

# ELECTRONIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING SYSTEM - CIÊNCIA DA INFORMAÇÃO

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The journal *Ciência da Informação* is presented in an entirely electronic version, using as a tool the *software Open Journal Systems* (OJS), developed by *Public Knowledge Project* (PKP), translated and customized by the Brazilian Institute for Information in Science and Technology (IBICT).

**Keywords:** customization; Electronic Journal Publishing Systems; information systems; OJS; Open Access; Open Journal Systems; Open Source; SEER; *Ciência da Informação*; IBICT.

The world trend points out to the availability of digital contents by means of tools of open access, as well as its adherence to the international protocols and standards of interoperability.

The outcome is the dynamics and systematization of the editorial processes, the cutting down of the operational costs and a greater expediency in printed publication, in addition to establishing a communication among actors during the editorial process.

In this context, the journal *Ciência da Informação* is presented in an entirely electronic version, using as a tool the *software Open Journal Systems* (OJS), developed by *Public Knowledge Project* (PKP), translated and customized by the Brazilian Institute for Information in Science and Technology (IBICT), having as a result the Electronic Publishing System of Journals (SEER).

The publications put out in electronic format are going through stages of adaptation to the new technological trends. By launching the SEER, IBICT has begun a new cycle, within the philosophy of *open access*, for editing electronic publications. The effort, as a last resort, aims to transfer the *software* to the community of editors of electronic publishing, subsidizing the improvement of editorial standards of national publications.

The Open Journal Systems (OJS) (<http://www.pkp.ubc.ca/ojs/>) is a free tool applied to the management of the publishing process of electronic journals, developed by Public Knowledge Project (PKP), British Columbia University. This tool takes into consideration the essential actions for automation of the activities of scientific journal publishing.

With the purpose of analyzing this system in a deeper way, editorial processes of the journal *Ciência da Informação* have been included. The study was a carrying out of a simulation of electronic publishing, using the last number of the journal of 2003.

The journal was printed uninterruptedly since 1972 and indexed in the main international information services. The online version has been available on the Network since 1996, from v. 24, no. 1 of 1995.

The interest for the subject of electronic publications led the Institute to adopt its own methodology in 1996, creating the CIONLINE electronic version. For that purpose, several activities were carried out for improving the access to Internet and their technological implications were discussed. An interface for the electronic format and a small bibliographic databank for the digitized numbers have been established. For not having followed up the advancements in the area, this interface is not updated, allowing no advanced search and being very slow.

In the year 2003, works of test with the OJS *software* were started, for the purpose of having an entirely digital version of the Journal. The work was developed in two off-line modules, according the order as follows:

#### **MODULE 1:**

a) installment of the *software* in the server of the Institute with access for the team of development of the traditional publication of the journal;

b) presentation and training in the use of the *software* for the team involved;

c) translation of mails (thanking letters, information about articles sent back, opinions, request for evaluation by experts) and adaptation to the editorial language, common in communication among actors, as for instance, author, referee, and Editorial Committee;

d) insertion of new editorial criteria into SEER for the journal, consisting mainly of details for the authors about technical guidelines, with reference to file size, image format, hyperlinks, copyrights, identification of author, etc.;

e) recording list of experts in the area of information science and alike areas.

#### **MODULE 2:**

a) transfer to the System of the 32 original works submitted to the processes of the journal publishing through the traditional way (*e-mails*);

b) feeding of articles with the respective metadata, carried out by the coordinator of the publishing team;

c) handling of the texts selected by the editorial committee of theirs publication in the first version of the journal in the SEER.

The interaction with the ones who developed the Brazilian version of the *software* was essential for the adaptation of the system function to the Journal. After the installment of version 1.1.5 of OJS, translation of the main screens and correction of some tags, symbols and capital letters, it was necessary to define the design of the pages (logotype, cover and outside links) and the editorial language. All options of the layout of the journal in the OJS were tested off-line, since the first version of the works submitted up to its formatting in HTML and PDF.

The initial version did not include the analysis of all functions of OJS, since some of them were not part of the journal editorial process (forum of discussion, commentaries from readers, filing and a long term preservation).

Previously, the journal had no form of retrieval of its contend according to international standards. The Research Support Tool and the internal system of simple, advanced search, as well as by index of authors, brought other perspective: retrieval of contents for the Journal. This way, a contribution to the new trends of reading electronic documents is expected from the laymen and experts in the area.

By inserting the editorial processes of the journal *Ciência da Informação* into an environment which follows the international standards of store and retrieval of text information, IBICT plays its role of not only knowing and disseminating the new Technologies, but also of adopting these tools to its products. The Institute keeps contributing this way to the access to information in information science, an essential task for training researchers and establishing sources of recognized and updated information.

The reformulating of the publishing system for the Journal presupposes a dynamic process of activities developed by the sector of editing. This sector will be geared to the activities which involve the increase in added value to the digital version, this way improving the services which will be requested by the users of the system.