they no longer check. Instead, when they receive a request, they have the document translated. The National Translations Center indexes are available

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OSTI feels it has complete coverage of foreign nuclear data through the IAEA

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only in hard copy, and searching for translations is very time consuming. It was agreed that, if the National Translations Center data base were machine readable, it would be used more. [*Editor's Note: Such an index file is being prepared for loading; see the article on future DOE/RECON data bases.*] The provisions for translations in OSTI's bilateral agreements were discussed. It was suggested that OSTI might look at how to get this translating done.

'ENERGINFO,' continued

Information (OSTI) in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

As a result of this contract's closing, *Energinfo* will no longer be produced at LBL. You will continue to receive DOE/RECON news, but in the future it will come directly from OSTI.

For a number of years, the LBL Information Research Group has prepared the DOE/RECON Manual, Brief Guide, and updates; conducted quarterly training sessions each year; participated in annual DOE/RECON and Technical Information User Meetings; served as secretariat for the Advisory Board; produced *Energinfo*; and been exceptionally cooperative and helpful in any DOE/RECON project in which their assistance was requested. On behalf of all DOE/RECON users, the OSTI staff would like to thank them for their superior performance. Special recognition must go to Jo Maxon-Dadd, Project Manager and training instructor, who devoted so much time and effort to the training sessions and the videotapes, and to Rita LaBrie and Margaret Hu, *Energinfo* editors.

DOE/RECON Statistics

	July	August
Uptime	95.78%	95.8%
User Sessions	5,731	5,404
Citations	75,157	92,394
PEPs	411	391
Online Orders	96	159

—C. Webster Gudmundson, DOE/RECON Staff, ORNL

EPRI, continued

maintains a list of these organizations and can handle online orders from them in the same way as they handle orders from others who must pay for reports.

EPRI documents describing research funded by the U.S. Department of Energy will also be available from OSTI or NTIS.

—Benita Gateley, DOE/RECON staff