

The University Library

SciTech Update

News and resource spotlights for the Faculties of Technology and Science

10 September 2008

Access to electronic resources - update

It has not been possible to complete the migration to the new Shibboleth authentication service (otherwise known as Federated Access Management) since a number of our suppliers are not yet Shibboleth compliant. For this reason, some resources are still accessed via the old Athens route.

We are aware that this

presents difficulties for users, especially when they are offered alternative routes to authentication without knowing which they should use. As an aid to users, we have prepared a list of resources showing clearly which route should be taken to authenticate each of these.

The list can be found in a link in the news item at

this URL:

http://www.port.ac.uk/departments/studentsupport/library/news/

but the picture is still changing as the remaining Athens resources gradually migrate to the new service.

If the service you wish to access is not listed, or if you are having difficulties accessing resources, please contact the e-helpdesk on (023) 9284 3248, or email elibrary@port.ac.uk





OSH UPDATE replaces OSHrom

Interested in the health risks of nanotechnology? Concerned about corporate killing responsibility or bioterrorism? Needing basic health and safety information?

This new service offers access to 19 worldwide occupational health and safety databases including HSELINE and Ro-SPA for the UK.

Coming directly from the producers of OSHrom the content is very similar. On campus direct access is given to the database with no need to login.

Off campus it can be accessed by the following:

Username: port Password: cam

(for those who've asked why the change... OSHrom was withdrawn.)

Library Workshops

Turning 'Search' into 'Research'

As ever the Library is offering workshops for students staff or researchers to develop their skills, broaden their understanding, and try out new resources.

You can find a list of what we're offering at:

http://www.port.ac.uk/library/workshops

Please feel free to book ahead of time, drop in and of course to promote them to your students as well. There are new workshops, revised workshops and some familiar favourites as well. Hopefully something for everyone!



Academic Live

For those who have promoted (or at least pointed out) Microsoft's *Academic Live Search* as an alternative / competitor / complement to Google Scholar, it may help to know that Microsoft have discontinued this and it's no longer available. They've also pulled the plug on *Live Search Books*.

Live Search will still include results from academic and book sources but there appears to be no way of *only* searching for them. Microsoft seem keener that you can rank celebrity popularity than do something useful in the academic world! (see xRank under their 'More' link. Jade Goody is currently top of the chart).

It seems a shame and leaves Google as the monopoly provider of free web based scholarly journal searching like this. Still, it simplifies things for students and reduces training session length!