

LEARNING ACCESS INSTITUTE

A non-profit dedicated to developing low-cost
strategies to increase digital access

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The Learning Access Institute announces the availability of the LearningAccess ReCon V3.0 (Seattle, WA – June 22, 2005)

The Seattle-based Learning Access Institute, a non-profit dedicated to assisting disenfranchised and underserved libraries worldwide, today announced the immediate availability of the latest version of its easy to use, community driven retrospective conversion tools.

The Learning Access Institute has been working over the past four years with various community partners to develop and enhance a set of flexible, state-of-the-art, standards-based and fully web-based catalog conversion tools. With the release of the LearningAccess ReCon V3.0 automating and enhancing digital access for even the smallest libraries has become a reality and a breeze.

One of the most daunting challenges to automation and state-of-the-art digital access in small libraries has been the difficult and expensive process of building the initial library catalog. The LearningAccess ReCon toolset changes all of this and makes it possible to use library staff and community volunteers to build a high quality, fully standards-based catalog rapidly and painlessly.

Through a unique process, library material is handled only once, where it is given a barcode, spine labeled (if needed) and fully cataloged using MARC21. This is made possible by a very flexible and easy to use web based toolset, a local MARC21 master copy-cataloging database, and an optional remote z39.50-based cataloging facility.

The LearningAccess ReCon tools provide a proven solution in use by a number of small libraries in the past 4 years. With today's announcement of version 3.0 the toolset offers the added ability to build catalogs which are shared by different library locations, while providing for innovative automatic data reconciliation.

About the Learning Access Institute

The Learning Access Institute is a leading developer of high impact, low-cost, flexible digital access strategies for libraries. The Learning Access Institute is led by Willem Scholten, who brings more than 15 years of experience in developing socially appropriate, context sensitive technology solutions in the academic and public interest environment. For more information on the Learning Access Institute, visit www.learningaccess.org