Putting the Power back in the Users Hands!

INFORUM

14th Conference on Professional Information Resources

Wednesday, 28th of May, 2008
Prague, CZ

Aaron Maierhofer
Email: amaierhofer@refworks.com
Background on RefAware

- No consistent or satisfactory means of keeping up on the literature.
- The logic behind most A&I search software is based around concepts of doing historical searches – and not on "current awareness".
- Our past experience with Reference Update provided a good understanding of how users used current awareness software.
- The emergence of RSS feed Technology

Thus, the idea for RefAware was hatched!
Some of the technology needed to create RefAware was already partly used in RefWorks – our web-based bibliography manager.

- **RSS-Feed Capability** in RefWorks
- **RefGrab-It** – Allows importing of web pages in RefWorks
- **Easy to use Interface**
What is RefAware?

- Web-based current awareness service
- Content delivered via RSS Feeds AND other proprietary technology
- Coverage: 8,000+ peer-reviewed journals AND non-refereed sources of information
- Multidisciplinary Coverage
  - Life Sciences, Biology, and Medicine
  - Physical Sciences
  - Engineering
  - Social Sciences
  - Arts & Humanities
  - Business
RefAware Features

• Provides a **powerful search and browsing research environment** that helps users to stay up-to-date in their disciplines.

• **Constantly crawls the Web** searching for new available references and information.

• **Link to the original source** and relevant resources from the web.

• Results **include images** as well as **bibliographic information**, if available from source.

• **Extend your network** and obtain concise information about the Author(s) of the publication in your results, with **COS Scholar Universe**.

• **Receive immediate notification** of new references through email alerts.
How Does RefAware Work?

User creates up to 30 search strategies.  
(RefAware constantly scours the web for new information.)

Links of new references found delivered to user through alert system.  
(Frequency of alerts based on user’s preference.)

User can export new references into a BMS program.  
(RefWorks users can create automatic link to their accounts.)
Summary

- **Multi-discipline coverage**: 8,000+ peer-reviewed journals AND many non-refereed sources; new sources can be requested.
- **30 search strategies** based on terms, authors, journals, or custom source sets.
- **E-mail alerts** for new references.
- **Display of images** with results *(for those TOC that include only)*.
- **Link to author information** through **COS Scholars Universe**.
- **Seamless export** to RefWorks, other BMS.
“RefAware found a very recent paper for us that may prove to be critical in shaping a new direction for a research initiative we have started in the lab. Because this area is new for us, we were not extremely familiar with the relevant literature, and RefAware has been very helpful in getting us up to speed.”

Randolph D. Glickman, Ph.D.
Senderoff Professor of Vision Research
Department of Ophthalmology
University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
More Information!

• Learn more!  www.refaware.com

• For a 15-day organization-wide trial go to: www.refaware.com or contact amaierhofer@refworks.com

• Schedule of upcoming RefAware webinars: www.refworks.com

• Next RefAware Webinar:
  • Thursday, May 29 at 9:00AM (EST)