

Web Based Library Information System of Hindalco, Renukoot

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Abstract

The use of IT tools is nowadays has become a necessity for a library. The Works Library of Hindalco, Renukoot is exploring computer and allied technological advances for better organization of information sources and fruitful delivery of information services since its inception. Recently added Library Information System (Library Home Page) is a feather in its crown. The aim of the system is to provide quality services to its clientele and facilitates round the clock availability of information at the workplace of clientele through intranet. This project was done on Works Library of Hindalco, Renukoot using FrontPage and HTML code under WindowXP environment.

Keywords: Web authoring; Web design; Web page; HTML code; HTML tag; Hypertext Markup language; Home page.

Introduction

The home page of any institution is the gateway to its information resources. The home page of a library enhances the visibility of its information system - its resources, various activities and a varied range of services - in an effective way to its clienteles. This adds to the responsibilities of the librarian to properly plan and design the home page of his/ her library. Just as a book has a content page listing all about what a book has in it, the home page of a library should also have the same features. In other words, the home page works as content to its collection, services and activities.

Since the time immemorial the libraries are acting as the institution of Information acquisition, processing and dissemination. With the innovation in Information

Technologies and Digitization, the basic nature of document has now been changed and it took the shape of electronic or more specifically digital. On the other hand the nature of document is no longer remained static rather it becomes dynamic. This changing information format has greatly influenced the information seeking behaviour of library users and ultimately the library professionals, as they have to acquire, process, organize and manage the information in the changing environment. The present paper is aimed at sharing the practical experiences at HINDALCO Industries Library.

Why a Library Web page?

The most obvious question now is, "Why do library need a web page when already there is a well organized and maintained collection in the library? By using the modern gadgets and with the help of a web page, the use of information resources and services can be enhanced multifold. The features of its on-line accessibility of resources and services of a library within the library premises as well as to the outside world through a network to prospective clientele in 24X7X365 mode adds a feature to the crown of the library. More and

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more users these days are using the online accessible tools because of its convenience and to save their time. Users of today expect from a library online services and a website is the best tool for it. The users who wish to know about the availability of a document or library service, they simply can visit the website of the library to seek information of their interest. Some advantages of a web page are: -

1. It facilitates the access to the resources and services within library as well as outside the library.
2. In networked environment, through a web page library services can be provided the round the clock.
3. The users can be kept informed about library activities and new services.
4. It saves the time of the users, which can be utilized in other productive jobs.
5. Obviously, it increases the use of library resources to the optimum level.
6. It helps to publicize services and/or resources to unlimited number of potential users.
7. It can be updated with latest activities much easier and in a cheaper way than print based media.
8. Huge expenses on communication and administrative costs can be saved.
9. It can easily be integrated with the parent organization's site therefore creating brand awareness with whole group.
10. Web sites are easier and cheaper to change / update, than conventional print based media.

Objective of the system

The main objective of this project was to provide better services at minimum cost, efforts and time and to make library resources accessible round the clock through Intranet to all plant personnel who are engaged in the process of world-class manufacturing. The system ultimately helps them to access information at their convenience and with less physical activity.

Hindalco and its library

Hindalco, Renukoot (A Flagship Company of Aditya Birla Group) is the largest integrated aluminium industry in India. "Hindalco" was set up in collaboration with Kaiser Aluminium & Chemicals Corporation U.S.A, in a record time of 18 months. The plant started functioning in the year 1962 with a Capacity of 20,000 tons of aluminium per annum. The Company has grown manifold today and at present its production of aluminium is more than 3,45,000 tons per annum.

Since its inception Hindalco has a Centralized Works Library for organization and control of technical documents with the aim of preservation for future reference and to assist various departments by providing necessary information required by them in their day to day working, in emergencies & shutdown and for knowledge enhancement with a purpose of quality improvement in their work resulting higher productivity. The collections of library include technical books, standards specifications, vendor catalogues, vocational trainees' project reports, capital equipment manuals and drawings, journals and reports. Total collection is around 25000.

The library is a reference library and users are mostly plant personnel (engineering degree holders, diploma holders and other graduates). Prompt and pinpointed information has to be provided to them, which is the motive of the library. Earlier this was done manually and there was a total dependency upon the memory and expertise of the reference librarian. The coverage of the service was limited within the library premises. With the availability of webpage quality of services to the clientele has improved many folds. Moreover, now users can access information through library homepage at their work place through intranet without going to library, which resultantly saves their time.

Methodology

The various methods adopted for the planning and designing the home page

include customer satisfaction survey, discussion with plant personnel who are our users, reviewing the organization's requirements, and observation. A pilot home page was firstly activated and feedback from the users was sought which attracted very good suggestions.

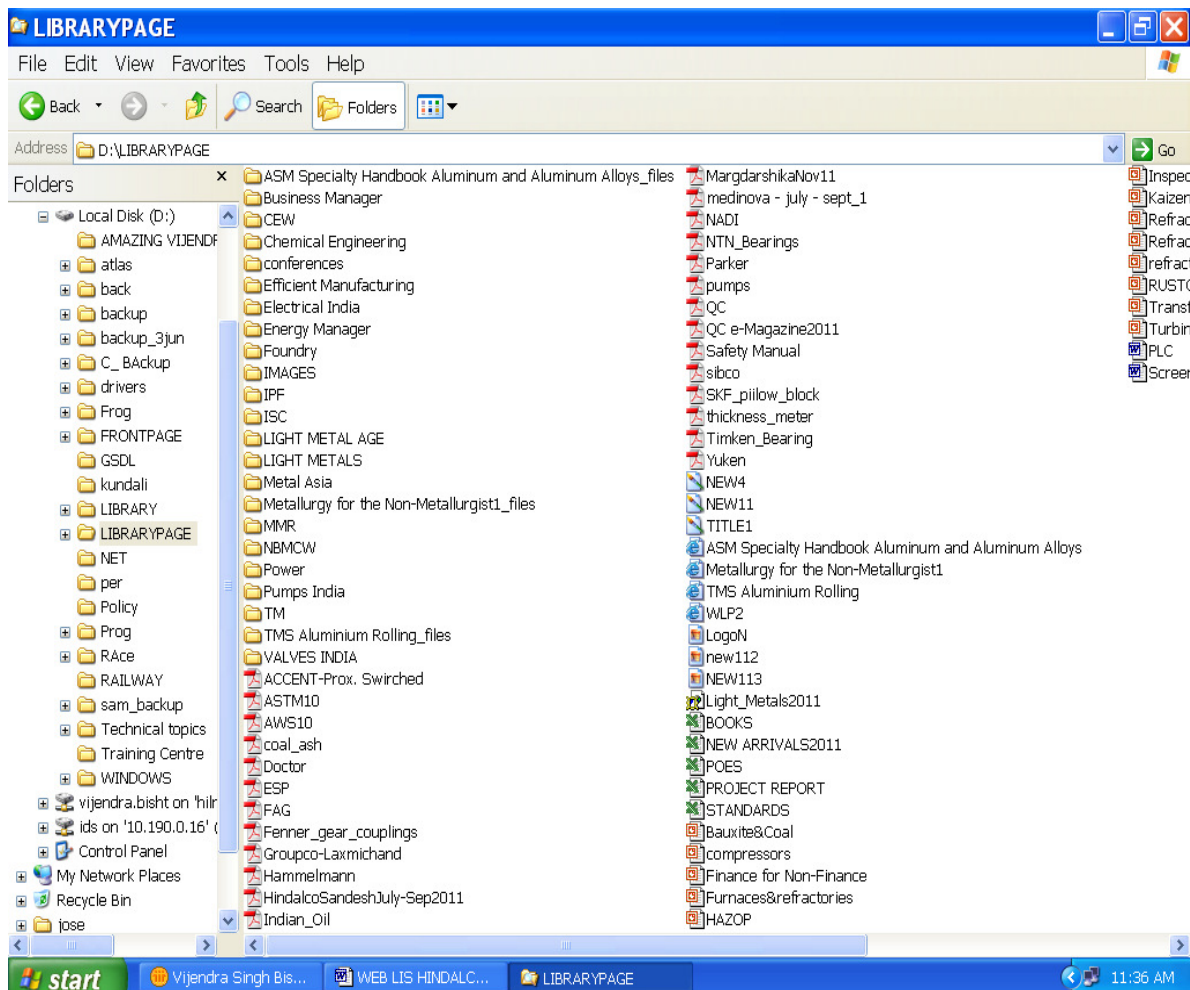
Minimum hardware requirements

- Pentium Core or higher

- 2 Ghz Processor or more
- 512 MB RAM or more
- 40 GB free hard disk (minimum)
- STD Colour monitor

Minimum software requirements

- Windows XP or later versions
- A Web browser like Internet Explorer or Google Chrome



- An editor like Microsoft Front Page or Notepad etc.
- HTML (Hypertext Markup Language)

Homepage creation

Creating Web Page for a library is quite exciting and at the same time challenging too. Today's librarians have to understand the

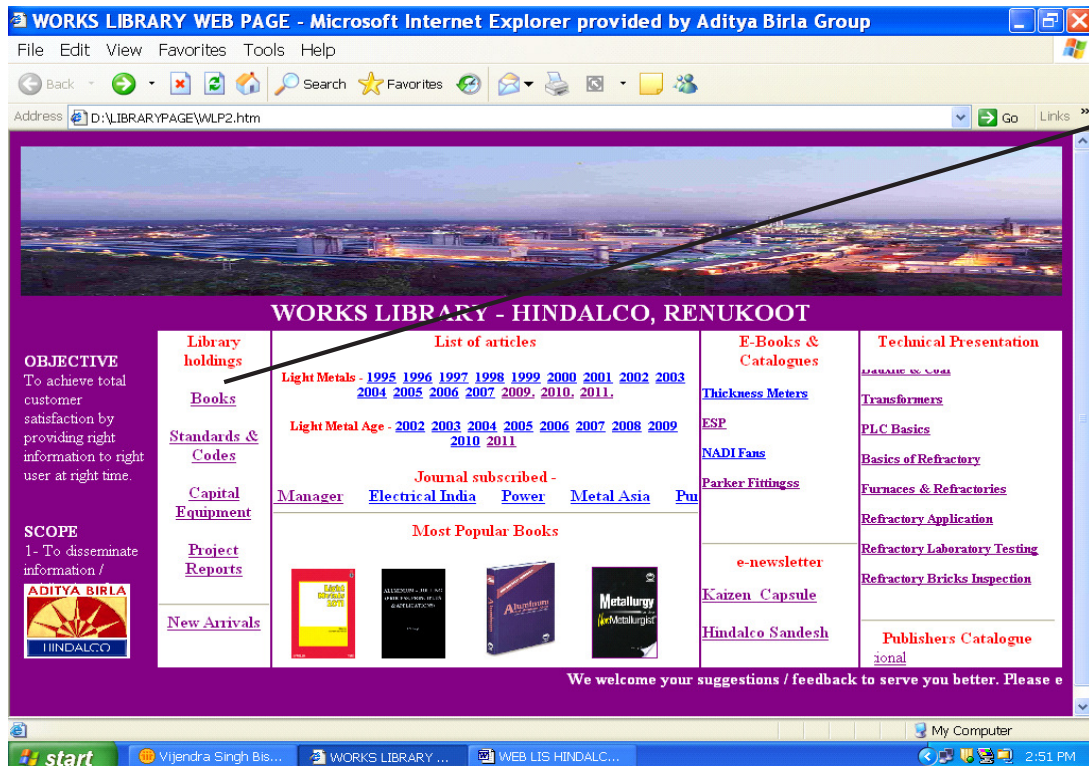
importance of web page for their libraries. Thus by recognizing the need of the hour, developing a library Web site is almost mandatory. The web pages are easy to navigate which facilitates the users a quick and effective access to the e-resources. Here basic question arises how to start with and from where to begin? The planning and designing a successful library web page requires a well-

WORKS LIBRARY INFORMATION SYSTEM



Clicking Books will open bibliography of books Ms-Excel format

Works Library Homepage



	A	B	C
1	BOOKS		
2	(Please search by pressing CTRL+F together)		
3			
4	CLASS NO.	ACC. NO.	BOOK DESCRIPTION
5	0	3995	Audhyogic Prashikshan Sansthaon Evem Kendron Hetu Prashikshan Manual by Rojgar Evem Prasikshan Mahanideshalyay, Tata McGraw-Hill, New Delhi, 1999 (Hindi Edition)
6	0	4174	Business Correspondence And Report Writing: A Practical Approach To Business & Technical Communication by R.C. Sharma & Krishna Mohan, Tata McGraw-Hill, New Delhi, 3rd ed., 2002
7	0	2008	Defalcations And Misappropriations: How To Prevent Them by A.V. Ramana Rao, Cores Consultants, Madras, 1992
8	0	3953	Effective English Communication by Krishna Mohan & Meenakshi Raman, Tata McGraw-Hill, New Delhi, 2001
9	0	235	Elements Of Technical Report Writing by Paul M. Zall, Harper & Raw, London, 1963

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ALUMINA AND BAUXITE
Bauxite Resources and Utilisation.

- New Development Model for Bauxite Deposits.
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- Resource Utilization of High-Sulfur Bauxite of Low-median Grade in Chongqing, China.
- Development of Bauxite and Alumina Resources in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- Digestion Studies on Central Indian Bauxite.
- Effects of Roasting Pretreatment in Intense Magnetic Field on Digestion Performance of Diasporic Bauxite.

Bayer Process I.

- Application of Operation Integrity Management in the Alumina Industry.
- Influence of Solid Concentration, Particle Size Distribution, pH and Temperature on Yield Stress of Bauxite Pulp.
- A New Method for Removal Organics in the Bayer Process.
- AI INORTE Expansion 3 - The New Lines Added to Reach 6.3 Million Tons per Year

formulated strategy. We can design simple web page if we know a little bit of HTML and can effectively utilize the potential of web design techniques for improvement of the library system. Any library of today be it a small or large, be it a public or academic or special, with a well planned web page is of worth for its clientele.

In the present project before creation of homepage, retrospective data conversion form printed to digital mode was done. Though, a number of library softwares are available in the market which includes some are freeware, which librarians can, choose according to their requirement and need. In our case, we created bibliographic list of library record in MS-Excel as we have a small collection of around 25000 different records in all and can easily be managed by using Ms-Office. MS-Excel has been used for making Bibliographic list of books, standards & codes, Capital equipment list (it is a list of plant equipment), Vocational training project reports etc. and searching by ALT+ F is enough to meet the requirements of our library users.

Some in-house e-journals and technical presentations are available in PDF format and MS-PowerPoint format. Images are made in Bitmap and JPEG format. List of articles in journals and conference proceedings are made in MS-Word. A separate folder of all such documents that are linked in homepage is created. Utmost care is taken to avoid any Copyright violation. A folder is made as D:\LIBRARYPAGE, a snapshot is provided below:-

Once this is done the next stage was to design the layout of homepage using HTML code. The Web Page of Works Library consists of pictures of Hindalco, Renukoot at the top, objectives, scope and services at the left hand column scrolling upward. A logo of our company is also pasted at the bottom. Rest of the page displays library resources with a link. In one column a heading "Library holdings" is provided to list "Books", "Standards & Codes", "Capital equipment" and "Project

Reports". On clicking any of them will open a bibliographies list. All these lists are prepared in Ms Excel.

Next column lists the conference proceedings and journals subscribed by Works Library with a link to their contents. In order to save space, name of journals is displayed in right to left scrolling in MS-Word format and at the bottom jackets of some popular books are displayed using jpg or bitmap images.

Next two columns display "e-books & vendor catalogues", in house "e-journals" and "technical presentation" of Hindalco. All these documents are prepared in PDF or MS-POWERPOINT format. Some useful "Publishers Catalogues" are also downloaded and linked with the pages. In order to give an aesthetic look to the page, background colour is provided. The whole page looks simple but very useful source of information to the clientele. This web page is also saved in same folder in which different records are created i.e. folder D:\LIBRARYPAGE.

After designing the HTML document, the next step was to upload it on a server from where it can be accessed by the users. We have our company's HR portal namely Renu Gyan Ganga on the server where works library's home page is uploaded and a link is provided as "LIBRARY INFORMATION SYSTEM".

On clicking "Workds Library Information System" homepage of works library opens as given below: -

Similarly on clicking "Standards & Codes", "Capital Equipment", "Project Reports" and "New Arrivals" their respective list is opened in MS-Excel. In similar way list of articles for journals "Light Metals", etc can be opened in MS-Word. A snap shot is provided below for perusal:

Various documents are also linked under e-books & catalogues, e-journals (in house journals of Hindalco) and technical presentations (Hindalco) in PDF and MS-PowerPoint form.

Conclusion

The art of creating and launching web page is becoming much friendlier now a days due to the availability of web designing tools like MS-FrontPage, etc. With the macro knowledge of web publishing technology a librarian is able to design web page for his library. In this way, the libraries can market their resources and services to the clientele. A web site of a library with or without network environment acts as a document or bulletin of the various events that library organizes, the host of services it offers to its clientele, an interactive catalogue – say the books collection, a periodical list of additions, an array of pointers to other useful sites / links, etc. Its scope is unlimited and can prove to be very effective tool in providing services or solving user's query from librarian / reference desk.

Therefore the authors are of the opinion that a library web page is very much essential requirement of today's library as it facilitates users to have access to the resources of and services provided by the library. In a networked environment, a web page can provide the library services round the clock. It is a useful tool to keep informed about library activities and new services. Most importantly,

it saves the time of the user, which can be utilized in other productive activities. Libraries of any kind and any size should maintain its web page.

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