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JISC Collections selects ebrary to provide e-books to all FE Colleges in the United Kingdom

April 15, 2009 – Palo Alto, CA, USA – ebrary®, a leading provider of e-content services and technology, today announced that it has been appointed by JISC Collections to supply the e-book content and delivery platform for its multimillion-dollar e-books for FE Project. Under the terms of the contract, negotiated in partnership with the company’s authorized distributor 2info, the JISC will fund a collection of over 3,000 multidisciplinary e-books from ebrary and use ebrary’s technology to deliver the content to over 440 Further Education colleges in the United Kingdom. Participating colleges may also supplement this collection by purchasing additional titles through a framework agreement.

“Despite growing demand for e-books among students and instructors in FE, their adoption and usage has not reached the same levels as universities,” said Anna Vernon, Project Manager for the e-books for FE Project. “The LSC, JISC and JISC Collections are working together on a national level to acquire a critical mass of relevant e-books, to achieve efficiencies and harness the opportunities technology provides. ebrary impressed the marking panel with its range of quality, relevant titles and its compliance with the tender criteria so that end-users can quickly and easily discover, use and manage that content.”

E-books in the collection were selected by librarians and instructors from FE institutions for relevancy to the curriculum, including content of special interest to colleges in Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. The multidisciplinary database features titles from leading publishers such as Berg Publishing, Elsevier, Hodder Education, John Wiley & Sons, Pearson Education, Springer and Taylor & Francis.

Additionally, JISC Collections and ebrary will create five new collections, to be made available annually through 2014, of the top 100 e-books chosen by the FE community from ebrary's growing catalog of over 100,400 titles available for purchase. Participating colleges can pick and choose individual titles to develop a custom collection for its specific needs that will be delivered alongside the centrally funded core collection.

"The JISC is a globally-recognized leader in supporting education and research in the UK through the innovative use of e-books and other learning technologies," said Ian Hames, ebrary's Vice President of International Sales. "We are very honored to be selected for such a significant investment, and look forward to working with the colleges to train and educate their students, faculty and staff on how e-books can greatly enhance the academic process."

"2info and ebrary supported the ethos of the project from the outset and immediately recognized the significant benefits we, along with our publisher partners, could bring to JISC Collections and the Further Education community," said Chris Jones, Managing Director of 2info. "Our proposal presented a solution that undoubtedly complemented the specification and we are truly excited about the opportunity to deliver this. We feel genuinely privileged to be part of this project and partnership."

The selection of the ebrary platform enables FE institutions to benefit from numerous advantages, including the following:

- Choice of several viewing options, including ebrary QuickView™ for instant document viewing in a browser, ebrary Plug-in Reader™ with QuickView, and ebrary Unity Reader™ with QuickView.
- ebrary InfoTools™ integrates the core collection and additional titles with library catalogs, Virtual Learning Environments (VLEs), and other online resources in the institution and on the web.
- Multiple options for searching and navigating.
- Personal bookshelves automatically store links to highlights, notes, and more, providing an archive of research.
- Automatic citations when text is printed or copied and pasted into Word or any text applications. Citations include an automatic URL hyperlink back to the source.
- Highlighting and annotating.

- Ability to transform text into a hyperlink to a URL of the end-user's choice.
- Text-to-speech and other keyboard shortcuts to assist end-users with special accessibility needs.
- Reporting tools and usage statistics.
- Free on-demand MARC records.

About JISC Collections

JISC Collections was established as a mutual trading company by the UK further and higher education funding councils in 2006 to negotiate with publishers of online information and other owners of digital content. The range of resources licensed for use by such agreements constitutes a large national collection of online resources for education and research. JISC Collections is funded by JISC. For further information, please go to <http://www.jisc-collections.ac.uk>.

About ebrary (www.ebrary.com)

ebrary® is a leading provider of e-content services and technology. The company helps libraries, publishers, and other organizations worldwide disseminate valuable information to end-users, while improving their research and document interaction.

The company has developed a flexible e-content platform, which customers may use in a number of different, integrated capacities: ebrary customers may purchase or subscribe to e-books and other content under a variety of pricing and access models, and they may license the ebrary platform to distribute, sell, and market their own content online. All options are delivered using a customizable interface and include a choice of ebrary Readers with QuickView™ for instant viewing in a browser and InfoTools™ software which provide contextual searching and integration with multiple online resources.

ebrary currently offers a growing selection of more than 170,000 e-books and other titles from more than 350 leading publishers and aggregators.

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

About 2info

2info provide sales, marketing and support services to publishers and aggregators of scholarly information. The company brings local expertise, established networks, geographic and sector

specific experience to those seeking to gain exposure and support customers within the UK and Irish library markets.

2info delivers ebrary's products to the UK and Irish territories while providing library customers with local, high quality customer care. Currently operating as an extension of their team, 2info has worked exclusively with ebrary for over 4 years and thrives on bringing exciting, innovative new products to a market they know well.

Founded in 2004, 2info is privately held and is located in Saddleworth, England.

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