

## Case Study

### Vigo County Public Library

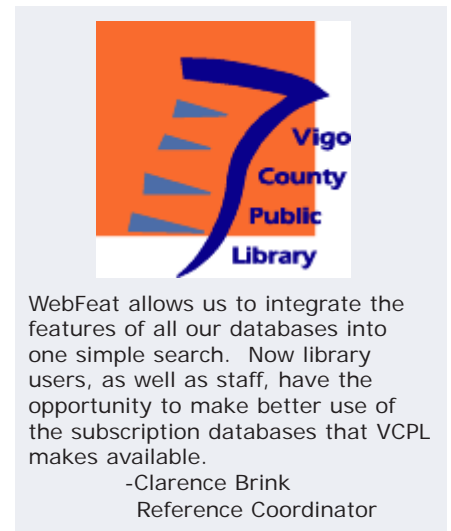
#### Custom WebFeat System Improves Database Usage

In January 2005, Vigo County Public Library (VCPL) in Terre Haute, Indiana, set out to change the way their library served up online information to its customers.

"Database searching for many public library users can be very frustrating because they aren't sure which databases they need to use or how they are suppose to search them," said Clarence Brink, Reference Coordinator, VCPL. These problems disappeared for VCPL in March 2005, when the library launched "MultiSearch," its custom designed federated search solution powered by WebFeat.

"WebFeat takes the guess work out of deciding which databases to use because it allows the user to search multiple databases with one easy search. The user merely enters the search term, clicks a subject category, and all the databases in that category are searched and the results quickly displayed," said Brink. MultiSearch allows VCPL patrons to search any or all of the library's 54 online databases and the VCPL catalog simultaneously with a single intuitive interface.

WebFeat worked closely with VCPL to customize their WebFeat system's interface and functionality to the library's specifications. WebFeat seamlessly embedded its patented federated search engine into the VCPL's website — maintaining the same color scheme, design and features as the library's existing web pages.



WebFeat designed a special pop-up menu to allow VCPL users to see a listing of the databases that are included in each of the library's pre-populated subject categories. In addition, users can still search each of the native databases directly from the MultiSearch site. WebFeat enables users to print, email and save search results. But, most importantly, WebFeat now provides the library with a sophisticated database usage tracking and reporting system.

"Working with the WebFeat team in implementing MultiSearch was an easy process," commented Brink. "The entire process went as smooth as could be expected. Features were added, tested, deleted and then 'tweaked' until we were completely satisfied with the results. With the launching of MultiSearch powered by WebFeat we are expecting to see a significant increase in our database usage."

# WebFeat Case Study: Vigo County Public Library (VCPL)

WebFeat - Vigo County - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Discover the Possibilities  
OnLine Databases

Ask a Librarian Explore the Web Search the Catalog

Enter your search terms

Keyword  Publication date:  All dates  Year range  
From: 1966 To: 2005

Full-text articles only  Peer Reviewed

Search by category OR scroll down to select individual resources

SEARCH CLEAR ALL

Custom user interface is seamlessly embedded in library's web pages.

Simple search boxes allow for searching of any or all databases simultaneously.

Multiple search options: including by subject category or individual resources.

A-Z database list enables searching of individual resources via their native interfaces.

Custom pop-up windows display the complete list of databases within a given subject category.

http://search3.webfeat.org - WebFeat Search Results - Microsoft Internet Explorer

SEARCH CLEAR ALL New Search

Hits	Database	Description
168	Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia	
751	Encyclopedia Americana	
16061	Academic Search Elite	
89	Funk & Wagnalls New Encyclopedia	
45455	General Reference Center Gold	
47836	InfoTrac OneFile	
7672	MAS Ultra - School Edition	
200	Newsbank Newsfile	
25240	MasterFILE Premier	

Print results Email results Save results

Results display mode: Grouped

http://search3.webfeat.org - Recommended Databases

Close This Window

### General Search Resources

Here is a list of databases that will be searched in the "General Search Resources" category:

- Academic Search Elite
- Electric Library
- Encyclopedia Americana
- Funk & Wagnalls New Encyclopedia
- General Reference Center Gold
- Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia
- InfoTrac OneFile
- MAS Ultra - School Edition
- MasterFILE Premier
- Newsbank Newsfile

User can change results display on-the-fly, from merge-sort-de-dupe to grouped by resource. Sort results by a variety of options, including relevancy, date, title, author, and publisher.

WebFeat enables users to print, email and save search results.

http://access.vigo-ib-in.us/2073 - Article 13 - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Vigo County Public Library  
InfoTrac OneFile

Article 13 of 31

School Library Journal, Sept 1992 v38 n9 p125(1)

Indiana Children's Museum & local libraries connect with Rex. (Rex's Lending Center at Children's Museum of Indianapolis)

Abstract: Children visitors, and others may take out videos, books and cassette from the museum and later return them to any of 239 public libraries across Indiana. A Tyrannosaurus Rex on a skateboard in the museum's logo and the name of its lending center.

Mag.Coll.: 63M1722

article 412703803

View other articles linked to these subjects:

- Children's Museums  
View 134 Newspaper references  
View 218 Periodical references
- Children's Museums - Services  
View 17 Periodical references  
See also 54 other sub-divisions
- Indianapolis, Indiana

WebFeat presents full text results within their true native interfaces. All native functions are fully functional, enabling the user to email, print, or refine searches from within the native interface.