

Public Libraries Briefcase

No. 1, 3rd Quarter 2002

Links revised October 2015

Public Libraries Briefcase is a quarterly column written by members of the BRASS Business Reference in Public Libraries Committee. The current column, written by Doug Doremus, is a selected web bibliography of Public Library business pages. Future topics will be import/export and outreach. We hope that this column will be of use to public librarians working with business materials.

Review of Public Library Websites and their Business Reference Content for Patrons

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There are thousands of Public Library websites available to patrons throughout the marketplace. In reviewing these sites, we have listed several sites that address their Business Reference in different ways. Remote accesses to business information databases have become a popular enhancement to patrons dialing in. Most subscription databases require authentication to get into remotely.

Allen County Public Library

<http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/home/research/eresources/research-tools>

This site divides business research by specific topic such as accounting, business law, marketing etc. Each topic links to content available within the library and sites outside the library.

Pikes Peak Library District

<http://www.ppld.org>

They have paid databases such as American Business, All-in-One (Ebsco magazines and newspapers) Colorado Businesses, Foundation Directory Online and Value Line.

They also have identified many Internet sites under Web picks that are business related. These categories include Business and Finance, Copyright, Trademarks and Patents, Jobs and Employment, Law Resources, Nonprofit Resources, and Tax Related Sites.

Farmington Community Library Business Information Collection

<http://www.farmlib.org/business-resources-2/#>

The unique part of this site is the business forms section. It also contains a list of their print business references sources with their descriptions.

The Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg

<https://www.cmlibrary.org/resources>

Probably the most comprehensive of all business resources sites. Other libraries provide links to this site. Contains plenty of links to databases and content.

Johnson County Library

<http://www.jocolibrary.org/research/Business>

This site is very well laid out. Easy to navigate the online databases and content. It also contains related links for other business information across the web.

Chicago Public Library

<http://www.chipublib.org/resources/business-money/>

A very easy site to navigate; simple, yet it has great descriptions to the database links.

Science, Industry and Business Library – New York Public Library

<http://www.nypl.org/locations/sibl>

Provides great descriptions of their collections and electronic databases. Does not allow remote access to electronic databases. Has great small business section.