OpenURL and LinkServer Basics

Presented by Eric Hellman, Director of OCLC Openly Informatics
http://www.openly.com/company/

Wednesday, March 8, 2006
1:30 to 3 pm

IEEE
445 Hoes Lane
Piscataway, NJ

Q. What is OpenURL?

A. Remember the card catalog? Everything in a library was represented in the card catalog with one or more cards carrying bibliographic information. OpenURL is the internet equivalent of those index cards. An OpenURL packages bibliographic information into a form that internet services can easily understand. When a user clicks on an OpenURL link, the bibliographic information it contains is sent to a library internet service. The results of that click will vary depending on the library it is sent to -- just as a user in a bricks-and-mortar library will be sent to different place to retrieve the item corresponding to the card in the catalog.

Q. What is a link-server?

A. A link-server is a software agent that knows about services available in a library. Link-servers typically understand the bibliographic data packaged into an OpenURL, and can present links to relevant information for users to click on. Think of a link-server as the internet equivalent of a reference desk. It’s the place you go in a library to get your questions answered using the best information the library has to offer, and the place where the librarian goes to help users.

http://www.openly.com/1cate/basics.html

Please RSVP no later than March 5, 2003 to: Kristen Fitzpatrick k.fitzpatrick@ieee.org

*** You must RSVP and bring a government issued picture ID (e.g., driver’s license/passport) for admittance to IEEE ****

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Are you a Member of ASIS or NJ SLA ? (this is not required for attendance)

**Directions to IEEE**

445 Hoes Lane  
Piscataway, NJ  
(732) 981 0060


**From Interstate Route 287**

**From North of Piscataway**: Take I-287 South to Exit 8, Centennial Avenue. At the end of the exit ramp, continue straight through the traffic signal onto Knightsbridge Rd. At the second traffic signal, turn right on Hoes Lane. The IEEE is on the left about 1/4 mile. Turn left onto Sidney Road to enter the IEEE parking areas. Turn left into the IEEE visitor parking area. If visitor spots are full please drive to Staff parking which is behind the building. Enter through the front of the building facing Hoes Lane.

**From South of Piscataway**: Take 287 North to Exit 7, South Randolphville Road. At the bottom of the ramp turn left and continue on South Randolphville Road, through three lights. After the third light the road narrows. Continue on Behmer Road. After crossing a small bridge, turn left onto Sidney Road. The IEEE complex will be on the right near the end of Sidney Road. Turn right into the IEEE visitor parking area. If visitor spots are full please drive to Staff parking which is behind the building. Enter through the front of the building facing Hoes Lane.

**From Route 18**

Take Route 18 North through New Brunswick and over the John Lynch bridge. Pass through the four lane intersection and remain in the right lane. After the intersection Route 18 becomes Metlars Lane. Immediately after the first traffic light on Metlars Lane, move to the right for the exit for Hoes Lane. There has recently been construction here. You may see signs showing this turn onto Hoes Lane is from the left. Follow the signs. It is well marked. Proceed onto Hoes Lane. At the sixth traffic signal, turn right onto Sidney Road. Turn left into the IEEE visitor parking area. If visitor spots are full please drive to Staff parking which is behind the building. Enter through the front of the building facing Hoes Lane.