*Dr. Diogenes Kalogeridis

Europe Manager, CSA, The Netherlands

All Search Platforms are created Equal... Myth or Reality?

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ABSTRACT Librarians are facing a lot of choices when they have to make a decision about which databases to order and on which platforms. What is financially beneficiary for the Library: Remote access or local load? CD-ROM or on line? Buy the data or follow the traditional way licensing the material? Do all search platforms offer the needed key elements? Multiple search capabilities, Accessible search tools - Thesauri and browsable indexes -, Results that are easy to review, multiple viewing options, ability to easily revise/save search strategies, Fast access to full text, ability to download into bibliographic management software.