



For Immediate Release

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The British Council Licenses ebrary’s Custom Collection of Online Books for its 220 Offices Worldwide

**Students and professionals in 110 countries can now have unlimited access to
authoritative content relevant to UK education, business, culture, and careers**

October 11, 2005 – Palo Alto, CA – To help disseminate important information about the United Kingdom while supplementing its online educational programs, the British Council today announced that it has created a custom collection of online books and other documents from ebrary® and has purchased a global subscription license for its 220 libraries and learning centers throughout the world. With more than 7,500 titles spanning multiple subject areas, the new collection provides a valuable resource to the British Council’s 340,000 members including students, professionals, job seekers, travelers, and others interested in UK history and culture.

Under the terms of the agreement, ebrary (www.ebrary.com), a leading information services and technology provider, will host the British Council’s custom collection and distribute it via the ebrary Dynamic Content Platform (DCP)™ solution. ebrary’s DCP features the ebrary Reader™ and InfoTools™ software, which provide sophisticated research capabilities for efficient viewing, searching and navigating online.

“ebrary helps us leverage the Internet to disseminate valuable information about the UK and promote British publishers while eliminating barriers associated with both the printed book and other eBook products on the market today,” said Firzana Perveen of the British Council’s Knowledge Information Service. “With ebrary, we can cost-effectively provide our global members with access to the information they need online -- at any time, from anywhere -- without having to worry about connectivity and bandwidth constraints. We are very excited to offer such a valuable service as ebrary to our global membership.”

“We are very honored that the British Council has chosen ebrary as a content and technology provider,” said David Bass, ebrary’s Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing. “The British Council has long been the UK’s leading international organization for promoting education and building cultural relationships around the world. We are excited to help them fulfill their educational mission by providing a way to efficiently distribute and share information online.”

The British Council hand picked more than 7,500 ebrary titles for its custom subscription collection covering multiple subject areas related to the UK's socio-economical, educational, and cultural climates. It includes content from leading UK publishers such as BMJ Publishers, Butterworth Heineman, Cambridge University Press, Jessica Kingsley, Kogan Page, Palgrave MacMillan UK, Manchester University Press, and Taylor & Francis. Additionally, it features online books and other content from key US publishers such as Amacom, Career Press, John Wiley & Sons, McGraw-Hill, Stanford University Press, World Bank, and World of Information, as well as publishers in other countries including Pippin (Canada), Copenhagen Business School (Denmark), and John Benjamins (Holland).

In addition to custom subscription collections, ebrary offers libraries and other institutions a number of options for licensing content. The company provides growing subscription databases of content that span multiple subject areas and fixed subscription databases in specific subject sets. All ebrary subscription databases are delivered under a simultaneous, multi-user access model through the ebrary DCP.

Additionally, ebrary offers perpetual access databases where institutions may purchase titles under both a simultaneous, multi-user and single user access model. ebrary currently has more than 60,000 online books, reports and other content available in its repository. The company also licenses its OnDemand™ platform to organizations that need to distribute their own PDF content online. For more information visit www.ebrary.com.

About the British Council

- The British Council is the UK's international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations.
- We operate in 220 towns and cities in 110 countries worldwide.
- We build relationships and understanding between people in the UK and other countries and increase appreciation of the UK's ideas and achievements overseas.
- The areas we focus on are creativity, education and civil society.
- We are a non-political organisation which operates at arm's length from government.
- Our income in 2004/05 was £475.5 million, of which our grant-in-aid from the British government was £172 million.

About ebrary

ebrary® provides technology solutions and information services that students, employees, patrons, and staff need to be more productive, competitive, and knowledgeable.

The company has pioneered the Dynamic Content Platform (DCP), a hosted information delivery service that features a growing selection of more than 60,000 titles from more than 200 leading academic, STM, and professional publishers. ebrary license authoritative content such as full-text books, reports, maps, and other authoritative documents under both a simultaneous, multi-user subscription and perpetual access model.

Additionally, ebrary offers server-based solutions to easily and cost-effectively create remote collections and virtual content portals from any PDF documents stored within a hard drive, database, or content management system.

All ebrary products feature the ebrary Reader™ software, which optimizes online viewing through the “real-time” conversion of PDF documents into ebrary’s Exchange Data Format (EDF)™. EDF serves any PDF file, regardless of size, through any connected Internet browser, one page at a time, making the delivery fast and efficient for the viewer.

InfoTools™ software is an advanced set of software features within the ebrary Reader that provides much more powerful and efficient research capabilities than editorial-based linking or multiple search queries. By selecting words within a current document, end users can instantly link to relevant information from other EDF or PDF documents, digital databases, and resources on the Web.

Founded in 1999, ebrary is privately held and is headquartered in Palo Alto, CA.

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