

Perpetual Change: the need for production departments to continually evolve

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Outline

- High level look at some current trends
- Some implications for production departments



SAGE Publications

- Publish over 600 journals
 - HSS and STM
- Books textbooks and reference
- Reference Online
 - SAGE Reference Online (SRO)
 - SAGE Research Methods Online (SRMO)



Some Trends

Very much a current snapshot



Increasing Complexity of Outputs

- Was just one print book/journal
- Now multiple
 - Online first articles (at multiple stages)
 - Online issues
 - Print issues
 - Datasets
 - Videos, podcasts, other supplementary data
- Additional deliveries to multiple partners



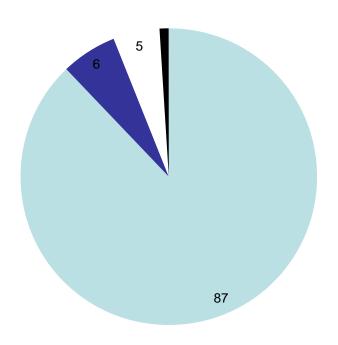
Content beyond journals

- Journal articles are evolving 'hybrid' or 'enhanced'
 - Special issue of Information Standards Quarterly, Summer 2010, volume 22 issue 3
- Also seeing an increase in components available online – figures, tables, video, etc



Content beyond journals

DOI Registrations



JournalsBooksConference ProceedingsComponents



Datasets

- Even though datasets have been online for some time, wide-spread use has not happened up to now
- Lack of standards has hindered widespread use
- Need solutions to metadata and citation problems
 - DataCite, DDI (Data Documentation Initiative)
- Example of data online: OECD Databases
 - See Toby Green presentation from CrossRef annual meeting



Semantic tagging

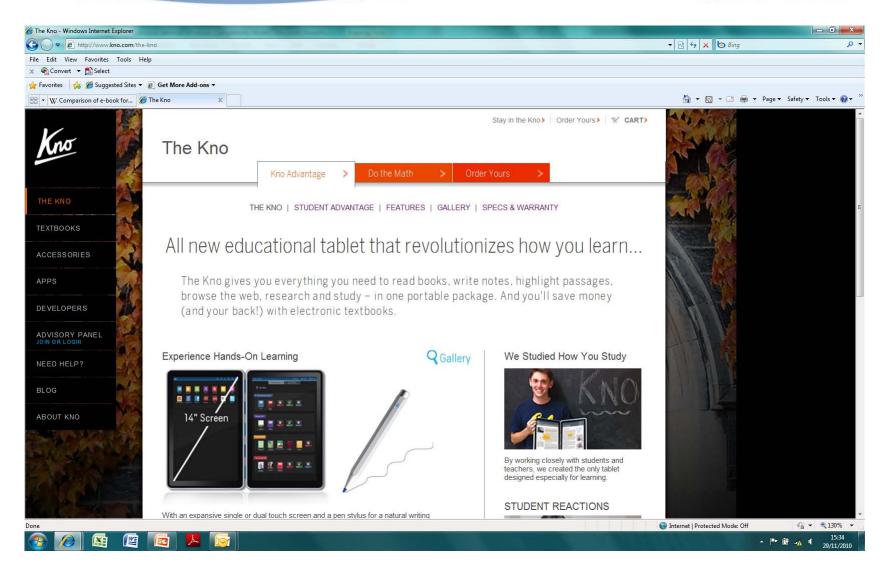
 Speakers this morning have given a good description of the challenges



eBooks

- Reference has been online for some time
- Now seems to be taken off in trade books
- What about Textbooks?
 - New readers, e.g. the Kno, aimed at the textbook market, are appearing
- The proliferation of non-interchangeable formats remains an issue:
 - MobiPocket, AZW, EPUB, Open eBook







Mobile apps

- Readers want content whenever and wherever
- Expectation is that I can get it NOW
- Challenge is that there are nearly 30 different mobile application environments to work with



Standards in Flux

- From Tools of Change talk given by Bill Kasdorf, Apex
- There are major recent or upcoming changes in:
 - Widely used archival/interchange standards like NLM, DocBook, TEI
 - Important delivery/distribution models like EPUB, nextPub, and DAISY
 - Key metadata models like ONIX & PRISM
 - New or "ought to be used" identifiers: ISTC



Some implications for production



Need to be Agile

- As demands are changing so rapidly, production needs to be flexible and agile
- This works against desire for standardized workflows
- How do companies, particularly large ones, remain agile?
- Without proliferation of non-productive applications
- Organizations need to put structures in place to enable quick decisions and implementation to happen
 - SAGE has Content Strategy Meeting, where proposals can quickly be assessed and approved (or rejected) giving oversight on all the different possible innovations



Staff Need Different Skills

- Traditional publishing skills need to be augmented by technical skills
- SAGE has a Publishing Technologies Department which works closely with Production
- Evidenced by changing job titles here today
 - Content Management Directors
 - Data Engineer
 - IT Director
- Does everything in the end become technology?



Need to Keep Developing Systems

- Production is much about systems: replacing/updating these are large multidepartment projects which can be expensive and time consuming
 - Our new books product information system in the UK, SMART Books, involves staff from production, editorial, marketing, sales and IT in its development.



Need to Continue Controlling Costs

- Technology/automation/good supplier management has allowed publishers to control production costs while maintaining quality
- As complexity of demands grows, costs may rise
- Coupled with current economic climate with its potential to disrupt revenues, there is a threat here to continued developments



Perpetual change



STM E-Production Seminar, 2nd December 2010

- "You'll see perpetual change"
 - Jon Anderson



Thank you

• Questions?

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