

A Library Without Walls

– Ngee Ann Library Goes Electronic to Serve Staff and Students Better

A Library without walls – a vision that has become a reality with the commissioning of the NPNet, a campus-wide network in late 1993. For the first time, Ngee Ann staff and students can access entire libraries and information resources

world-wide from their personal computers, any time they want. The integration of information technology, research and instruction has created a stimulating environment that allows for lifelong learning.

Connected to the network infrastructure are several library servers. These are designed to provide value-added information resources and services in the areas of Application Software and Courseware files, Specialised Databases, CD-ROM Databases and the On-line Public

Access Catalogue (OPAC). For example, the Courseware Collection under the Application Software and Courseware Files contains a wide range of learning and tutorial programs, from Accounting and Business to Biotechnology and Engineering. Students can tap into this rich resource for additional reinforcement and hands-on learning. There is also the Application Programme that consists of packages like Authorware Professional for courseware development. Under the Specialised Databases, the powerful BRS text retrieval software supports access to the Library's in-house databases of newspaper clippings, company profiles, Government subsidiary legislation, application notes and datasheets etc. These special databases provide a wealth of information which students will find invaluable for their assignments.

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