



ORGANISATIONAL IMPACT

ORGANISATIONS HAVE ALREADY MADE CONSIDERABLE INVESTMENTS IN INFORMATION SOURCES SUCH AS E-JOURNALS AND INTERNAL DATABASES. ZPORTAL ALLOWS ORGANISATIONS 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, organisations are utilising previously undervalued information and directing their user to the right information at the right time, therefore maximising the use of shared knowledge throughout the organisation.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS ZPORTAL DELIVERS TO ORGANISATIONS INCLUDE:

- SAVING MONEY – ORGANISATIONS WILL BE MAKING MAXIMUM USE OF EXPENSIVE EXTERNAL RESOURCES.
- HIGHER PRODUCTIVITY – EMPLOYEES ARE MORE EFFECTIVE IN THEIR WORK DUE TO EASY ACCESS TO RELEVANT INFORMATION.
- TIME SAVED – EMPLOYEES ARE ONLY SEARCHING ONCE ACROSS MULTIPLE RESOURCES.
- MAXIMISE RETURN ON INVESTMENT – DELIVERING 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 ORGANISATION.

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.

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THE DIRECT ROUTE FROM INFORMATION DISCOVERY TO CONTENT DELIVERY

ZPORTAL™ helps you offer 'one search' access to the range of resources you reference everyday. Journals, databases, the web, even your Intranet can come together as one powerful resource that can better support your business – 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 AS ORGANISATIONS STRIVE TO GAIN CORPORATE ADVANTAGE, QUALITATIVE INFORMATION HAS NEVER BEEN MORE IMPORTANT

Gone are the days when information was purely in hard copy or held internally within an organisation's databases. The world has evolved. The advent of the web has crossed borders, 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 uses of technology, and not enough is being directed towards its ability to use it skillfully as a tool to find and evaluate information. End users are struggling to find reliable, quality information as they waste valuable time performing multiple searches and retrieving low quality material. In an attempt to solve their information needs, users are turning to web search engines that have not been designed with the needs of the organisation in mind. As a result of this adhoc and time consuming process, users are overlooking the quality of resources which the information professional has selected for their needs.

Users need structured, organised access to the wide variety of information resources and information professionals are well placed to help provide this service. Through this service users benefit from a reduction in research time without compromising the resources searched. This helps to ensure organisations gain corporate advantage and maximise return on investment.

Information portals offer more choice, and as a result, places power in the hands of information professionals, who can harness the technology to personalise access to information in a way that will best suit their organisational needs.

Rather than tying information professionals into specific resources, ZPORTAL offers organisations 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 only one 'front end' to receive purely quality information that has been personalised to meet their information needs.

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

OTHER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- SAVING TIME – USERS DON'T HAVE TO SEARCH ACROSS A VARIETY OF INTERFACES TO FIND THE INFORMATION THEY NEED.
- EASE OF USE – USERS ONLY HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO USE ONE INTERFACE AND REMEMBER ONE PASSWORD.
- UNDERSTANDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE – USERS CAN SEE SIMPLE DESCRIPTIONS OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES.
- PERSONALISED FEATURES – USERS CAN SAVE AND REUSE SEARCHES IN ADDITION TO SETTING UP GROUPS OF FAVOURITE RESOURCES TO CROSS-SEARCH.
- RELEVANT INFORMATION – USERS ARE BETTER INFORMED AND MORE LIKELY TO MAKE IMPROVED BUSINESS DECISIONS.
- IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO CONTENT – USERS GO DIRECTLY TO FULL TEXT, PDF'S AND E-JOURNALS.

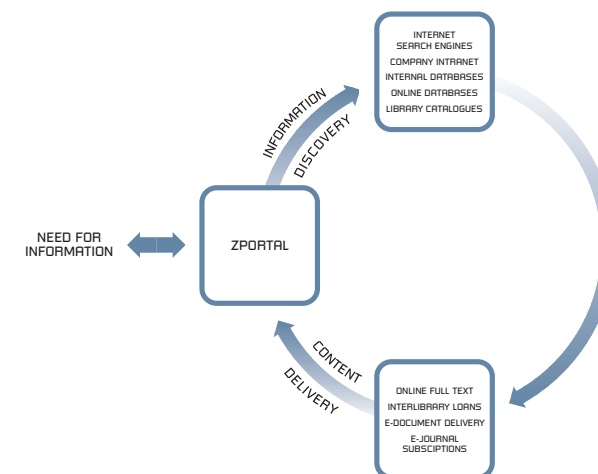


ZPORTAL PROVIDES A SINGLE SEARCH ACROSS YOUR CHOICE OF MIXED RESOURCES

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 organisation'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 ONLY HAVE TO BE TRAINED ON ONE SEARCH INTERFACE FOR ALL DATABASES AND COLLECTIONS.
- CROSS DATABASE SEARCHING – STAFF CAN ENSURE USERS SEARCH THE VAST AMOUNT OF RESOURCES THEY OFFER.
- EASIER USER EDUCATION – MANAGERS CAN CREATE DESCRIPTIONS OF RESOURCES TO HELP USERS UNDERSTAND WHAT IS AVAILABLE.
- PERSONALISE ACCESS – RELATED RESOURCES CAN BE GROUPED FOR SPECIFIC USER COMMUNITIES.
- AUTHENTICATION AND ACCESS – SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATORS CAN CONTROL WHICH USERS HAVE ACCESS TO WHICH RESOURCES.
- LINKS TO EXTERNAL RESOURCES – ZPORTAL CAN BE USED AS A STARTING POINT FOR SEARCHING AND THEN LINK DIRECTLY TO EXTERNAL DATABASES FOR MORE INDEPTH RESEARCH.
- ORGANISATIONAL EFFICIENCY – ABILITY TO INTEGRATE ACCESS ACROSS INTERNAL ORGANISATIONAL DIVISIONS.