Selection of E-Books

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SELECTION OF E-BOOKS

CRYSTAL BALL?

...or...

ROCKET SCIENCE?
THE SIMPLE PRINT PAST

- Tried and test criteria for the selection of printed books.
ENTER THE E-BOOK!!

- Our tried and tested selection criteria suddenly don’t quite fit anymore……
  » Options…..
  » Models…..
  » Permutations…..

…………… so what now?
WHAT IS AN E-BOOK?

- Simply put, an electronic book (e-book for short) is a printed book that has been digitised.
WHY BOTHER WITH E-BOOKS?

- Unisa’s ODeL business model
- Remote access
- 24/7 access
- Concurrent users
- Linking to academic course material
- Searchability
- Space
- Shipping costs
- Speed of delivery
- Text size
- Durability
- Evolving technology
THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT

- Paper versus electronic
- Not clear-cut argument
- Pro’s and Con’s to both
SELECTION CRITERIA

• Content
• Access
  – Stand-alone access
  – Institutional access
    • Individual passwords
    • IP address
• Aggregator versus publisher
• Subscription versus purchase model
• Individual titles/customised collections versus subject packages
• Simultaneous access
• Digital Rights Management (DRM)
• MARC records (for the library catalogue)
• Print and/or electronic
• Consortium agreements
• Ease of use
• Cost
• Licensing agreements
IN CONCLUSION

• E-books are a new venture.

• E-book selection and use may appear daunting at first, but it is also a new and exciting means of providing information to an increasingly online generation of students and researchers.
Questions?
Thank you!