

# CD/DVD

# Today

## News Briefs

### ABC-CLIO Unveils Two ResourceLink CD-ROMs

ABC-CLIO Interactive has announced the release of Virginia ResourceLink CD-ROM and Illinois ResourceLink CD-ROM. According to the company, both CDs feature biographies, documents, photos, and statistics on the people, places, and events linked to Virginia and Illinois. In addition, each CD includes over 200 photographs; current and historic biographies, maps, and statistics; important court cases, treaties, and quotes; organizational overviews; background information on historic events; profiles of sports teams; all governors and current state administrative officers; and glossary terms.

Pricing for both CDs starts at \$49 for the stand-alone versions.

Source: ABC-CLIO Interactive, Santa Barbara, CA, 800/368-6868, 805/968-1911; Fax: 805/685-9685; <http://www.abc-clio.com>.

### Matthew Bender Releases Revised Collier Manual

Matthew Bender & Company, Inc., a publisher of legal analysis and research information, has announced the release of Collier Bankruptcy Manual, 3rd edition revised. The three-volume manual is a compact desk edition of Collier on Bankruptcy, 15th edition revised, and it is also available on authority CD-ROM as well as the Internet.

Collier Bankruptcy Manual provides information that legal professionals need to handle simple or complex bankruptcy matters with integrated discussion and analysis of the Bankruptcy Code, the current Bankruptcy Rules, bankruptcy case law, and other related law.

Source: Matthew Bender & Company, Inc., New York, 212/448-2000; <http://www.bender.com>.

### AGStockUSA Launches Photo Collection on CD-ROM

AGStockUSA, an agricultural stock photography agency, has announced the release of its first CD-ROM catalog, which includes specialized agricultural images. Available at no charge to photo buyers by calling 831/624-8600, the CD includes Extensis Fetch software that allows fast, finite searches by photographer and subject—a one-stop resource for corporate art directors, graphic design firms, and advertising and public relations agencies, according to the company.

Source: AGStockUSA, Carmel, CA, 831/624-8600; Fax: 831/626-3260; <http://www.AgStockUSA.com>.

## Primary Source Media Launches The Vietnam Era CD-ROM

Primary Source Media, a provider of primary source documents via CD-ROM, microform, and online services, has announced the release of The Vietnam Era, the 12th CD-ROM in its historical research series, American Journey: History in Your Hands.

Like previous American Journey titles, The Vietnam Era features rare primary source materials organized around thematic essays.

Hyperlinks, timelines, maps, picture albums, content lists, and flexible full-text searches facilitate access to hundreds of documents and images, according to the company.

"The Vietnam Era provides librarians and educators with unique materials from a recent period that students find fascinating," said David Lucas, president and CEO of Primary Source Media. "This outstand-

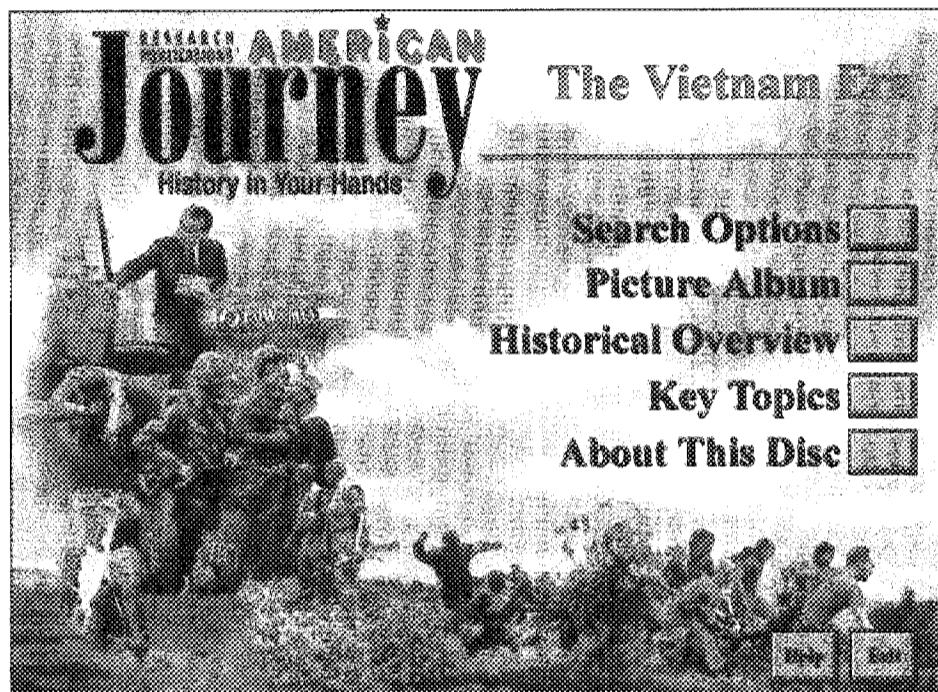
ing collection of primary records encourages student inquiry into the complex issues and emotions surrounding this difficult time in American history."

The Vietnam Era presents the swirl of events that surrounded America's involvement in Vietnam, tracing the meeting of East and West—from the bloody French-Indochina War to the American entry into Vietnam, from Johnson's escalation of American forces to Nixon's decision to bomb Cambodia, from America's final withdrawal to the renewal of American-Vietnamese relations. The collection also tells the story of America's coming of age in the "war at home" as well as the war overseas. The growth of the antiwar movement—from mass demonstrations to the campaigns of Robert Kennedy and Eugene McCarthy—is treated alongside the formative role of the media in covering the war and the eventual return of Vietnam veterans to a war-torn America.

Topics covered include the French colonization of Vietnam and the French-Indochina War, the application of America's Cold War containment policy to Vietnam, the rise of Ho Chi Minh and the National Liberation Front, and the escalation of America's involvement on the ground and in the air. Also explored are the effects of such seminal events as the Tet Offensive and the Christmas Bombing, and America's final departure from Vietnam.

The collection is edited by George Herring, professor of history at the University

(continued on page 54)



## Alcita Technologies Unveils IDEplex for CD-ROM and DVD-ROM Integration

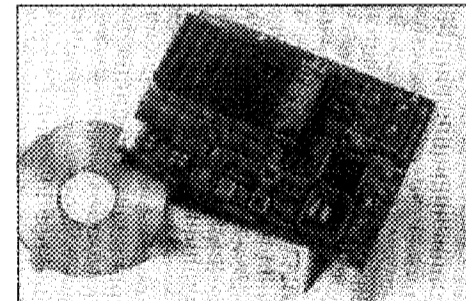
Alcita Technologies has announced the availability of IDEplex, an IDE-to-SCSI converter that allows the integration of seven or eight IDE CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drives into tower or rack configurations. The converter, a small electronic circuit board containing a high-powered RISC processor and other sophisticated components, enables inexpensive, higher-performance ATAPI drives to be substituted for their higher-priced SCSI counterparts. According to the company, several key features of IDEplex allow OEM and integration customers to deliver a solution using the best of both SCSI and IDE technologies, providing higher performance and greater reliability through fault tolerance.

According to the announcement, an embedded Intel i960 processor and an Ultra SCSI interface on the IDEplex allows attached drives to transfer data at their full speed—up to twice that of standard SCSI subsystems. "IDEplex delivers a higher level of functionality and performance than standard SCSI tower products at a competitive cost," said Geoff Legat, Alcita Technologies' president and CEO. "The current implementation of IDEplex is the basis for several new data storage integration products. Increased functionality, rewritable support,

and hard-disk caching will be added in future releases later this year."

IDEplex, a full-featured SCSI LUN (Logical Unit Number) expander, transparently converts SCSI commands to their IDE equivalents. Connected to a host computer's SCSI bus, an IDEplex tower acts as a single SCSI device, and each of the seven or eight attached devices can be addressed as a LUN. Multiple CD-ROM or DVD-ROM configurations can be built using IDEplex. An IDEplex-powered tower can be attached to any SCSI bus that has at least one SCSI Target ID free. Any host system that allows the use of LUNs (such as Macintosh, PC, or UNIX workstations) is capable of supporting the IDEplex. These features offer a cost savings to end users and simplify many installations. Virtually all read-only ATAPI drives and SCSI host adapters are supported.

According to the announcement, the eight-device version includes SureSwap, which provides the ultimate in fault tolerance for CD systems. This hotswap capability, a design feature that allows a drive to be removed or replaced without requiring the host to be powered down, and an available backplane kit facilitate the economical construction of hotswap towers. When a



drive develops a fault it will not affect system operation beyond its own IDE bus.

IDEplex's versatility allows customization of behavior to meet even the most diverse customer requirements, the company claims. A number of special options—such as alphanumeric display panels, control keypads for setting SCSI IDs, and termination and wide SCSI connectors—can be added to firmware and hardware. Two models of IDEplex are currently available. Customers can integrate support for a seven-high tower of CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drives with prices starting at \$210. An eight-high tower is also available; it includes additional support for SureSwap, beginning at \$300.

Source: Alcita Technologies, Inc., Woburn, MA, 781/376-0000; Fax: 781/376-0010; <http://www.alcita.com>.