

eager information hunters and used a wide variety of methods. Almost all regularly scanned 2-11 journals.

A mailed questionnaire sent to 85 authors of scientific articles working in five research institutes in the natural sciences showed the same tendency. The scientists became first aware of the majority of foreign articles they cited in papers, published 1994 and 1995, through references in the literature (38%) and colleagues (25%). Colleagues provided them with 21% of the papers they referred to but library subscriptions and interlibrary loans were most important, covering 60% of their citations. Searching databases and browsing in the literature did not count much but the interviews showed that the multiple effects must not be forgotten.

Citation analysis of almost all papers of scientists in the same five institutes confirms these findings. Over 60% of cited foreign literature in 1994 and 1995 can be found in relevant libraries. The libraries covered 83% of Icelandic citations.

Difference between the libraries ranged between 44% and 78% in accessibility to foreign cited journals. It can be explained by the fact that scientists served by the library that only covered 44% of cited journal articles referred to about 255 journal titles, while scientists in the other institutes cited between 90 and 175 titles. Locations of cited foreign journals in the NOSP-catalog (Nordic Union Catalog of Serials) showed that 95% of citations to foreign journals could be found in other libraries in Iceland or in other Nordic countries. Interlibrary loans between the Nordic countries are relatively easy and cheap and are widely used in the libraries concerned. These findings show that cooperation between scientists is important and for Icelandic libraries cooperation between Nordic libraries is vital.

**WLN RELEASE POLARPAC5 TO THE POLAR INFORMATION COMMUNITY
-- POSTER**

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ABSTRACT: In September 1998, WLN Inc., with the assistance of the Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, released the latest version of PolarPac--edition 5. PolarPac, first issued in 1992, is an international bibliographic database on CD-ROM. PolarPac contains bibliographic records citing topics of interest to Polar

researchers--including geological, biological, and historical works, as well as titles relating to the indigenous peoples of the North.

PolarPac5 continues the development of the international aspect of polar information. It contains all the references included in previous editions of PolarPac with additions from collections in Russia, Finland, Greenland, Denmark, Norway, Canada, and Sweden. This poster presentation will illustrate the breadth and depth of information contained on the PolarPac5 CD-ROM. The author of the session has been involved in PolarPac development since its inception and will be available to discuss it past, present, and future.