

~~TOG. JCL. MMT/1~~ 100 RF
XF: John

TO: T. G. Grumbles

FROM: J. C. Ledvina
DATE: October 25, 1988

Interoffice
Communication

SUBJ: ONLINE SERVICES

VISTA

I have researched online services to assess their applicability to our environmental and health work. I recommend we subscribe to two services, Lexis/Nexis and Dialog.

Lexis/Nexis (Mead Data Control)

Lexis provides a full text Federal Register database. Occasionally we have a need to back track regulatory development. Since hard copies of the Federal Register are kept less than a year, we need this capability. Lexis includes all CFR's, BNA Chemical Regulations Reporter, and BNA Environment Reporter.

Nexis provides magazine and news databases to research the periodicals literature. Nexis appears limited compared to Dialog.

Legal subscribes to Lexis/Nexis and we can work off their existing contract. I already have my own access code, the Lexis/Nexis software, and have received training. Legal receives a report from Mead detailing charges incurred by each user (access code). We would provide legal a charge code to pay for our use. Additional training is free and is arranged through Joyce Allen.

Lexis/Nexis requires a dedicated phone line. This line costs \$37/month. Building Services needs 3 days lead time to get a line installed.

Dialog

Dialog Information Services, Inc. is a division of Lockheed. It is a comprehensive service of 300 databases. Pushkala Atri gave me a demonstration of its capabilities. It is very powerful when searching for technical information, reference material, and news. Some of the databases included in Dialog are:

Biosis-A database of over 9000 journals covering research into biosciences.

Chemical regulations and guideline systems-Index of U. S. federal regulations relating to control of chemicals.

Database of databases-Describes all databases not just those in Dialog.

Enviroline-World environmental information.

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Federal Register Abstracts-not full text.

Federal research in progress - EBH is looking at this to see if EPA is doing anything on IAB/IAS.

NTIS-Describes what NTIS has in print. We can use this to get regulatory background documents.

NIOSH-Journals, monographs, technical reports.

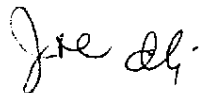
OAG-Not of much use, but interesting.

TSCA inventory

API/UPI/Routers

Dialog requires a dedicated phone line. We can use the same line for Lexis and Dialog. They offer a start up package for \$150 that includes the annual fee, a training manual, a training seminar, and \$100 of free search time. The annual fee is \$25. Dialog also sells a piece of software, Dialog Link for \$149 that Pushkala recommends.

These two databases can get us started learning more about what's available and how to use them. I have found no system that replaces the update service currently provided by BNA for state and federal regulations. I would like to discuss with you getting a phone line installed, signing up for Dialog, and purchasing Dialog Link. We also need to discuss on line service user costs.



J. C. Ledvina

dlj

cc: MMG, AJO

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