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About the ABC-CLIO/EBSCO Publishing Partnership

ABC-CLIO and EBSCO Publishing have formed a new alliance that will benefit history scholars, teachers, and students around the world, marking an unprecedented partnership between EBSCO, the leading online research database provider, and ABC-CLIO, the leading provider of history resources. As part of the undertaking, EBSCO has acquired two of ABC-CLIO's renowned databases, *Historical Abstracts (HA)* and *America: History and Life (AHL)*, and will distribute eight additional award-winning history databases as well as ABC-CLIO's online history eBook collection, *History Reference Online*. Below are details about the arrangement, including contact information for handling any questions you may have.

Service for *Historical Abstracts* and *America: History and Life*

There will be no interruption in service for these databases as EBSCO assumes ownership. To maintain consistency in the editorial quality and development of these important databases, the two companies have come to a long-term agreement whereby the current editorial teams for the databases will remain intact. The databases will also remain available on their current platform through June 30, 2008. In the coming months, the databases will be made available via EBSCOhost—subscribers will be notified of this option when it's available. The current target date for this is January 2008, with a goal of transitioning all subscribers to EBSCOhost by July 2008.

EBSCO's Plans for *HA* and *AHL*

EBSCO's goal is to not only maintain the high standards associated with these databases, but to add value via full-text components, a universal platform, and other key software and editorial features. EBSCO plans to create full-text versions of the databases that will be offered as optional upgrades for any customer looking for access to full-text coverage. These full-text versions will have unique content and will be made available for an additional fee to those libraries desiring full-text service. These full-text versions are under development and will not be available until 2008 at the earliest. EBSCO will notify all subscribers as soon as these enhanced versions are ready for preview.

As always, EBSCO is open to your ideas and suggestions for features that would enhance your use of the databases. Please contact them via email at information@ebscohost.com or via phone at (800) 653-2726 or (978) 356-6500 if you have any questions about their plans.

Distribution of Other ABC-CLIO Databases by EBSCO

EBSCO and ABC-CLIO also reached an agreement on a new distribution partnership that makes the following ABC-CLIO databases available through EBSCO Publishing:

- *World History: The Modern Era*
- *World History: Ancient and Medieval Eras*
- *World Geography: Understanding a Changing World*
- *American History*
- *American Government*
- *State Geography*
- *Issues: Understanding Controversy and Society*
- *United States at War: Understanding Conflict and Society*
- *History Reference Online*

All of the above databases will now be available in three different annual subscription packages: Complete, Premier, and Elite. *History Reference Online Complete* will offer cross-searchable access to ABC-CLIO's full collection of 500+ history encyclopedias, handbooks, dictionaries, and guides. The *HRO Premier* collection will feature nearly 400 titles and the *HRO Elite* collection will contain 250 titles. New titles will be added to all collections on a quarterly basis at no additional cost to the subscriber.

The remaining databases, which are designed to serve the needs of young adults and general researchers, will also be available in packages: the Complete package includes all eight databases, the Premier package includes any six databases, and the Elite package includes any four databases.

To sign up for a free preview of any of the above databases, please go to www.abc-clio.com or www.epnet.com/freeTrial.php

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Does EBSCO now own *Historical Abstracts (HA)* and *America: History and Life (AHL)*?

A: Yes, EBSCO acquired these databases from ABC-CLIO in June 2007.

Q: Did EBSCO acquire ABC-CLIO?

A: No, EBSCO acquired two databases from ABC-CLIO – *Historical Abstracts (HA)* and *America: History and Life (AHL)*. EBSCO did not acquire the company. Please note, however, that the companies also have an agreement in place where EBSCO acts as sales partner for several other ABC-CLIO databases as well as their subscription eBook collection, *History Reference Online*. This is to make ordering easy for mutual customers who would only have to work directly with the EBSCO sales representative. These databases will be distributed by EBSCO on a nonexclusive basis. The following databases are included:

- *World History: The Modern Era*
- *World History: Ancient and Medieval Eras*
- *World Geography: Understanding a Changing World*
- *American History*
- *American Government*
- *State Geography*
- *Issues: Understanding Controversy and Society*
- *United States at War: Understanding Conflict and Society*
- *History Reference Online*

Q: Will I see an interruption in coverage?

A: There will be no interruption. This partnership leverages both ABC-CLIO's expertise in the area of history and EBSCO's significant content licensing, digitization, and distribution capabilities so, although the databases have a new owner, ABC-CLIO will continue to provide content and technical support for *AHL* and *HA*. There will be no immediate change in access via the ABC-CLIO website.

Q: Will these databases be made available on EBSCOhost?

A: Yes. Work is in progress to make the databases available via EBSCOhost by January 2008. All customers will be transitioned to EBSCOhost by July 2008.

Q: Will these databases remain available via the current ABC-CLIO platform?

A: Yes, *HA* and *AHL* will continue to be available via the current platform through June 30, 2008.

Q: Will EBSCO make these databases available via other platforms?

A: No, this is not EBSCO's intent. EBSCO will continue to enhance EBSCOhost so that access to these resources is a powerful, fruitful experience for history researchers. As always, EBSCO is open to ideas and suggestions for features that would enhance EBSCOhost in this regard.

Q: How does EBSCO plan to update the databases? Will editorial quality be maintained?

A: ABC-CLIO and EBSCO have agreed on a long-term contract to ensure that the same editorial team will continue to update the products.

Q: Will EBSCO add full text to these databases?

A: EBSCO is working to create full-text versions of the databases that will be offered as optional upgrades. These full-text versions will have unique content and will be available for an additional fee for libraries that want them. These full-text versions are under development and will not be available until 2008 at the earliest. EBSCO will make announcements to customers as soon as these new database options are ready for preview.

Q. What will happen to the print versions?

A: Service will continue in print—there will be no interruption in the publication schedule. Although the publications have a new owner, ABC-CLIO will continue to provide content and issue preparation for *AHL* and *HA*.

Q: How will this affect my invoice?

A: ABC-CLIO will continue to invoice and accept payment in the coming months as EBSCO prepares to handle account management. Please submit your payment to the address listed on your renewal notice. As it becomes available, we will indicate any necessary changes in contact information.

Q: What other changes can I expect?

A: ABC-CLIO and EBSCO are working together to expand the history resources available through the databases. Look for communications about these improvements in the coming months.