

European information - useful websites

This is an edited version of Grace Hudson's talk at Special Libraries Forum for the European Information Association (EIA) which attracted a good audience at this year's Library and Information Show.

Grace is a trainer for the EIA and long-established authority on European information who works at the European Documentation Centre at Bradford University, and she recommended the following sites in particular:

Europa site - <http://europa.eu.int>: this includes four main access points including News, ABC, policies and institutions.

From here visit the Commission site http://europa.eu.int/comm/index_en.htm and the Directorate-General (DG) home pages e.g. DG X Information, Communication etc at http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/dg10/index_en.html

The London Office of the Commission is at <http://www.cec.org.uk>, which includes the "Euromyths" pages

Europe Direct, at <http://citizens.eu.int/>, provides free leaflets on living and working in other member states.

A useful business information site is "Dialogue with Business" at <http://europa.eu.int/business/>.

The Council of European Union website is at <http://ue.eu.int/>, and the European Parliament is at <http://www.europarl.eu.int/>. The London Office has its own site now at <http://www.europarl.eu.int/uk>, including a list of UK MEPs.

The RAPID database at <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/welcome.htm> provides the latest EU press releases.

EUR-Lex, the legal website at <http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/index.html>, provides the last 45 days of the Official Journal in full text page facsimile, plus the secondary legislation in force, treaties etc.

The Court of Justice web site for recent case law can be found at <http://curia.eu.int/>.

Information on the euro can be found at <http://europa.eu.int/euro>. An alternative is <http://www.euro-emu.co.uk/>, which won an EIA award.

EIA's own web site is very useful for contacts, links and recommended products at <http://www.eia.org.uk>.

European Access at <http://www.europeanaccess.co.uk> (in particular the Europe on the Internet links) as well as the new KnowEurope site from Chadwyck Healey at <http://www.knoweurope.net> is worth checking out.

The Essex public libraries web gateway project, "Euroguide" at <http://www.euroguide.org> a good jargon buster.

A new site to watch is that of the European Union Databases User Group at <http://www.eudug.org/>, which was officially launched on 15 July 99 at the European Parliament's Office in London. This gives reviews of various EU databases, such as TED, ECLAS and RAPID.

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