

sometimes incorrect ordering information. Most common was the exclusion of price or publisher, although these omissions did not seem to complicate verification unduly. Misspelled author names, one incorrect author, and errors in title citation were also discovered on the order form. The misspellings were obvious, but the correct forms of the names could not have been established easily without on-line access to the full bibliographic record in each case. The one incorrect author also appeared with an incomplete title citation, and it was not until the book was actually received at the library that the OCLC record could be classified as a "find." Serious, too, was the pair of orders which seemed to differ only in the government document number.

It is quite clear that verification of titles through OCLC serves to eliminate duplicate orders, improve speed of acquisitions, and ensure the correct receipt of items. In this connection it is also worth noting that OCLC's use of truncated search keys greatly facilitates the process by minimizing the effect of all mistakes, certainly including those that may have been made during the preparation of order forms.

Conclusion

The results of this pilot study indicate that technical information centers and special libraries can benefit substantially from participation in OCLC. Moreover, it seems clear

that some problem areas are truly universal in scope, and that organizations working in such areas should be free to cooperate through computer-based networks without regard for such relatively artificial constraints as provincial, state, and even international borders.

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Errata

The Application of Function Descriptors to the Development of an Information System Typology

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The word "topology" was inadvertently inserted in place of "typology" in the title of the above paper on the lead page of the article and in the table of contents for that issue.