

Inform Quarterly

A Newsletter from the Illinois State Library's Reference Section

Jesse White • Secretary of State & State Librarian

From the Reference Desk

As part of the State Library's continuing effort to improve and extend its reference services to meet the information needs of state employees, a new proxy server allows remote access to certain electronic databases. With Ezproxy and the new SFX direct link, state employees can now access business, academic, health care and other information from anywhere, at any time of day. This issue of *Inform Quarterly* explains the two services and examples of the myriad resources available.

To request materials or find answers to your questions, please contact:

Reference phone • 217-782-7596

Reference fax • 217-524-0041

Map Collection • 217-782-5823

Patent & Trademark Division • 217-782-5659

"Ask the State Library"
www.cyberdriveillinois.com

Access the State Library database at
<http://library.ilcso.illinois.edu/isl>

Illinois State Library hours:
Mon. – Fri., 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Ezproxy expands to remote users

A new proxy server now allows state employees remote access to a select number of State Library-licensed electronic databases. Until recently, access to these databases was limited to persons who actually visited the library. With Ezproxy, state employees with a valid Illinois State Library card now have convenient and secure access to these databases from anywhere Internet access is available, including at home or the office.

Nearly 30 databases are available, many of which offer full-text journal articles and document delivery via e-mail. In addition, SFX — a new service offered by the State Library that provides a direct link from a database citation to the full text of a journal article or resource, if available — has been integrated into many of the databases. (See back for more information on SFX.)

A sample of the databases accessible via Ezproxy include:

ABI/Inform — A premier source of business information for more than 30 years, this database contains content from thousands of journals that help researchers track business conditions, trends, management techniques, corporate strategies and industry-specific topics worldwide.

Academic Search Premier — The world's largest scholarly, multi-disciplinary, full-text database contains articles for nearly 4,700 publications, including more than 3,600 peer-reviewed publications. The database also provides indexing and abstracts for nearly 8,200 journals in the collection.

Business Source Elite — Provides full-text articles from more than 1,120 business publications, including nearly 500 peer-reviewed business publications.

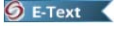

Health Source-Consumer Edition — The richest collection of consumer health information available to libraries worldwide, this database provides medical science, food science and nutrition, child care and general health information from nearly 150 journals.

These and other databases are available at www.cyberdriveillinois.com (click Departments, State Library, What We Have). Users must log in using their 14-digit State Library card number and last name. EZProxy requires no special browser configuration.

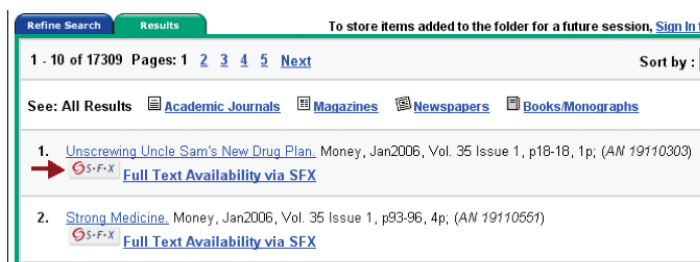
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SFX — Get more information in less time

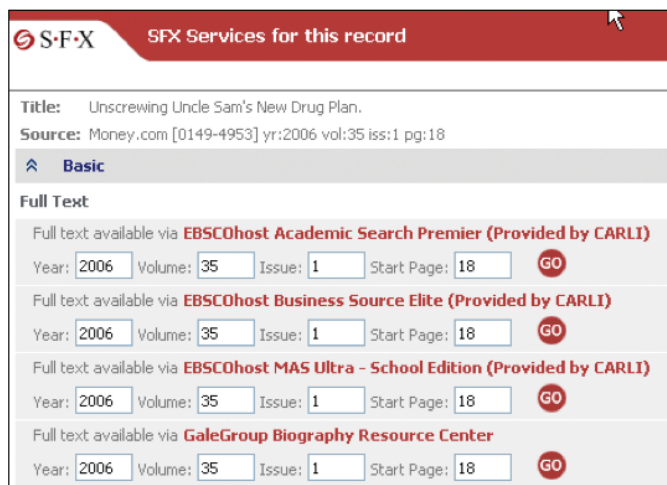
The State Library's new SFX service provides direct links from database citations to full-text journal articles or resources, enabling users to find more information in less time. If the full text is not available in one database, SFX will indicate if it may be available in another. If so, SFX will provide a link so the information can be retrieved automatically.

Because SFX searches several databases simultaneously, any time a search is done in one database and a result is shown, the SFX link button  will appear. There are some databases where  will appear instead of the E-Text button, but both provide the same capabilities.

For example, doing a search in EBSCO on Medicare provides the following results:

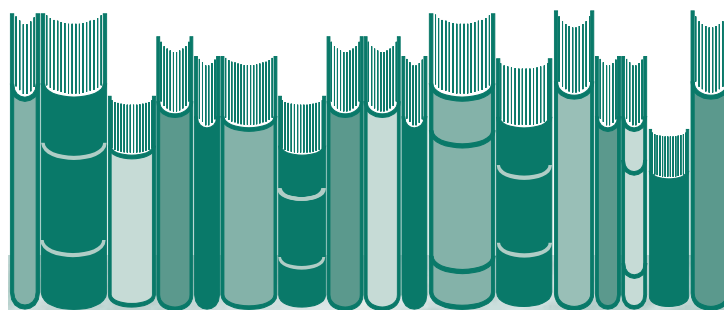


By clicking the SFX button (see arrow above), a new SFX menu appears listing the databases that offer full text. In most cases, there will be options from several different databases to choose from.



Without SFX, a separate search would be necessary for each of the databases.

There may be instances where clicking on the SFX button will not provide access to the full text. In these cases, the State Library may not have a license to the full text, the vendor may not provide the full text, or the article may be more recent than what the vendor has loaded into the database. If there is more than one database listed, check each one because each vendor has different licensing agreements. In some cases, articles may be loaded more quickly with one vendor than another.



New Good Reads

***Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, by Jared Diamond; New York, NY: Viking Press, 2005, 304.2 DIAM-**

In the follow-up to his Pulitzer-Prize winning *Guns, Germs and Steel*, Diamond explores what caused some of the great civilizations to collapse into ruin and what we can learn from their fate. From the Polynesian culture on Easter Island to the doomed medieval vikings in Greenland to the modern world, including Rwanda and Haiti, Diamond spells out what happens when we waste our resources and ignore the signals given to us by the environment. With his ability to make arcane scientific facts readily accessible, this book is sure to be in the heated debate of what the world can do to avoid destroying itself.

***My FBI: Bringing Down the Mafia, Investigating Bill Clinton, and Fighting the War on Terror*, by Louis J. Freeh; New York, NY: St. Martins Press, 2005, 363.25 Free**

Freeh was head of the FBI from 1993 to 2001, the second-longest tenure of any FBI director since J. Edgar Hoover. The book covers Freeh's years in the FBI, during which he dealt with such high-profile crimes as the Khobar Towers, the Oklahoma City bombing, bringing down the Italian mafia in New York and investigating his then-boss, Bill Clinton. The book also tells of Freeh's background, from his Catholic upbringing in New Jersey to law school to FBI training academy to his career as a U.S. district attorney and federal judge.

Both books are shelved in the Current Interest Collection on the second floor of the State Library.

Illinois State Library Reference Section

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Springfield, IL 62756
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Call or stop by the Circulation Desk,
217-782-7573, for a State Library card.