



INSTITUTIONAL IMPACT

INSTITUTIONS HAVE ALREADY MADE CONSIDERABLE INVESTMENTS IN INFORMATION SOURCES SUCH AS E-JOURNALS AND INTERNAL DATABASES. ZPORTAL ALLOWS INSTITUTIONS TO BUILD ON THESE INVESTMENTS AND ENSURE THAT THEY ARE GAINING THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE RETURN ON INVESTMENT

By directing users to valuable assets such as internal information, institutions are utilising previously undervalued information and directing their users to the right resources at the right time, therefore maximising the use of shared knowledge throughout the institution.

ZPORTAL enables institutions to understand and rationalise usage of materials and to ensure maximum use is made of resources.

INSTITUTIONS BENEFIT BY:

- SAVING MONEY – INSTITUTIONS WILL BE ABLE TO REDUCE DUPLICATION AND MAXIMISE USE OF UNDER USED EXPENSIVE RESOURCES.
- VALUE FOR MONEY – EXPENSIVE RESOURCES ARE MORE WIDELY AND EFFECTIVELY USED.
- TIME SAVED – USERS ARE ONLY SEARCHING ONCE ACROSS MULTIPLE RESOURCES.
- MAXIMISE RETURN ON INVESTMENT – DELIVERS REAL SAVINGS BY LEVERAGING DATA FROM OLDER LEGACY SYSTEMS AND ENSURES REDUCTION OF DATA DUPLICATION.
- FUTURE PROOFING – FDI HAS A CONTINUOUS DEVELOPMENT PATH WHICH WILL ENSURE THE SYSTEM CAN GROW TO SUIT THE CHANGING NEEDS OF THE ACADEMIC INSTITUTION.

FREEDOM BY DESIGN

Fretwell-Downing Informatics (FDI) has been applying the latest technologies to deliver new solutions for information discovery, library management and knowledge delivery since 1992. Global companies, legal firms, government agencies, academic libraries and large scale library consortia are among the 200+ organisations around the world who have invested in our information delivery solutions.

FDI's freedom by design philosophy means that all our solutions are available separately, enabling organisations to select the tools they need for maximum impact. We recognise that many organisations have already invested in software components so ZPORTAL can be plugged into your existing library catalogue or interlibrary loans system to help you build on the investment you've already made.

Innovative software needs people to make it work. The FDI teams in the UK, the US and Australia are made up of industry professionals who provide a full range of quality services including product management, training, implementation, installation and ongoing support.

ZPORTAL customers include: Riding, Ottawa Centre for Research and Innovation's SmartCapital venture and the Association of Research Libraries Scholars Portal project.

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ACADEMIC

THE DIRECT ROUTE FROM INFORMATION DISCOVERY TO CONTENT DELIVERY

ZPORTAL™ helps you offer 'one search' access to a range of resources you reference everyday. Journals, databases, the web, even your Intranet can come together as one powerful resource. Use ZPORTAL to find what's out there and let linking deliver the full text straight to your desk - making it easier to search for information leaves you more time to act on the results.

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STRUGGLING WITH INFORMATION OVERLOAD?

IN TODAY'S ECONOMIC CLIMATE, ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS ARE STRIVING TO PROVIDE RESEARCHERS AND STUDENTS WITH A DIRECT ROUTE FROM INFORMATION DISCOVERY TO CONTENT DELIVERY

Gone are the days when information was delivered purely in hard copy or held internally within an institution's database. The world has evolved. The advent of the web has crossed borders and pushed boundaries leading more information providers to publish online.

This technological evolution has brought its own challenges. The emphasis is being placed on society's use of technology, and not enough is being directed towards its ability to use it skillfully as a tool to find and evaluate information.

A combination of multiple internal resources, external resources and formats has created a barrier to locating easily accessible information. Researchers and students are tempted to skip valuable university resources and go straight to Internet search engines, wasting time performing multiple searches and retrieving irrelevant or poor quality material in long hit lists.

Information portals offer choice, and as a result, place power back into the hands of information professionals, who can harness the technology to personalise access to information in a way that will best suit their academic institutions needs. Through these solutions, researchers are benefiting from a reduction in research time without compromising the resources searched.

Rather than tying information professionals into specific resources, ZPORTAL offers more choice and the freedom to design the content of their portal to best suit their needs.

By providing the direct route from information discovery to content delivery, ZPORTAL offers organisations a single search across distributed internal and external resources. It also offers the ability to deliver more than just links to electronic resources – it can deliver electronic items when they are retrieved as part of a search, using sophisticated OpenURL technology.



CONNECTING USERS AND INFORMATION

ZPORTAL can provide an easy route to valuable, reliable information and as a result offer a significant benefit to the end user. By using ZPORTAL as the entry point for searching across mixed media, users will have one place on the web that will lead them straight through the information maze. Information searchers just need to familiarise themselves with one 'front end' and receive purely quality information that has been personalised to meet their information needs.

The reductions in time end-users spend searching for information is just one key benefit of ZPORTAL for the user.

ZPORTAL BENEFITS USERS BY:

- SAVING TIME – USERS DON'T HAVE TO SEARCH ACROSS A VARIETY OF INTERFACES TO FIND THE INFORMATION THEY NEED.
- RELEVANT INFORMATION – USERS ARE GUIDED TO APPROPRIATE RESOURCES WHICH PROVIDE ONLY QUALITY INFORMATION.
- IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO CONTENT – USERS CAN GO DIRECTLY TO FULL TEXT, PDFS AND E-JOURNALS.
- IMPROVED QUALITY OF DATA – ALL INFORMATION HAS BEEN FILTERED TO PROVIDE ONLY QUALITY DATA.
- UNDERSTANDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE – USERS ARE ONLY PRESENTED WITH COLLECTIONS RELEVANT TO THEIR RESEARCH OR STUDY.
- PERSONALISED FEATURES – USERS CAN SAVE AND REUSE SEARCHES IN ADDITION TO SETTING UP GROUPS OF FAVOURITE RESOURCES TO CROSS-SEARCH.
- EASE OF USE – USERS ONLY HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO USE ONE INTERFACE AND REMEMBER ONE PASSWORD.

EMPOWERING INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS

ZPORTAL allows information professionals to use the latest portal technology to collect, organise and package appropriate information resources. Personalisation features mean that they are also able to tailor resources to suit the specific needs of their users. In addition, information professionals can maximise the appropriate use of information by promoting an institution's own stock and subscriptions alongside electronic resources.

ZPORTAL's ability to ensure that only the most appropriate sources of information are available to the end user is a key benefit for information professionals.

OTHER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- SINGLE SEARCH INTERFACE – STAFF HAVE TO ONLY BE TRAINED ON ONE SEARCH INTERFACE FOR ALL DATABASES AND COLLECTIONS.
- CROSS DATABASE SEARCHING – STAFF CAN ENSURE USERS SEARCH THE VAST AMOUNT OF RESOURCES ON OFFER.
- EASIER USER EDUCATION – MANAGERS CAN CREATE DESCRIPTIONS OF RESOURCES TO HELP USERS UNDERSTAND WHAT IS AVAILABLE.
- LINKS TO EXTERNAL RESOURCES – ZPORTAL CAN BE USED AS A STARTING POINT FOR SEARCHING AND THEN LINK DIRECTLY TO EXTERNAL DATABASES FOR MORE IN-DEPTH RESEARCH.
- PROVIDING MANAGEMENT INFORMATION – STATISTICS TO PROVE THE USE AND VALUE OF YOUR RESOURCES.
- AUTHENTICATION AND ACCESS – SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATORS CAN CONTROL WHICH USERS HAVE ACCESS TO WHICH RESOURCES.
- PERSONALISE ACCESS – RELATED RESOURCES CAN BE GROUPED FOR SPECIFIC USER COMMUNITIES.



ZPORTAL PROVIDES A SINGLE SEARCH ACROSS YOUR CHOICE OF MIXED RESOURCES

