



Tranzinfo

Resource and expertise sharing by the
transport libraries of Australia and New
Zealand

Andrew Meier, ARRB Group, Australia
Transportation Librarians Roundtable

9 October 2008



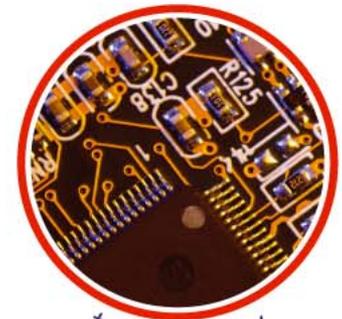
*Collaborating with the
road industry to turn
knowledge into practice*



research



consulting



technology



A brief Tranzinfo background

- Formed in the early 1990's in Australia with later NZ involvement
- Currently approximately 20 active member libraries across government, academic and corporate sectors
- Steered by an annually elected committee of 3
- ARRB funding arrangement with governments across Australia includes providing Tranzinfo leadership
- Annual meeting – location on roster basis

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Tranzinfo Libraries

Friday, 22 June 2007

If you wish to submit an update to your library's details, or you wish to be added, please e-mail info@arrb.com.au with your request.

Australia

Government

- [Australia Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Library](#)
- [Infralib, Victorian Department of Transport](#)
- [Main Roads Western Australia](#)
- [N.T. Dept. of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts \(NRETA\) & Dept of Planning and Infrastructure \(DPI\)](#)
- [Port of Brisbane Corporation](#)
- [Queensland Department of Main Roads Library](#)
- [Roads and Traffic Authority \(NSW\)](#)
- [South Australia Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure Library](#)
- [Tasmania Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources](#)
- [Transport Accident Commission, Victoria](#)
- [VicRoads Business Information Centre](#)
- [WA Department for Planning and Infrastructure - Library and Knowledge Services - Albert Facey House](#)
- [WA Department for Planning and Infrastructure - Library and Knowledge Services - Essex St](#)

Academic

- [CARRS-Q Resource Centre](#)
- [Centre for Automotive Safety Research \(CASR\)](#)
- [Monash University Hargrave-Andrew Library](#)
- [University of Tasmania, Australian Maritime College Library \(AMC\)](#)

Commercial

- [ARRB Group - MG Lay Library](#)
- [NRMA](#)
- [Sinclair Knight Merz](#)
- [SMEC](#)

New Zealand



Key Tranzinfo activities

- Hot Topics alert bulletins
- Automated interlibrary loan system
- Reference Group teleconferences
- Expertise sharing and Skills Bank
- Consortia purchasing



Hot Topics

- Alert bulletins highlighting a selection of resources published in last 2 years on topic of current interest
- Production shared by roster system amongst members but overseen by editing team
- 15 issues plus 5 updates since 2005
- Topics: Level crossing safety, PPPs, Alternative fuels, Skills shortages, Transport disadvantage
- Made available free on Tranzinfo website – under Publications at www.tranzinfo.org
- Actually markets the network to our client base

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Publications

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Category

File

  [Hot Topics Roster and Topic List 2009](#)

Filesize: 21.79 KB

  [HotTopics Guidelines for Preparation](#)

Filesize: 25.03 KB

  [Hot Topics Issue 15 2008: Driving cessation](#)

Filesize: 124.02 KB

  [Hot Topics Issue 14 2008: Transport disadvantage](#)

Filesize: 78.55 KB

  [Hot Topics Issue 13 2007: Sustainable transport](#)

Filesize: 36.51 KB

  [Hot Topics Issue 12 2007: GIS and GPS applications in transport](#)

Filesize: 41.75 KB

  [Hot Topics Issue 11 2007: Driver impairment](#)

Filesize: 72.98 KB



Tranzinfo ILL system

- Holdings information and ILL agreements operating for many years
- Since 2007, 16 member libraries have shared journal holdings on system that incorporates automated requesting of individual articles
- Around 380 requests in last 12 months
- Began in 2008 to include conference proceedings and now includes over 300 conference titles



Reference Group teleconferences

- Began in 2007
- Aim to connect reference service staff and foster their professional development
- Topics: Marketing within your organisation, Web 2.0 for special libraries, Acquisitions tips & tricks
- Has led to greater communication across the network



Expertise sharing

- Active email listservs – for general, reference and ill-related communications
- Recorded skills of member library staff
- Member-only area Skills Bank on Tranzinfo website
- Library experience in subject area other than transport – law, medicine, business information
- Language skills



Consortia purchasing

- TRANSPORT database through Ovid
- Prosentient InterSearch ILL system
- Other opportunities reviewed each year at annual meeting



Why Tranzinfo works

- Small enough to achieve communication and cooperation
- Large enough to share workload and costs
- Effectively has a paid leader – most networks function in ‘spare’ time of library staff



What's on the way?

- Always looking for opportunities to expand our resource and knowledge sharing
- Initiatives must be within our means
- Begun investigating collaborative reference tools



ARRB's information initiatives

- Australian Transport Index (ATRI)
A bibliographic database containing over 155,000 records of books, reports, journal articles, conference papers and electronic publications. Available online via subscription through Informit
- Transport and Road Update (TARU)
Bibliographic alert bulletin. To become an RSS feed service during 2009
- Australian and NZ content provider to ITRD



Contacts

Tranzinfo website: www.tranzinfo.org

ATRI database information:

http://www.informit.com.au/indexes_ATRI.html

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