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ANNUAL ITEM SELECTION UPDATE CYCLE RESCHEDULED

The Annual Item Selection Update Cycle to add and drop item numbers to depository library selection profiles traditionally takes place from June 1 through July 31 each year. The additions take effect at the beginning of the new fiscal year (October 1).

This year, the month of June arrived while a number of key initiatives were underway that directly relate to the items to be selected. Many of these initiatives are in response to suggestions from the depository library community for improving the process. To provide an authoritative and productive update for our depository partners, it is necessary to move the Annual Item Selection Update Cycle (probably to December - January). By completing these initiatives first, the update process will be much more effective for our depository library partners.

The initiatives underway to prepare for the update include:

- Updating the essential titles list to include recently added congressional and other items
- Completing the clean up of the list of item numbers, including:
 - Separate item numbers for administrative law decisions
 - Separate item numbers for ephemeral items at the agency and sub-agency level
- Assigning appropriate item numbers for essential titles, clearly labeled as essential titles
- Breaking out item numbers currently containing multiple formats into separate and clearly labeled item numbers
- Updating the List of Classes to reflect the changes made to item numbers and publishing a new version for use in the update cycle
- Adjusting the Annual Item Selection Update Cycle process to account for the previously noted issues
- Soliciting comments from the depository library community on proposals for redefining the item number system to improve its utility

GPO has informed its oversight committee of the need to reschedule the Annual Item Selection Update Cycle and the reasons for the delay. As the Superintendent of Documents pledged in a statement to the library community on March 1, 2005, GPO will continue to distribute tangible products consistent with current policy and practice and changes will only be made following full consultation with the library community and our oversight committees. GPO assured the committee staff, and we also assure you, that this delay is not an attempt to reduce expenditures for printing and binding. GPO has allocated approximately \$9.4 million from the S&E appropriation for printing and binding in FY 2005 and anticipates an allocation of \$9.6 million in FY 2006, if we receive our full appropriations request.

GPO also discussed the rescheduling with both the members of the Depository Library Council and representatives of the major vendors that supply cataloging records to depositories. The consensus of Council was that it would be prudent to wait until the necessary adjustments are made, and that a December - January timeframe would be the best time to conduct the update. The consensus of the vendors was that the delay would not be a problem and should not have a significant financial impact on their depository customers. The vendors did recommend that depository libraries consult with them about their individual situations.

It is important to note that, as always, depositories can choose to drop titles at anytime and that this process will be unaffected by the update move. Libraries wishing to drop item selections can do so using the Amendment of Item Selections Web form at:

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/tools/amendment.html

GPO appreciates the understanding of our library partners and regrets any inconvenience caused by moving the Annual Item Selection Update Cycle. It is our intent to provide for the most useful update possible and then return the Annual Item Selection Update Cycle to its regular timeframe next year.

DISTRIBUTION AND OTHER STATISTICS

GPO continues to distribute a large volume of tangible publications to Federal depository libraries. Through May 2005, GPO has distributed 3,662 paper titles (exclusive of maps). Projecting from these statistics, we estimate that 5,493 paper titles will be distributed in FY 2005, compared to 6,232 last year, for a decline of 739 titles. However, the number of copies per paper title is up from an average of 419 in FY 2004 to 468 in FY 2005. We believe that this increase is occurring because many of the items that are no longer distributed in paper are less heavily selected, but additional analysis is needed to verify that assumption. Through May, a total of 1,714,648 paper copies (exclusive of maps) have been distributed to depository libraries, which annualizes to 2,571,972 paper copies for FY 2005. This represents a projected decrease of 39,943 paper copies distributed in comparison to FY 2004.

Titles available online through *GPO Access* are also up substantially. Through May 2005, 14,504 titles have been added. This annualizes to 21,756 titles, compared to 11,932 in FY 2004, an increase of 9,824 titles. However, only 4,915 titles were acquired for the electronic archive through May 2005 by harvest from agency web sites. This annualizes to 7,373 titles, compared to 9,141 in FY 2004. ID is working with the GPO CIO staff to address some problems that have occurred with the software currently used for web harvesting; meanwhile we are harvesting manually. We hope to see an improvement in volume during the last quarter of the fiscal year.

Through May 2005, GPO has cataloged 15,318 items. Projecting from these statistics, we estimate that 22,997 cataloging records will be created in FY 2005, compared to 25,082 last year, for a decline of 2,105 records. This reduction is due primarily to the Information Dissemination (ID) reorganization, retraining of staff, and the implementation of the ILS. There is currently a backlog of 2,320 items, including LostDocs and titles harvested from agency web sites, of which 1,403 are electronic titles. Now that the Bibliographic Services staff has begun cataloging in the ILS, the backlog is being addressed.

Through May 2005, GPO has created 6,195 persistent URL (PURL) records. Projecting from these statistics, we estimate that 8,260 PURL records will be created in FY 2005, compared to 15,874 last year. Several factors contribute to the decline in new PURL records, including the cataloging backlog, the fact that new issues of existing serials do not require new PURL records, and the temporary use of manual web harvesting due to software issues (See the Web Discovery and Harvesting section on page 10 below).

Since its inception in 1994, GPO Access retrievals have exceeded 2.2 billion. The average number of retrievals from GPO Access in FY 2004 was 1.1 million per day. March 2005 was the busiest month ever, with almost 39 million retrievals. Through May, more than 276 million documents have been retrieved this fiscal year.

To date, GPO has received 4,346 inquiries through the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system and has responded to 3,797 (87%) of them. A portion of this backlog is attributable to the fact that the more complex questions submitted to the CRM must be routed to Subject Matter Experts for research, which requires additional time. The backlog is being addressed and should be resolved within 60 days.

In addition, only 408 of the responses to inquiries have been posted into the knowledgebase. There are several factors that have contributed to this. Answers to similar or related questions are consolidated. We also exclude answers that contain personal information, such as passwords. Past practice was to post responses to inquiries of broad general interest only. We have revised our instructions to the Customer Contact Center staff to ensure that a wider array of responses to future inquiries will be posted. By the end of the calendar year, the staff will also complete its review of the already processed messages to determine which ones should be used to update the knowledgebase.

FOLLOW-UP TO ESSENTIAL TITLES SURVEY

GPO is working with the Depository Library Council and others to develop a more specific survey to identify essential titles that should continue to be distributed to depository libraries in a tangible format. The survey conducted in March 2005 had a total of 794 libraries participating in the survey. Although the information collected was useful, GPO and the Council agreed at the meeting in Albuquerque to look into the development of another survey to be conducted later this year. A working group has been formed that is already moving forward with the first task of reviewing the more than 7,000 active item numbers. The goal of this task is to derive a more reasonable number of items for libraries to select from in the follow-up survey. The group is also working on a methodology to ensure that all of the different types of libraries have representative materials for their particular library type included in the next survey.

For information related to the March 2005 survey, as well as the recommendations of the participating libraries, please go to:

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/essential/statistics.html>

GPO has done an initial summary analysis of the data, which can be found at:

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/essential/>

REVISED POLICY STATEMENTS

GPO has recently revised two Information Dissemination (ID) policies:

- ID Policy 71: Dissemination/Distribution Policy for the Federal Depository Library Program was issued on June 21, 2005. It can be found at:
http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/policies/id71_06-21-05.pdf
- ID Policy 72: Withdrawal of Federal Information Products from GPO's Information Dissemination (ID) Programs was also issued on June 21, 2005. It can be found at:
http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/policies/id72_06-21-05.pdf

INTEGRATED LIBRARY SYSTEM (ILS) IMPLEMENTATION

The Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) for GPO's Integrated Library System (ILS) is expected to go live on August 1, 2005. The development of the web interface for the OPAC has taken longer than anticipated. However, GPO staff is already using the ILS to create new cataloging records and the OPAC is being tested internally. GPO will make any necessary indexing or design modifications to the OPAC based upon these test results. GPO then will conduct usability tests with a targeted group of depository librarians. Information about volunteering for this testing will be posted to FDLP-L once a schedule has been determined. Once live, GPO will continue to seek comments and suggestions from the community to further improve the OPAC.

Until recently, the New Electronic Titles (NET) lists were generated from a failing legacy system. Earlier this year, the decision was made not to invest in upgrading the legacy system, since the ILS implementation was imminent and the ILS will generate reports to replace the NET lists. As soon as the ILS implementation is complete, all of the NET information will be available to the community.

The OPAC will replace the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications database. It will provide increased searching capability, more precision with results, and new services for depository libraries. GPO staff continues to work on related projects, including the development of training sessions for staff and ongoing authority control services. For more information on the ILS implementation, please see:

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/cip/index.html

GPO has also completed a statement of work for retrospective conversion services for the pre-1976 GPO bibliographic records, and formal procurement activities should begin in the near future. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

DISASTER RECOVERY

Several years ago, in the wake of the September 11 attacks, GPO received funds to develop a disaster recovery site to ensure that its electronic data is protected and remains accessible in event of an unforeseen system failure or catastrophe. In September 2004, a statement of work for disaster recovery hosting services was sent to several companies offering such services, and Akamai Technologies, Inc. was selected to provide disaster recovery services for *GPO Access*. In early 2005, Akamai began implementing a Disaster Recovery (DR) solution for GPO static content and WAIS databases. Akamai has been working with Fast Search & Transfer (FAST) for the DR search component to replicate the look and feel of GPO's web sites while improving search accuracy.

A Proof of Concept for five *GPO Access* applications (*Federal Register*, *Code of Federal Regulations*, *Congressional Record*, Congressional Bills, and Congressional Hearings) was successfully demonstrated to ID and CIO senior management earlier this month. GPO is currently preparing to go live with the partial DR by mid-July 2005, once internal data processing procedures have been finalized. The CIO staff anticipates migrating the remaining WAIS databases into the DR solution by the end of the fiscal year. While completing the implementation of a fully redundant off-site DR solution, GPO also will assess the use of the Akamai and FAST solution as an interim replacement for WAIS until the Future Digital System provides a new search platform.

AUTHENTICATION AND VERSION CONTROL

GPO is taking the final steps to cross-certify GPO's PKI operations with the Federal Bridge Certification Authority (FBCA), a fundamental element of the trust infrastructure that provides the basis for inter- and cross-governmental secure communications. GPO is also developing a Statement of Work to procure the necessary tools and capabilities to automate the application of digital signatures on Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) files. This would enable application of digital signatures in a more timely, efficient and cost-effective manner than can be achieved through manual signing methods. The Statement of Work also calls for a validation mechanism that will enable users to view authentication information for digitally signed PDF documents. A white paper on authentication has been released for review and comment, incorporating the results of the discussions at the spring Council meeting in Albuquerque. Comments are due by August 8, 2005. The authentication white paper can be found at:

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/proceedings/05spring/cdqa/authentication_white_paper.pdf

GPO also prepared and released for public comment a white paper on version control. This document also incorporates the results of the discussions at the spring Council meeting in Albuquerque. Comments are due by August 8, 2005. The version control white paper can be found at:

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/proceedings/05spring/cdqa/version_control_white_paper.pdf

FUTURE DIGITAL SYSTEM

Development continues on GPO's Future Digital System (FDsys). It will be a world-class information life-cycle management system that will transform GPO into a leadership content management agency. The system will be designed to accept, organize, manage and output authenticated content for any use or purpose and to preserve the content independent of specific hardware or software. For more information, please visit the web site for GPO's Office of Innovation and New Technology (INT) at:

<http://www.gpo.gov/projects/fdsys.htm>

Three documents regarding the FDsys are currently electronically available in PDF format:

- FDsys Requirements Document v1.0
- FDsys Concept of Operations v2.0
- FDsys Phase 3 Summary

The *FDsys Requirements Document* (RD), version 1.0, defines preliminary requirements for the FDsys. These requirements will be refined and shaped based on feedback from user, technical, and vendor communities. RD version 1.0 is available at:

http://www.gpo.gov/projects/pdfs/FDsys_RD_v1.0.pdf

The *FDsys Concept of Operations* (ConOps), version 2.0, describes the high-level user requirements of the system, as well as general system capabilities. It is available at:

http://www.gpo.gov/projects/pdfs/FDsys_ConOps_v2.0.pdf

Completing the requirements document fulfilled Phase 3 of the FDsys project. The *FDsys Phase 3 Summary*, which also outlines the activities required for future phases of the project, is available at: http://www.gpo.gov/projects/pdfs/Summary_Phase3.pdf.

Questions and comments are highly encouraged and should be submitted to INT at int@gpo.gov by July 2, 2005.

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION SPECIAL PROJECTS AND RELATED STAFFING

ID staff continues to participate actively in the development of the Future Digital System (FDsys) in a variety of ways. Two ID staff members are detailed to the FDsys project team through the end of the fiscal year to assist with tasks that require dedicated staff. One additional ID employee has been detailed to the new Digital Media Services group to assist with the development of metadata requirements and the related workflow for the legacy digitization project.

A team of 17 GPO employees is currently working on a special, short-term project to sort and create an official inventory of approximately 220,000 tangible publications in order to transfer these items to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). These are publications that GPO has cataloged and distributed through the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) and Cataloging and Indexing Program (CIP) during the past 9 years. Transfers are required by law and are usually made every 4 years, but we are clearing a 9-year backlog due partly to renovations to the main Archives building, where NARA maintains the GPO collection. Most of the team members are GPO employees who are waiting to find permanent positions following the reorganization of ID. However, 5.5 permanent ID employees are detailed to assist with the project, including a part-time manager and two supervisors.

ID also has responsibility for the GPO Sales Program. Our Bibliographic Services staff is responsible for the creation of MARC records for the FDLP and CIP, as well as for the additional data elements required to create ONIX records for GPO sales titles. This is an ongoing effort for all of the new titles selected for the Sales Program, but it is also essential to create ONIX records for all titles currently available for sale. A group of 5 employees in Bibliographic Services is temporarily dedicated to the creation of retrospective ONIX records. We anticipate that the complete set of ONIX records can be created by the end of the fiscal year. Creation of ONIX records increases the sales potential of U.S. Government publications by enhancing the visibility of the publications throughout the book industry.

Finally, as described at the end of this document, GPO is pursuing a public-private partnership for the operation of its Sales Program. This will necessitate the development of a Request for Proposal (RFP), which we hope to put out for bid before the end of September. Two ID employees are detailed to the ID Office of Sales and Reimbursable Program Planning to assist in this effort.

In all, 8.5 employees have been detailed out of ID through the end of the fiscal year to assist with special projects, all of which are important for our programs. Two additional people have been detailed within ID to assist with the Sales Program RFP and 5 employees in Bibliographic Services are dedicated to clearing up the backlog of ONIX records for the Sales Program.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES/ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES TECHNICAL SUPPLEMENT

For many years, GPO's monthly newsletters, *Administrative Notes* and *Administrative Notes Technical Supplement*, served as the primary vehicle for the dissemination of GPO news and information to the Federal depository library community. As a result of the growing use of the FDLP-L listserv and the FDLP Desktop to make more timely distribution of information, the volume of material for these publications has declined significantly. Consequently, *Administrative Notes* and *Administrative Notes Technical Supplement* will continue as bimonthly newsletters at least through December 2005. By that time, all of the information they contain will be available via GPO's CRM knowledgebase, the new Integrated Library System, and the FDLP Desktop.

It is the consensus of both GPO staff and the Depository Library Council that the community is better served by timely electronic postings versus the current print publications. To validate this, GPO will conduct a survey of the depository library community in the fall to explore the best means to communicate this information in the future.

Two issues of *Administrative Notes Technical Supplement*, March-April and May-June, are currently being completed and will be posted by July 1st and distributed in print shortly thereafter. The July-August issue will be available in August. The most recent issue of *Administrative Notes* (Volume 26, Number 6) was posted on June 15th.

LOCKSS

GPO recently announced the launch of the GPO LOCKSS Pilot Project. LOCKSS (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe) is open source software that provides institutions with a way to collect, store, and preserve access to their own local copies of e-journal content. LOCKSS was developed by Stanford University, and is currently maintained by the Stanford University LOCKSS Program Management Office with support from the LOCKSS Alliance. The purpose of the year-long GPO LOCKSS pilot is to investigate how LOCKSS may be used to manage, disseminate, and preserve access to web-based Federal Government e-journals that are within the scope of the FDLP and the International Exchange Service (IES). The following is a list of institutions that have been selected to participate in the year-long pilot: Alaska State Library, Arizona State University, Brigham Young University, Columbia University, Dartmouth College, Deutsche Bibliothek, Georgetown University, Georgia Tech, Indiana University, National Agricultural Library, North Carolina State University, Portland State University, Rice University, Stanford University, University of Connecticut, University of Kentucky Libraries, University of Utah, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Yale Law Library. Additional partners will be announced as they join the project.

During the pilot, it is planned that 10 e-journals will be made available to Library Pilot Partners who are using LOCKSS software. GPO plans to make the first e-journal, *Treasury Bulletin*, available in July 2005 and the second e-journal, *Social Security Bulletin*, in August 2005. Additional information and news about the GPO LOCKSS Pilot Project is available at:

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/lockss/index.html

ELECTRONIC FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARY MANUAL UNDER DEVELOPMENT

In a new collaborative effort between GPO and the Depository Library community to design a next generation *Federal Depository Library Manual*, the various FDLP instructions and manuals will be combined into a single online publication to be updated as necessary. The *Electronic Federal Depository Library Manual* will be a living policy document written by and for the FDLP community, containing best practices, tips, and hot links to additional information of interest to Government documents librarians. Each chapter will include requirements and performance examples, with an emphasis on the electronic FDLP. A presentation about the new manual was given at the spring Depository Library Council meeting in Albuquerque. A summary is available at:

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/proceedings/05spring/new_elec_dep_library_manual.ppt

Volunteers Still Needed

GPO is seeking volunteers with expertise and knowledge of the content for each chapter, and who have the time to complete the work by established deadlines, to help create this new Manual. Two or more volunteers for each of the projected chapters and appendices will be needed. GPO anticipates the work will be accomplished in a combination of ways, including e-mail messages and conference calls with the writing teams. So far, 41 librarians have volunteered to work on the Manual.

GPO is still accepting applications from volunteers to fill gaps in the teams. We have a particular need for more public, federal and law library participants. If you are interested in participating, you can obtain additional information and fill out the Volunteer Form at:

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/im_volunteer_reg.html

WEB DISCOVERY AND HARVESTING

GPO is continuing its efforts to discover and retrieve publications from Federal agency web sites that fall within the scope of the FDLP and the National Bibliography Program. GPO is currently exploring a solution for the discovery, harvesting, and assessment of documents and publications from web sites utilizing web crawler and data mining technologies.

As a first step in learning about available methodologies and technologies, GPO will be working with the EPA web site through a pilot project for web discovery and harvesting performed by contractors. In addition to locating electronic content for the FDLP, the information gained through this pilot will be utilized in developing a set of long-term requirements for web discovery and harvesting in conjunction with the implementation of GPO's Future Digital System.

As financial resources permit, GPO intends to select two vendors to conduct the pilot concurrently so as to compare technologies, approaches, and results. GPO is currently seeking the appropriate approvals for the selection of these vendors. Once approved, the selected vendor(s) will conduct three separate crawls of the EPA web site during a six-month period. The results from each will be compared to develop criteria for targeting in-scope materials on other agency web sites for inclusion in GPO's information dissemination programs.

ID Policy on Web Harvesting

GPO also has developed ID Policy 73: *Harvesting Federal Digital Publications for GPO's Information Dissemination (ID) Programs*, which will govern GPO's manual and automated harvesting of publications from Federal agency web sites for GPO's Federal Depository Library and National Bibliography Programs. The draft document is being circulated for internal review at GPO and will be available shortly for external review and comment.

NATIONAL COLLECTION OF U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

GPO and NARA are continuing to discuss transforming the set of Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) tangible publications that NARA currently holds for GPO into one of the proposed National Collection dark archives. The working assumption is that NARA will continue to refer users to FDLP collections for tangible documents and will use the digital copies in the GPO Electronic Collection (EC) for access. GPO is working with NARA to develop procedures for the addition of publications to the National Collection dark archive that were not previously distributed to depository libraries. This will allow GPO to assemble comprehensive coverage of all content that should be in the FDLP, whether it was distributed at the time of publication or not. A second dark archive is being planned for the Western United States. GPO intends to issue an RFP later this year to identify a library or other institution partner for operating the Western collection. The draft plan can be found at:

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/proceedings/04cbt/nationalcollection.pdf

HOLDINGS SYMBOLS FOR REGIONAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES

GPO now adds the OCLC holdings symbols for 32 Regional depository libraries to the bibliographic records GPO contributes to OCLC WorldCat. Working with GPO, OCLC developed an automated daily batch loading process to set the holdings. Holdings are added only to those records where a 074 field is present, which indicates that the titles were distributed to depository libraries. From February through May 2005, GPO produced 3,715 records with holdings symbols, creating more than 117,000 new access points to specific Federal publications.

DIGITIZATION OF THE LEGACY COLLECTION

GPO continues development of a Registry of U.S. Government Publication Digitization Projects. The Registry project will be discussed at the GODORT Government Information Technology Committee (GITCO) meeting on Sunday, June 26 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. A GITCO working group is assisting GPO in the development of the Registry. It is being designed to complement the GODORT Clearinghouse of Government Documents Digital Projects and will contain records for projects that include digitized copies of publications originating from the U.S. Government. GPO and volunteer contributors from libraries, government agencies, and other non-profit institutions will help to develop the Registry by inputting records about digitization projects that are planned, in progress, or complete. The anticipated launch date is in fall 2005, when GPO's Digital Media Services will start digitizing FDLP legacy publications. A draft white paper on the priorities for digitization is circulating internally and will be posted shortly for public review and comment.

NEW AND ON THE HORIZON

GPO Partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

A new partnership between the U.S. Government Printing Office and the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis has been established to provide permanent public access to content in the Federal Reserve Archival System for Economic Research (FRASER). Developed by the Bank's Research Division, FRASER provides scanned images of historical economic statistical publications, releases, and documents. The underlying purpose of FRASER is to provide complete data series presented in preliminary, revised, and final releases. The documents included are limited to Government documents focused on national banking and economic data. Many of the publications were originally distributed through the FDLP. The Bank will continue to update FRASER and fill in missing documents as they become available. Access to FRASER can be found at:

<http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/> and also at http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/partners/index.html

GPO Partnership with Clemson University's Robert Muldrow Cooper Library

GPO has entered into a partnership with Clemson University's Robert Muldrow Cooper Library, a shared regional Federal Depository Library. Under the terms of the partnership agreement, the library will apply GPO's distribution policy selection (ID 71) criteria to items for which it does not have regional responsibilities and will recommend items to GPO for electronic-only distribution. GPO will also work with Clemson to develop a project report that will examine the effects of a regional depository library maintaining a primarily electronic collection.

New Needs and Offers Partner Sought

After several years of continued support of the FDLP, the University of North Dakota's Chester Fritz Library partnership with GPO for the support of the National Needs & Offers (N&O) list will end in July 2005. GPO is seeking a new partner to continue to provide this valuable service for a minimum of 6 to 9 months while GPO completes work to utilize the capabilities of the new ILS to support an enhanced national needs and offers service. If you are interested in becoming a GPO partner for the administration of the N&O list, please contact Heidi Ramos at: hramos@gpo.gov or 202-512-1003.

To prevent any lapse in service, GPO will provide the service as it currently exists until a new partner is located. We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the contribution that the University of North Dakota has made through its N&O service.

Congressional Record Daily Digest

A full-document archive of 2005 *Congressional Record* Daily Digests has been available on *GPO Access* since mid-April. Previously, each day's Daily Digest was replaced daily. Now an archive exists that allows users to view the Daily Digest in PDF and ASCII. The new archive can be found at:

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/crecord>

Statutes at Large

GPO plans to release a *United States Statutes at Large* (Volume 117, 108th Congress) application this summer, with future volumes to follow as they are published. The *Statutes at Large* is the permanent collection of all laws and resolutions enacted during any session of Congress. Also included are concurrent resolutions, proclamations by the President, proposed and ratified amendments to the Constitution, and reorganization plans.

U.S. Reports

GPO plans to release a *U.S. Reports* (Volume 537, October Term, 2002) application this fall, with future volumes to follow as they are published. The *U.S. Reports* contain the fourth and final generation of the Supreme Court's opinions, as well as orders and other materials issued by the Court.

DEPOSITORY LIBRARY OF THE YEAR AWARD

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2005 Federal Depository Library of the Year Award. The chosen library will be announced at an awards ceremony, which will take place during the fall 2005 Depository Library Conference and meeting of the Depository Library Council. The conference will be held in Washington, DC from October 16-19, 2005. GPO will provide travel and lodging to the Conference for the depository coordinator and the library director from the winning library.

The award provides special recognition for a library that furthers the goal of the Federal Depository Library Program by ensuring that the American public has free access to its Government's information through:

- Outstanding service to meet the Federal government information needs in the library's service area;
- Creativity and innovation in developing specific community programs for use of Federal government information or a dramatic increase in their community's usage of Federal government information; and
- Leadership in creating public service programs that can be emulated by other Federal Depository Libraries.

You are invited to nominate any Federal Depository Library, regardless of its size or type. (Past winners, libraries of current Depository Library Council members, and libraries on probation are ineligible for consideration.) Please submit your entry by July 15, 2005. Applications may be submitted by fax to (202) 512-2300, by email to jscheitle@gpo.gov or nfaget@gpo.gov, or online at:

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/fdlofyear/application05.html

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY IN PUBLISHING SERVICES (Sales Program)

GPO recently issued a Request for Information (RFI) about the capabilities of vendors to provide some or all of the services involved in the transformation of its current sales and distribution operations.

A meeting was held on June 10, 2005 at GPO with all of the vendors who responded to the RFI. The primary purpose of the meeting was to convey GPO's current thinking on this opportunity and get feedback from the private sector prior to the release of a formal Request for Proposal. The meeting stimulated significant vendor interest and provided useful feedback. Additional information about this initiative is available at:

<http://www.gpo.gov/bidopps/majoracquisitions.html>