

Tech Blog - TechBits

Goal: To communicate information and educate libraries about the technology going on both at SCLS and in the world.

Audience: SCLS libraries and their staff.

Description: The intention is to have a group of folks from Automation and Administration who share technology information with our member libraries through the Tech Blog. Participating staff will sign up for a week during which to make a post. Overall, the blog will hopefully have at least 2 posts per week (1 if we're really hurting for time and content). Suggestions for topics may be made by all staff. Some staff will be solely responsible for providing posts in a particular area (ex. Automation staff would be responsible for LINK-specific posts. Kerri would be responsible for Library Online-specific posts). Some topic areas may be shared where whoever wants to post can do so (ex. emerging technologies, cool tips and tricks, general technology topics).

Topics:

- Emerging technologies
- Interesting tech things that other libraries/systems are doing
- How-tos, tips and tricks
- Technology training opportunities (sites, tutorials, CEs)
- OverDrive
- SCLS databases, authentication
- Web services, web page development
- Library Online
- Technology questions for discussion
 - ex. Recent question about which MP3 players are best for audiobooks (we answered with some suggestions for sites that had such reviews... this might be a topic where libraries would have other suggestions for players they have used and liked)
- non-LINK PCs, wireless
- Automation/LINK tech topics (project updates, common problems, ?)

Maintained by: Rose

Postings by: SCA and SCL tech staff, guest writers

- Staff may make their own posts or provide content for Rose to post
- Guest writers will provide content for Rose to post
- If posters wish, Rose is willing to do editing

Posting Frequency:

- minimum= 1 post per week
- maximum = 3 posts per week

Posting Schedule: 1 post per week will be scheduled. Additional posts may be added as topics arise. Schedule and list of possible topics will be kept in the SCLS share (documentation folder).

Posting guidelines:

- Posts should be brief (3-4 short paragraphs). If more detail is necessary, posts may link to more in-

depth documentation that lives elsewhere.

- Posts will generally include an image (Rose has suggestions for collections of free images, can use flickr Creative Commons pics with appropriate credits, screenshots)
- We may occasionally hold contests or have polls (but will not regularly do so)
- Comments will be enabled. We will actively encourage users to share as appropriate (not with every post, but where it would be helpful or interesting to have them weigh in)
- If possible, posts will be both educational and entertaining.
- Blog will not be password-protected, so information posted should be “safe” for public viewing

Access:

- No password-protection, can be viewed by all
- Feedburner will be enabled so we can track use
- We will provide an option to receive emails when the blog is updated
- We will have buttons to easily subscribe to the blog using various readers

Promotion:

- Once a month for the first 3 months, we will email out a list of recent topics and a reminder of the ways to follow the blog
- Jean will have a CE about blogs and blog readers (January?)
- After that, we will send out a quarterly reminder (no list of topics) of its existence and purpose