SciTech Update

BoB — Box of Broadcasts

BoB the on-line TV recording service is now available to all University Staff and Students.

The service allows you to record programmes from a large number of TV channels via a scheduler up to 7 days in advance. You are also able to search the archives for recorded programmes, see other peoples clips and share playlists as far back as January 2007.

Each user will have a My-BoB area where you can access and manage recordings and store clips.

The service is available at: http://www.bobnational.net

To be eligible to use BoB you must have an active university email account ending in .ac.uk. eg: bill.smith@port.ac.uk

It is suggested that staff should request programmes on BoB as back-up to our DVD recording service. It is a useful addition to the Library's DVD collection, which it could eventually replace—though there are some good reasons to keep the DVDs, e.g. they are easier to watch, they're searchable on the Library Catalogue and so on.

spotlight
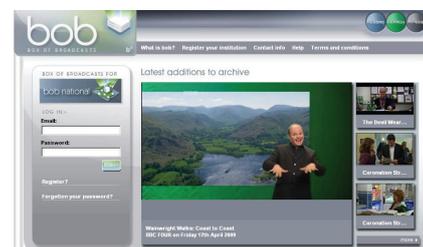
ICE Virtual Library

The Institution of Civil Engineers and Thomas Telford Ltd are launching a new online platform this summer and they would be very interested to have feedback and comments from users before launch.

ICE are expanding the ICE Virtual Library in 2009 to host all current and archive journal content, their existing books and new ebooks on a single cross-searchable platform.

All the content on www.thomastelford.com and the existing ICE Virtual Library has been placed it on one platform, including all ICE Proceedings back to 1836, *Géotechnique* and *Magazine of Concrete Research* journal archives.

If you would like to be involved in beta testing, or would like to find out more, please email Neil Byrne at journals@ice.org.uk

New Face of Technical Services

Ann Hindson has just been appointed the new Technical Services Manager. (The post Philip Dance held until he so unexpectedly died last year). Ann was the Lending Librarian at Portsmouth Central Library where she's been since 2003. Prior to that she was in a similar post at Southampton Central Library and before that she worked at Southampton Institute (now Southampton Solent University) as a cataloguer and crossed paths with the Faculty Librarian for Technology, Timothy Collinson when he was an 'Information Librarian' there.

Full-text databases—an overlooked resource?

Staff and students who use our full-text databases regularly will need no reminder of their useful content. But for those of us who use them less frequently they are often an overlooked resource. Especially as there are no article linker or catalogue records to help identify their content.

BSI Online service easily come to mind when asked for a British Standard. I also automatically remind users to click on "my subscriptions" before searching, to save them the frustration of the hard sell service from the BSI shop.

However I blush with embarrassment at my failure to help a student find our misplaced *CIOB Construction Paper No 6* . It was only after he left that I thought to check the **Construction Information Service**; and there it was, in all it's downloadable glory! Take care to note that searching for authors can sometimes fail. Try searching by title, or series before giving up.

This service includes publishers as wide apart as the Arboricultural Association through to Whittles Publishing which includes the 2007 textbook "Basic environmental and engineering geology". There are many items of use for sport, leisure and heritage students.

Its sister database: **Occupational Health & Safety Information Service (OHSIS)** also provides access to full-text documents from government bodies and quangos plus 41 books from Elsevier. A useful resource for any science or technology student needing Health and Safety information.

Sue Stevenson

And for our newest—and possibly most expensive full-text database, **IEEE Xplore**—see over.

IEEE / IET Electronic Library: IEEE Xplore digital library

The Library's latest database purchase will particularly delight the many members of staff and many more students who've longed for access to the IEEE's digital library. We'd like to encourage the Science Faculty to check it out as well as there also may be useful content for certain research / courses.

IEEE Xplore provides full-text access to:

- 143 IEEE journals, transactions and magazines
- 24 IET journals
- 850+ IEEE conference proceedings
- 23+ IET conference and seminar digests
- 1900+ IEEE Standards

Initially, we've bought into 18 months of "on campus" access and will review the cost and usage of the database in the autumn of 2010. In the meantime, obviously the more it is used, the more it will be worth the cost.

IEEE Xplore contains over 2,000,000 articles and conference proceedings in a large range of subject areas—some of which are listed in the box below. Each article or conference proceeding is available in PDF format and the

IEEE claim the database represents 30% of the world's current literature in electrical engineering, electronics and computer science.

We would encourage searchers to continue to use Engineering Village (containing INSPEC and Compendex combined) which will then link through to the full-text in IEEE Xplore where appropriate using the Library article linking service. (And which will continue to link to other full-text databases such as Science Direct or the ACM Digital Library.)

Please use this database and promote it to your students! Use "Webcache" to access off campus.
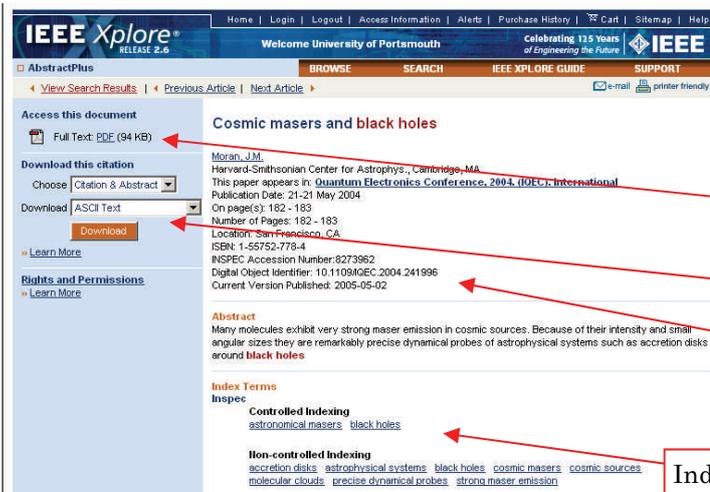
Example: Cosmic masers and black holes by Moran, J.M. *Quantum Electronics Conference, 2004. (IQEC).* **21-21 May 2004. pp.182-183.**

Link to PDF of full-text

Download the citation in EndNote (or other) formats

Bibliographic record

Indexing terms, e.g.: astronomical masers, black holes

Aerospace

Automotive Engineering

Biomedicine

Circuits and Systems

Communications

Computer Hardware

Computer Software

Geoscience & Remote Sensing

Imaging

Information Storage

Nanotechnology

Networking

Oceanic Engineering

Power Electronics

Power & Energy

Robotics

Quantum Electronics

Semiconductors

Sensors

Signal Processing

Solid-State Circuits

Wireless Communications

… and much more!

How do I find it?

As ever for our databases you can search IEEE Xplore directly by going to the Library Homepage and then the Subject Directory and searching for 'xplore'. Or you can look under various subject headings such as Engineering, Computing, Electrical Engineering and so on (feel free to suggest any additional subject headings you would like to see it appear under).

Alternatively, you can use an indexing database such Engineering Village (INSPEC and Compendex) which will link through to IEEE Xplore where relevant.