

What's Hot in Technology

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This presentation available online at:

<http://www.rcpl.info/whatshot.ppt>

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Why Am I Here?

We're talking to you about...

- Gadgets
- Technology Tools
- Library-Specific Tools

Gadgets

- Power over Ethernet
- Smarter Smart Phones
- Cool USB Devices
- Portable Device Convergence
- Podcasting

Power over Ethernet

Cost Savings

No power conduit, plugs
or cords

Ethernet cable carries
power to device

Flexible locations

Allows for optimal
placement of access
points

Used to power

Wireless Access Points
IP Telephones
Video Cameras



Smarter Smart Phones



- Cameras (2 Megapixel+)
- MP3 Players
- IM/Text-Message
- PDAs
- Email
- Web
- Bluetooth & Wi-Fi
- GPS

Cool USB Devices

- Password Manager
- USB external hard drives
- U3 design specification
- USB wireless digital camera
- JumpDrive Encrypted Vault
- USB wireless headphones
- USB T.V. tuner
- USB LED projector
- USB hand warmer
- USB car key – Mazda
- USB air purifier
- USB beverage warmer



Portable Device Convergence

- PDA's as phones
- Music players and game machines for videos
- How small can they go?



Podcasting

- Audio content online (delivered to the user)
- What You Need
 - Computer with a microphone
 - Audio-recording software (like Audacity)
 - A way to post your podcast feed and deliver it via RSS
- Podcasting and Libraries
 - Many libraries already doing it
 - Open Stacks blog: <http://openstacks.net/os/>

Technology Tools

- Social Software
- Digital Rights Management
- Ubiquitous Wireless
- Web Services & Searching Extensions
- Bridging the Digital Divide: What's Next

Social Software

- **Conversational Interaction Between Individuals Or Groups** – IM, IRC
- **Social Feedback** – Recommendation Engines, E-bay's "Leave Feedback", Internet Forums Like Chowhound
- **Social Networks** – LinkedIn, Friendster, del.icio.us
- **Collaboration** – Wikipedia, Slashdot, Folksonomies

Kenneth Boulding, the economist, humanist and social scientist, once wrote: "We make our tools, and then they shape us."

Digital Rights Management

- DRM: Access Management Or Access Restriction?
- Digital Rights Management (DRM) is an umbrella term for several arrangements which allow electronic format content vendors to control the material and restrict its usage.
- Copyright vs. contracts
- Licensing vs. ownership

Ubiquitous Wireless

- Philadelphia \$10 - \$20 per month
- San Francisco - Free
- Portland - \$20 per month
- Manassas, Va. - (BPL) Broadband Over Power Lines
- *Oakland County, Michigan - Free*
- Legislation
- Role for Libraries?

Web Services & Search Extensions

- Acronym Heaven – SOAP, UDDI, WSDL, AJAX
- Open, Published Interfaces
- The “Big Gorilla”: Google
 - Gmail, Google Suggest, Google Maps
- The Other “Big Gorilla”? – Microsoft
 - Windows Live and Office Live
- Others: EBay, Amazon, Flickr
- OCLC WorldCat

Digital Divide: What's Next?

- Opening Up Public Computers
 - Unlock drives, downloads, installations, and ports
 - Use software "computer security" like DeepFreeze
- More Hardware
 - Scanners, speakers, headphones
- More Software
 - Alternative Browsers (Firefox, Opera)
 - Digital Imaging Programs
 - PowerPoint, Excel, Access
 - CD-burning software (like Roxio EZ CD Creator)

Library-Specific Tools

- Lightweight Virtual Reference
- Open Source Projects
- eBooks and eVideo
- An OPAC that Doesn't Suck
- 10 Year Outlook

Lightweight Virtual Reference

- Heavyweight web-based library chat products (*cough*Point, *cough*tor.com, *cough*utek)
 - expensive, glitches, delays, frequent disconnects)
- Instant Messaging
 - Your patrons are already there
- Jybe
 - Browser toolbar—chat & co-browsing
- SMS
 - Cell phone text messaging

Open Source Software

ILS Open Source software:

- [Koha](#)
- [LearningAccess ILS](#)
- [Avanti](#)
- [OpenBiblio](#)
- [phpmylibrary](#)
- [Emilda](#)
- [Evergreen OPAC](#)

Productivity Open Source software:

- [OpenOffice](#)

Blog software:

[Word Press](#)

Open Source product:

[Wikipedia](#)

Chat Software:

[Inter Chat V.3](#)

Best non-library use of Open Source:

[KPIG Radio](#)

[Interview with Wild Bill](#)

eBooks and eVideo

- DRM still causing problems
- Accessibility for people with disabilities
- Cross-platform compatibility being demanded by consumers & librarians
- Downloadable video content (Overdrive and Apple)

An OPAC That Doesn't Suck

- User expectations of speed, simplicity, relevancy--good for the masses!
- OPACs should work just as well--fast, relevant, complete
- RedLightGreen: (simple keyword searching, FRBR records, relevancy ranking, citation tools)
- “Lipstick on a Pig” by Roy Tenant:
<http://tinyurl.com/create.php>
- “My Kingdom for an OPAC” by Andrew K. Pace:
<http://tinyurl.com/bx5sl>

Where Are We Going?

- Ubiquitous Wireless
- Cheap PCs
- Increase in PC ownership
- Convergence
- Yellow Arrow Net



Where Are We Going?

Some Questions To Ask:

- What technologies that have a solid user base in consumer, entertainment, or other industries should libraries be actively looking for ways to apply?
- What are the key emerging technologies you see developing to the point that colleges and universities should begin to take notice during the next 3 to 5 years?
- What trends do you expect to have a significant impact on the ways in which libraries approach their core missions?
- What do you see as the key challenge(s) that libraries will face during the next 5 years?