

CJK AUTOMATION NEWS

Australian National CJK Library System

Work has begun on a project to provide Australian libraries that collect Chinese, Japanese and Korean (CJK) material with a shared cataloguing and location utility similar to that of the Australian Bibliographic Network (ABN). The project will develop a multi-script database on which it will be possible for the participant libraries to construct OPAC-style searches using CJK scripts, view displays in these scripts, and order MARC records containing the scripts. For libraries without CJK terminals, access through romanised versions of the records will be available.

The project, known as the National CJK Project, is a co-operative effort of libraries at seven universities:

- Australian National University (as the lead institution)
- Griffith University
- Monash University
- Murdoch University
- University of Melbourne
- University of Queensland
- University of Sydney
- National Library of Australia.

Griffith University and the University of Queensland, partners in the Easlib project to develop a shared CJK system for their two institutions, have recently joined forces with the other universities and the National Library to provide an integrated national system.

The project Steering Committee met in Canberra on 27 May. Following the meeting, Committee Chairperson Eric Wainwright, Deputy Director-General of the National Library, announced that tenders would be called in October for supply of the hardware and software to run the system. A decision on the successful tender is expected in the first half of 1994. According to Eric Wainwright, the CJK system will complement ABN until the completion of the ABN/Ozline Redevelopment Project, at which time it is intended to combine or link the two databases.

The CJK Project is funded by a grant from the Australian Research Council with the Australian National University (ANU) as the lead institution. Colin Steele, ANU University Librarian, sees potential for the project to be extended beyond the present eight libraries and expects the Steering Committee to look for opportunities to extend participation in the CJK Project to other interested Australian libraries.

Further information on the CJK Project is available from the Project Manager, Linda Groom, Project Manager, National Library of Australia, Canberra, Australia, on +61 6 262 1246, Internet email lgroom@nla.gov.au