

Hanford Technical Library catalog now available on the Web

Hanford Technical Library staff members rolled out the new external Web-based catalog last week. Users will no longer have to install the catalog on their computers. They can access the catalog at <http://libcat.pnl.gov> through their Web browser and begin using it.

One of the features of the new catalog is the ability of all computer platforms, including Windows, MAC and UNIX, to access the data. The interface is available to the public, so library users can now take advantage of the library services from their homes or when on travel.



Information specialist Jan Erickson explains some of the features: “We have opened up the library to the users, allowing them to manage their own library activities. When staff members have library materials checked out that need to be renewed, they can access the system and renew the materials online in an instant. Users also will be able to make requests, put materials on hold and view their personal listing to see what they have checked out and what they have requested.”

If you want to use some of these special features, you will need to identify yourself using your Hanford Identification Number and a personal identification number, or PIN. Call 372-7440 and a Library Circulation Services staff member will issue you a PIN.

If you are ready to try the new library catalog, access it at <http://libcat.pnl.gov> and experiment with its capabilities. If you would like to see the system demonstrated before you begin, a training class on the new catalog will be held from noon to 1 p.m. on July 26 in room 101R of the Consolidated Information Center at the Washington State University Tri-Cities campus. Erickson will provide a demonstration of the system and answer questions that you may have.

When you enter the Web page for the new catalog, you will notice that the catalog does not have a name. Melissa McBurney, assistant director for Electronic

Services, explains: “When we purchased the catalog, the name could be customized for each library. We wanted to have some fun and get our users involved so we decided to set up a contest to name the catalog.”

You can read about the contest on the library Web page at <http://library.pnl.gov/NewCatalogContest.htm>. Send in as many names as you can think of by Aug. 10. On that date a committee at the library will choose the official catalog name from the entries and mail a \$25 gift certificate to the winner. ♦