# **REVIEW OF RESEARCH**





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# EVALUATIVE STUDY OF CDS/ISIS LIBRARY AUTOMATION SOFTWARE

Mr. Shahaji S. Waghmode Librarian, Sonubhau Baswant College of Arts & Commerce, Shahapur, Dist. Thane (MS).



## ABSTRACT

The most important innovations introduced in the Windows version of the CDS/ISIS system. The most obvious innovation is the graphical user interface typical for all Windows applications. Other new features have been presented briefly devoted to database processing, data entry and searching, formatting language and user-friendliness of the package. The describes the ISISDLL and WISIS.DLL dynamic link libraries that can used to prepare very powerful Windows applications processing CDS/ISIS databases.

KEYWORDS: Library Automation, UNESCO, CDS/ISIS, WINISIS, etc.

## **INTRODUCTION:-**

WINISIS is a Windows version of the CDS/ISIS system (Computerized Information Service /Integrated Scientific Information System) which was origin at ILO the early 60's and since70's was maintained and developed by UNESCO. In 1985, the first microcomputer version of CDS/ISIS was launch and since then it was disseminated to over 20 000 institutions in various countries. The first Window version distributed for testing in May 1995 and the first WINISIS version officially realized version 1.31 launched in November 1998.

## **CDS/ISIS FOR WINDOWS**

The development of the Windows version was the result of strategic development policy decision aiming at maintaining the leading role CDS/ISIS has played and is still playing on the international scene. Versions are: WINISIS 1.5 build 3 (Standard) WINISIS 1.5 build 7 (Arabic enabled)

# **CDS/ISIS - Product family**

The resumes here are some of the products available in the software **family**:

- CDS/ISIS for DOS
- CDS/ISIS for Windows (all versions)
- CDS/ISIS for UNIX (character mode)

- JavaISIS, Client Server Internet suite
- UNESCO/BIREME ISIS\_DLL, programming tool
- BIREME WWWISIS / Ibiscus GENISIS
- WinIDIS, the interface to IDAMS

# **CDS/ISIS - Basic Information retrieval**

Information retrieval process in CDS/ISIS is follows:

To browse the content of an existing database: **Open** the database file (ex. CDS.MST)

Use the arrows to **move within** the records sequentially; just as the pages of a book, you may select **different views** by choosing a different display format

To search an existing database: **Open** the corresponding file (ex. CDS.MST)

Select option "Search - Expert Search"

Despite its name, the expert search" could be easier than the "guided search"

The following search window will come up:



To make a new search select option "Search" again. In order to get an idea of what the content of database CDS is, you may display its **dictionary of searchable terms**. This will help you to find out **what can we ask** to CDS/ISIS and **how**:



# Features of CDS ISIS CD-ROM publishing

- WINISIS can be used as the front end to the user
- The formatting language allows building nice-looking presentations
- You may configure the environment to block the access to specific "dangerous" functionalities
- The interface is already internationalized and supports different languages
- Most applications do not need real programming

# LOCAL AREA NETWORK (LAN)

- Put your database in a shared network drive
- Use WINISIS as a client: one copy to serve all terminals, different configuration for each one
- Search, update, maintain the database from your chair
- The LAN type does not matter: Windows, Novell...
- Concurrent entry access is supported
- JAVAISIS: Private Networks through TCP/IP

Available online at www.lbp.world

- Physically distant computers work on the same database
- JAVAISIS is a Client/Server suite for managing remote databases in a TCP/IP (Internet) environment
- Search, update, maintain the database from your chair
- Easy to install, it comes with its own navigator
- Runs on Windows, Linux and Macintosh (client)
- JAVAISIS is a WINISIS working with remote data

#### The World Wide Web and CDS/ISIS

- It is more and more important to share data on the Internet: presence
- Different tools exist for Web-publishing CDS/ISIS databases. For example: WWWISIS by Bireme, Brazil
- It allows all kind of operation and perfectly integrates the concepts of CDS/ISIS for free or very low cost
- Runs on many different platforms: Windows, Linux, SUN, AIX...
- GENISIS (Ibiscus): to easy the use of WWWISIS
- Take a database, fill few questionnaire, press OK
- Your new CDS/ISIS enabled web page is ready to go!
- Need to change something? Go back and modify!
- Need to move to Linux: export your web application

#### **Other Features of CDS/ISIS**

- non-numerical databases
- each unit of information, data element, stored in the fields
- collection of fields make a record
- supports sub-fields
- supports repeatability

#### System functions

- defines databases containing required data elements
- allows to enter new records into a given database
- allows to modify, correct or delete existing records
- builds automatically fast access files for each database
- retrieves records thro' a sophisticated search language
- displays the records or portions of it
- allows specialized applications using CDS/ISIS integrated programming language

#### **CONCLUSION**

No conversion needed when moving from CDS/ISIS DOS to CDS/ISIS for Windows. However, formatting language functions are just 95% compatible. In some cases, you may find some syntax errors appearing: you may have to adapt your display format to the new one. In terms of search engine, the two versions are very compatible: both can use the same I/F (inverted file). The data entry worksheets are also compatible but the screens will appear different.

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