

A new phase in publication and information retrieval

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Optical technology has ushered in a new phase in the storage and retrieval of information. Optical discs, with their tremendous storage capacity and high durability, will definitely become a medium of storage and distribution of archival records. Database producers now have the capabilities to provide access to their products using optical disc technology. Many database producers have their products on CD-ROM discs, but CD-ROM databases have not been accepted overwhelmingly by libraries due to lack of standards in the interface. Meanwhile, an increased pace in technological innovation is ushering in more and more new generations of systems. Therefore, the information industry will be hard pressed to keep pace with these rapid changes.