



NEWS RELEASE

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MyiLibrary selected by JISC to provide eBooks to all UK Universities

LONDON, UK – **MyiLibrary Ltd.**, a leading global provider of digital content and part of Ingram Digital Group, has been appointed to provide eBook access to British students as part of a two-year research project aimed at the UK Higher Education community.

The JISC national e-books observatory project has funded MyiLibrary to make available online some of the most popular textbooks in Business & Management Studies, Engineering and Media Studies as selected by academic librarians. Major textbook publishers that collaborated with MyiLibrary to provide content include Pearson Education, Taylor & Francis, Elsevier Science, Palgrave Macmillan, Cambridge University Press and Thomas Telford. By combining the publishers' offerings, the MyiLibrary platform and JISC funding, a total of 26 textbooks will be available on the MyiLibrary platform, free to all UK students.

“We’re delighted to be the major platform provider to the JISC national e-books observatory project,” said **James Gray**, President and CEO of Ingram Digital Group. “We’re pleased that MyiLibrary was the choice of so many publishers. MyiLibrary offers a number of benefits as a single aggregated platform, which provides an advanced, yet easy to use service for publishers and universities alike.”

MyiLibrary is also collaborating with JISC on a national research project that will study what happens when these e-books are freely available to students. How will they find them? Will they use them? Will the eBooks impact their learning? The JISC funded study will gather much needed evidence:

- For publishers about the impact of e-books on traditional print sales to students

- For publishers about how to create exciting e-books that will engage the digital native
- For publishers and libraries about the pricing models for the future
- For libraries about how to promote the use of e-books

MyiLibrary will also be reviewing usage statistics with publisher partners and the Higher Education community to explore further opportunities to increase eBook take-up and development.

Advantages of the MyiLibrary platform include: cross-searching, easy discovery and access via Athens and other routes. MyiLibrary's publisher relationships were also key in providing premium content from highly-rated publishers. MyiLibrary worked very closely with these publishers on pricing and access models, to be able to offer a wide choice across the subject areas, at excellent value to the UK Higher Education community.

MyiLibrary also delivers eBooks to the medical and health education sector via a national contract with the National Health Service (NHS). This project opens up similar country-wide access to academics, researchers and students in another vital sector of UK Higher Education.

Christoph Chesher, Group Sales Director at Taylor & Francis, was very pleased that a range of the publisher's Media Studies list, provided on the MyiLibrary platform, had been selected. He said: "Taylor & Francis has long believed in the potential of eBooks and digital publishing. This JISC project in conjunction with MyiLibrary is a further example of the growing importance of alternative methods of publishing, teaching and studying, and will provide us with critical information on how best to refine our services to the HE community."

The JISC national e-books observatory project will continue for the next two years and the information gathered is expected to benefit university lecturers and librarians, as well as inform digital content providers about the construction of eBooks, promotion to the community, and how disciplinary differences impact the use of eBooks.

Hazel Woodward, University Librarian at Cranfield University, and chair of the project's advisory board, said: "eBooks have enormous potential as a resource for students. But it's fair to say that that potential has so far been untapped. The project

will we hope have a major impact on the e-book publishing market and in time on libraries across the UK as they struggle to keep up with demand for taught course texts. We hope that university libraries will all become involved in this innovative and exciting project as they as well as publishers have a great deal to gain.”

Christine Ozden, Managing Director at Pearson Education UK, whose Business titles were among those chosen, also welcomed the opportunity to be part of the trial: “Pearson Education sees all formats of textbook publishing as important – our custom publishing list is tailored towards individual course and lecturer requirements. We are now progressing with other digital initiatives, including this JISC project, working in conjunction with MyiLibrary.”

Jonathan Bunkell, Sales Director, EMEA, Science & Technology Books at Elsevier, publishers of the majority of the Engineering titles selected, commented: “The JISC trial via the MyiLibrary platform is an important step in evaluating the usage of e-books within the UK HE environment and we are very pleased to be part of it. This market is still evolving, but we are sure it is one of the future directions for distributing course content.”

ABOUT MYILIBRARY

MyiLibrary, an Ingram Digital Group company, is a global provider of digital content accession, storage, management and delivery services to publishers and other content owners. MyiLibrary specializes in the production of world-class technology solutions for the distribution and hosting of electronic books, journals and other content. MyiLibrary provides e-Book titles from academic, commercial, and governmental publishers throughout the world. For more information, visit www.myilibrary.com

ABOUT JISC

JISC – the Joint Information Systems Committee – is a joint committee of the UK further and higher education funding bodies and is responsible for supporting the innovative use of information and communication technology (ICT) to support learning, teaching, and research. It is best known for providing the JANET network, a range of support, content and advisory services, and a portfolio of high-quality resources. Information about JISC, its services and programmes can be found at www.jisc.ac.uk/, or contact Philip Pothen on 020 7848 2935 / 07887 564 006 or p.pothen@jisc.ac.uk.

ABOUT THE JISC NATIONAL E-BOOKS OBSERVATORY PROJECT

The project aims to gather evaluate the use of the e-books through deep log analysis and to assess the impact of the ‘free at the point of use’ e-books upon publishers, aggregators

and libraries. It also aims to transfer knowledge acquired in the project to publishers, aggregators and libraries to help stimulate an e-books market that has appropriate business and licensing models For more information, visit www.jiscebooksproject.org

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