

GERMANY

DIE DEUTSCHE BIBLIOTHEK

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NEW CONCEPT FOR THE DEUTSCHE NATIONALBIBLIOGRAFIE

Ideas for a new concept for the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie have been under discussion for some time. The first concrete step was taken during the first six months of 2003. Representatives of the various user groups were surveyed by questionnaire for the purpose of obtaining additional information regarding users' needs and ensuring a broad base of acceptance for the new concept. Indexing of data from the openly accessible database of Die Deutsche Bibliothek - <http://dnb.ddb.de> has been in progress since January 2004. In addition, other versions of the Nationalbibliografie are available on a fee basis for users who prefer a certain format or wish to receive data at specific intervals.

Due to technical considerations, the new services of Die Deutsche Bibliothek will be introduced in two phases. The first phase beginning in 2004 includes those services for which procedures already exist: print versions of the main sections of specific series of the Nationalbibliografie, html files for on-screen processing and pdf files for those series of the Nationalbibliografie that are no longer issued in print. Additional services will be offered as the process of compiling the complete catalogue and realizing the Internet portal of Die Deutsche Bibliothek progresses. These will include filters for individual bibliographic series, the option of generating SDI profiles for newly received titles, the selection of specific types of media, further development of the possibility for accessing structured data records online and links to sites from which listed titles can be ordered from the retail book trade.

The printed versions of the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie will also be revised. Due to steadily decreasing subscription figures, the printed versions of Series M (musicalia and publications on music) and T (music recordings) have been discontinued. The translations and Germanica previously indexed in Series G have now been incorporated into Series A. The New Release Service, which Die Deutsche Bibliothek previously offered directly in both a print and a pdf version, is now being distributed once again as a printed edition by the Verlag MVB Marketing- und Verlagsservice des Buchhandels GmbH. The old five-year index will be now released every three years.

RESTRUCTURING OF THE DEUTSCHE NATIONALBIBLIOGRAFIE

A further change to be implemented in the 2004 Deutsche Nationalbibliografie involves the conversion of the structured bibliography from the current 65 subject groups to 100 subject groups corresponding for the most part to the two upper levels of the DDC. In implementing this change, Die Deutsche Bibliothek seeks to achieve conformity with the new structure of the Swiss national bibliography (Das Schweizer Buch) introduced in 2001 and with similar plans for the Austrian national bibliography, in order to achieve maximum possible uniformity in the three national bibliographies of the German-speaking region, while keeping pace with international developments at the same time, as the DDC is now used as the basis for national bibliographic processing in more than 60 countries.

CONSTRUCTION

The results of the architecture competition for the fourth extension of the Deutsche Bücherei Leipzig – and thus the prize-winning proposal submitted by Gabriele Glöckler – were confirmed by the

Administrative Council of Die Deutsche Bibliothek in November 2002. In January 2003, the Federal Ministry of Transport, Construction and Housing approved the construction project as proposed. The remaining renovation work in the public areas of the existing Deutsche Bücherei Leipzig building were completed in 2003.

Work devoted to the expansion of the third-floor depository to accommodate the collections of the Deutsche Bibliothek Frankfurt am Main was also completed on schedule. The first books were moved into the new depository area during the first quarter of 2003.

The experts commissioned by Die Deutsche Bibliothek to prepare a study on the location of the Deutsches Musikarchiv Berlin came to the conclusion that the most cost-effective solution would be for the Musikarchiv to remain at its present site in the "Siemensvilla". The next step is to initiate negotiations on the urgently needed renovation measures.

NEW LEGISLATION

Major changes in the publishing sector have created the need for new legislation relating to digital publications. The collection, bibliographic processing and long-term archiving of such publications pose new challenges to libraries, which must also ensure that they remain usable beyond legal "expiration dates" and despite changing technological environments. Draft legislation covering these new functions, which will also impact upon the mandatory deposit directive and the collection guidelines, has been discussed with and approved by the relevant organs of Die Deutsche Bibliothek. The working draft has now been presented to the Federal Commissioner for Culture and the Media, who will initiate the legislative process. New subsidy guidelines have been instituted to cover the transition period prior to implementation of a complete new system within the framework of the revised law regarding Die Deutsche Bibliothek and the new Mandatory Deposit Directive.

STANDARDS

The work of the Office of Standards was focused once again on the objectives set forth in the basic resolution of the Standards Committee of 6 December 2001, the revised version of the resolution passed on 27 November 2002 and the "Conversion to international formats and rules (MARC21, AACR2)" project. At the beginning of the project, a survey was conducted on the basis of questionnaires distributed to libraries and library association administrative offices for the purpose of determining the current status of data-sharing activities and system requirements. These matters were also taken up in supplementary discussions. The project segment devoted to "Comparison of rules and formats" was completed in 2003. The Kienbaum company was selected through a public tender process to realize the "Cost-effectiveness study" within the framework of the project and presented its preliminary results in late November. High priority is given within the project as a whole to studying the consequences of conversion for the online catalogues and users. Research on the future viability of MARC21 and AACR2 is currently being conducted by an American library consultant on the basis of specifications developed in collaboration with Die Deutsche Bibliothek. The project was introduced and discussed at several meetings and conferences. It is scheduled for completion in May 2004.

LONG-TERM PRESERVATION

Electronic publications are becoming increasingly important not only in the academic community but in everyday life as well. This trend poses new challenges for libraries, archives and museums with regard to the long-term preservation and availability of these digital publications. The only viable approach to an effective solution is through co-operation. Therefore, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) began

funding the project entitled "Expert Network for Long-Term Preservation and Long-Term Availability of Digital Resources for Germany (NESTOR)" in May 2003. Scheduled to run for three years, the project is being carried out under the leadership of Die Deutsche Bibliothek in collaboration with partners in the library, archive, and museum sector. The goal is to ensure that digital sources are archived, preserved and made available on a long-term basis in Germany. A Web-based, German-language information centre (<http://www.langzeitarchivierung.de>) offering information on technical, organizational, legal and other issues relating to long-term preservation has been established within the context of this project. Other objectives include the development of criteria for reliable and secure digital archives, recommendations for certification procedures to be used with digital archive servers and the development of collection guidelines and selection criteria to be applied in the archiving of digital resources. In addition, a concept will be prepared for a permanent form of the expert network and the information forum following project completion.

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