

Conclusions

The British Library is more than just a store of historic manuscripts and books, but is a formidable resource which will support all aspects of research, whether they are business driven or academic. Collections are now even more accessible and relevant to users, regardless of their

subject, and if the library does not have them in their catalogues, there is a 99 percent possibility that they will be able to locate material.

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Legal Information Management, 4 (2004), p. 141

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DOI: 10.1017/S1472669604001550

IT Update

News from Legal Systems and Software Suppliers

Equifax – Findout

Equifax has launched Findout, a comprehensive business and information reporting service. This new service provides detailed information on companies via a free search facility. Information held on the database includes business profiles and all information deposited since 1995 at Companies House. Findout also contains a free business information knowledge base. Reports may be purchased once registration is complete.

URL: www.findoutinfo.com/professional.html

Workshare 3

Two law firms have purchased Workshare 3 EMEA's productivity applications system. Workshare 3 automates document production via integration with existing word processing software and the email client.

URL: www.workshare.com

CMS.Net

A law firm has selected CMS.Net, a practice management software system by Solutions 6. CMS.Net includes a records management module and customisable calendar/docket software.

URL: http://www.solution6.co.uk/solutions_cmsnet_practice.asp

News from Legal Publishers

The Lawyer has announced publication of *The Lawyer Infotech Guide for 2004*. The publication is published as a

free supplement for subscribers to the Lawyer and is hailed as the first of its kind by Centaur Holdings Ltd. The guide includes a directory of information technology suppliers to the legal community, a survey on technology use in law firms and news on the most recent developments in technology.

URL: <http://www.centaursubs.co.uk/title.asp?cm=Legal&t=LAW>

Government and European Union Legal News

Plans for CELEX to become a free of charge database are under way. The new service will be launched sometime later this year. The Office for Official Publications is planning to integrate PRELEX, the decision-making database and CELEX into one comprehensive free database. Integration may be difficult because of differences in data structure. The new service will be more current, publishing texts every day. Better access to legislation is also planned. The Office for Official Publications hopes to launch the service in three phases during 2004. Phase 1, creation of the prototype ended in December 2003 with Phase 2 now in progress. The new service should enter production sometime after June 2004.

The Office for Official Publications will continue to provide value added services in order to compensate for revenue lost by CELEX.

The new EURLEX database is still in preparation but will be available on the Europa site. EURLEX once completed, is designed to give access to all national legislation resulting from the implementation of European Union Directives.