

Access preservation of e-journals: The Publishers view

Mark Lord, Marketing and
Development Manager, Professional
Engineering Publishing

markl@pepublishing.com

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Professional Engineering Publishing (PEP)



- Company name abbreviated to PE Publishing or PEP
- Owned by the **Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE)**
 - leading UK membership body for
 - mechanical engineers – over 80,000 members
 - Founded in 1847
- Based in London, United Kingdom



PEP's Titles



- IMechE Journals Collection
 - 16 journals in the Proceedings of the IMechE
 - 2 other engineering journals
 - IMechE Proceedings Archive 1847
 - Journals available in print and online formats
- Print magazines for professionals – 3 titles
- Engineering Conferences Online (ECO) – online only conference proceedings

What is Access Preservation?

- Also known as Perpetual Access
- Provides access “forever” to content “owned” by libraries
- Access Preservation in print world traditionally role of librarian
- Online world more complicated as content usually accessed via publisher servers and not hosted by library

What is Access Preservation?

- Two aspects of Online Access Preservation:
 1. Post-cancellation access for libraries to subscribed content
 2. Long-term preservation of content, for instance if journals out of print or change publisher

What we did in the past

- Until 2010 only combined print and online subscriptions available
- PEP viewed print issues as the archival version of the journal
- We did not consider online access preservation to be a priority as all customers received print

Why we decided to change

- Customers asking for online only
- We know that customers are not keeping print issues because of space restrictions
- Made decision for 2010 to offer online only subscription, so needed to have policy towards perpetual access for online only customers
- Consortia customers asking for clear policy statement from us and often membership of Portico or LOCKSS programmes

The options we explored

- LOCKSS
- CLOCKSS
- Portico
- Access via our server for post-cancellation access
- Changing our subscription licence

What we decided to do

- Main priority for PEP to resolve question of **post-cancellation access for libraries to subscribed content**
 - Access via our website allowed for in licence and done on basis of customer request if they decide to cancel?
 - Archive provision via printed copies no longer mentioned in licence.
 - Why? Often difficult to determine if subscription has lapsed or cancelled

Long-term Preservation

- Less of a priority
 - We rarely acquire or close journals
 - PEP secure and stable company, publishing since 1847
- But still important to consider this for long-term
- PEP in process of setting up arrangements with:
 - LOCKSS
 - Portico – some publishers also handle post-cancellation access through Portico

Looking into the future

- Long-term preservation methods have rarely had to be used yet, what would happen if major crisis?
- What about new, non-subscription, business models?