DL Software: Greenstone and Eprints

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Greenstone

Greenstone Digital Library Software is a project from New Zealand that provides a new way of organizing information and making it available over the Internet.

Features of Greenstone

1. Accessible via web browser: Collections are accessed through a standard web browser and easy-to-use browsing with powerful search facilities.

2. Full Text and Field Search: The user can search the full text of the documents, or choose between indexes built from different parts of the documents.

3. Flexible browsing facilities: The user can browse lists of authors, lists of titles, lists of dates, classification structures, and so on. Different collections may offer different browsing facilities and even within a collection, a broad variety of browsing interfaces are available.

4. Create access structures automatically: The Greenstone software creates information collections that are very easy to maintain. All searching and browsing structures are built directly from the documents themselves. No links are inserted by hand, but existing links in originals are maintained. This means that if new documents in the same format become available, they can be merged into the collection automatically.

5. Make use of available metadata: Metadata, which is descriptive information such as author, title, date, keywords, and so on, may be associated with each document, or with individual sections within documents. The Dublin Core metadata scheme is used for most electronic documents; however, provision is made for other schemes.

6. Plug-in extends system's capabilities: In order to accommodate different kinds of source document, the software is organized in such a way that "plug-in" can be written for new document types. Plug-in currently exist for plain text, html, Word, PDF, PostScript, E-mail, some proprietary formats, and for recursively traversing directory structures and compressed archives containing such documents.

7. Customization: The Greenstone allows customization of presentation of collection that are based on EXtensible Stylesheet Language transformation (XSLT).

8. Designed for Multi-gigabyte collection: Collections can contain millions of documents, making the Greenstone system suitable for collections up to several gigabytes.

9. Multilingual Support: Unicode is used throughout the software, allowing any language to be processed in a consistent manner.

10. Collections support multiple formats: Greenstone collections can contain text, pictures, audio and video clips. Most non-textual material is either linked in to the textual documents or accompanied by textual descriptions (such as figure captions) to allow full-text searching and browsing.

11. Administrative function provided: An "administrative" function enables specified users to authorize new users to build collections, protect documents so that they can only be accessed by registered users on presentation of a password, examine the composition of all collections, and so on. Logs of user activity can record all queries made to every Greenstone collection.

EPrints

EPrints is free software developed by the "University of Southampton, England". EPrints repository collects preserves and disseminates in digital format the research output created by a research community. It enables the community to deposit their preprints; post prints and other scholarly publications using a web interface, and organizes these publications for easy retrieval.

Features

1. Accessibility via web browser: EPrints provides web based interface that makes it easy to use and administer.

2. Full Text and Field Search: Searching is based on metadata not full text based search is supported by EPrints. Searching in EPrints allows scanning each of the metadata field types in the database by using simple or advanced search.

3. Administrative function provided: EPrints archive can use any metadata schema as being provided by the administrator. The administrator decides what metadata fields are held about each EPrints items.

4. Open Source Software: EPrints uses traditional technologies and runs on pure Open Source systems. It uses MySQL, Apache database and web server.

5. Three user roles: (administrator, editor and author)

a. Administrator role controls all back-end options such as organization of records, web interface appearance and functionality, and all other server-side settings.

b. Editor role reviews submissions before they are published online and may edit metadata on submissions to maintain consistency or correct errors.

c. Author role allows submission of documents and management of previously submitted documents.

6. OAI-PMH Support: Fully interoperable with OAI (Open Archives Initiative) Protocol for Metadata Harvesting. Open Archives protocol allows sites to programmatically retrieve or 'harvest' the metadata from several sources, and offer services using that metadata, such as indexing or linking services.

7. Multilingual Support: Unicode is used throughout the software, allowing any language to be processed in a consistent manner

8. File formats supported: Functions with many file types, including: PDF, HTML, JPEG, TIFF, MP3, and AVI etc. Metadata schema can be tailored to meet the requirements

9. Statistics: Statistics are provided for administrative usage .Statistical reports/summary can be used for performing analysis on repository.

10. Customization: The EPrints data modal consist of user defined metadata. In order to export data in other formats plug-ins can be written.

11. Item preview in EPrints: Preview of documents and images is generated automatically upon file upload.

Year of creation

Dspace: 2002

Eprints: 2000

Greenstone: 1997