AQUATIC SCIENCES & FISHERIES ABSTRACTS ON INN-VIEW

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Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA) is now available on a new service called Inn-View offering remote access to one's user community. Inn-View is marketed by Innovative Interfaces Inc., the vendor of the InnoPac library automation software. Connecting to Inn-View currently involves a telnet connection in a terminal session; a Web version is expected in the future. ASFA Inn-View is a menu-driven system with the opening screen offering searching by "words" (title, abstract, ASFA Thesaurus terms, and ASFA section), "subject" (ASFA Thesaurus terms, ASFA geographic codes, and ASFA environmental regime), "article author", "journal title", and "article title" (exact title of item).

After executing a search the screen displays a shortened title/journal list for browsing through search results. The user types in the number of a likely item and can see the ASFA reference plus abstract in its entirety. For libraries using InnoPac library automation software, ASFA references can be linked to local library holdings through the ISSN number. This local holdings linkage is a key advantage of ASFA Inn-View; the user sees the ASFA reference with local holdings information (e.g., call number, shelf location, volume holdings). This linkage works well from 1992 to present when Cambridge Scientist Abstracts included ISSN in ASFA records religiously. Previous to 1992, local holdings linkage occurs only in a fraction of ASFA records. It would be great if CSR did a retrospective conversion adding ISSN's to the ASFA database; it wouldn't be 100% effective but it undoubtedly work for much of ASFA and certainly the core journal literature.

Retrieved references can be limited by exact year or range of years, by language, by journal titles, and by additional words in specific fields of the ASFA references e.g., ASFA geographic codes in the subject field, "marine" environmental regime descriptor in the subject field, title keywords, etc. Individual records or blocks of records can be marked into an Inn-View saved file for subsequent output at the end of the search session. Records can be output via e-mail or in a continuous stream for downloading to a local file. Records can be output in three specific formats (MARC, EndNote, ProCite) and as a field-tagged ASCII file.

ASFA Inn-View pricing is such that it will be most attractive to other InnoPac customers of which there are several among IAMSLIC libraries. Inn-View's ability to link ASFA records to
local holdings greatly reduces reference service burden and greatly facilitates user access to library materials. Cambridge's own ASFA Internet service or SilverPlatter's ERL service will likely be more affordable to non-InnoPac customers interested in bringing remote access to ASFA to their users. The Inn-View fee structure includes an ASFA licensing fee payable to Cambridge Scientific Abstracts and fees for the Inn-View service itself. Inn-View fees are based on the number of simultaneous users (e.g., one user is $1900/year, two users is $3800/year, three users is $5700/year), number of Inn-View databases accessed ($1150/year for ASFA only), and linkage to local holdings ($1000/year for quarterly linkage runs).