

DESIDOC ACTIVITIES

ONLINE CATALOGUE DEMONSTRATION

A demonstration of online catalogue was organized by DESIDOC at its new building at Metcalfe House, Delhi, on 8 March 1988. Some of the prominent information scientists of Delhi attended the demonstration. Among those who witnessed the demonstration were: Shri SC Biswas, Director Central Secretariat Library; Smt SL Chinnappa, Coordinator, NIC-ICMR Centre for Biomedicals; Shri PC Bose, Information Systems Officer, ICAR; Shri VB Nanda, Librarian JNU ; Shri AS Wahid, National Institute of Science Technology & Development Studies (CSIR); and Shri HK Kaul, Librarian, India International Centre.

The project, development of online catalogue, was taken up to benefit the users of Defence Science Library in easy location of required documents from its collection. The data conversion done for this machine-readable catalogue would also help in creation of a database. The project plans to operate also the library services like acquisition control, accession list, circulation control and inter-library loan service from the database. Initially the Defence Science Library (DESIDOC) collection will be covered and subsequently the collection of other DRDO libraries will be included.

The software for the project has been developed by DESIDOC . It is written in COBOL language and is based on common communication format (CCF) with variable field and variable record conforming to ISO-2709. In the demonstration one main terminal, called 'Server' and other terminals called 'Searchers' were linked to each other. The data was

downloaded into the system stored in a floppy. The software consisted of four modules viz, the data entry module, the search module, the reports module and the maintenance module.

POPULARIZING DRDO PUBLICATIONS

In an effort to popularize Defence science and technology and to promote awareness about the DRDO publications, brought out by DESIDOC among the scientific community, DESIDOC has been participating in the various technical seminars, symposia, and workshops. The DRDO publications are displayed and the relevant information is communicated to the delegates through the brochures and information leaflets prepared for this purpose.

The various publications of DESIDOC displayed during such occasions received good response from the participants in terms of subscription to various journals/periodicals.

EIGHTH WORLD BOOK FAIR

DESIDOC participated in the Eighth World Book Fair organised by the National Book Trust, India at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, from 5 to 15 February 1988. DRDO and DESIDOC publications were displayed and sale counter was arranged for the sale of copies of Popular Science & Technology (PST). Three current booklets under PST series viz., Night Vision Devices, Battle with Barnacles and Computers and Defence Applications were sold to general public and students. Visitors to the stall showed much interest in the special issue of the Defence Science Journal on Toxicology.