

then controls the sequence of access to the disc so that if the most recent version of certain information is required then only those amended "additions" are brought up. One of the benefits of optical discs is that it can provide an "audit trail" of the information originally stored as well as any amendments. As a further security measure the optical disc also records the identity or pass word of the user entering information.

6. Finally, Vagelaar indicated that the optical disc technology was in the near future to be expanded to include not only

the recording of written material but of films, videos and microfish.

7. John Sullivan then gave a detailed explanation of the technology and physical use of the optical document filing system indicating the hardware required and the software applications.

CD - ROM

8. Representatives from Butterworths then spoke about the CD-ROM. A monstration was given by Lindell Coote of the data base "books in print" stored on a CD-ROM for

retrieving information. The benefit of such a retrieval system was that titles, authors, portions of titles or portions of authors or other key words could be used to locate books, articles and other information. Further, benefits were in the nature of a permanent store of records rather than an on-line system. The capacity of one of these laser discs was in the vicinity of 10,000 pages of information. At present, the most common usage of the technology as far as Butterworths was concerned was by librarians.

NEWS FROM BUTTERWORTH TELEPUBLISHING

LEXIS/NEXIS UPDATE

UK LAW JOURNALS LIBRARY

Butterworth Telepublishing has launched a major new Law Journals Library on LEXIS. The Library appears on the LEXIS Libraries menu as UKJNL.

UKJNL contains the full text of articles from The Law Society's Gazette, the official journal of the Law Society of England and Wales, its monthly sister publication The Guardian Gazette, plus Butterworths own New Law Journal.

The journals are very practical in emphasis, covering recent developments in the law, the administration of practices, professional news, and so on.

Coverage commences in 1986, and the journals are updated weekly.

EUROPEAN LIBRARY

European law can be found on LEXIS in the European Communities Library (EURCOM).

A recent addition to EURCOM is a series of reports called European Commercial Cases.

These reports contain judgments from courts in Western Europe on such areas as international litigation procedure, information exchange, data privacy, copyright, agency and distributorship, products liability, consumer credit and restrictive practices.

IRISH LAW

The Republic of Ireland is the most recent Common Law jurisdiction added to the LEXIS

database.

The Irish Law Library (IRELND) contains the full text of reported cases in Ireland, dating from 1950.

COMPUTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS - The NEXIS service

The computers and communications library (CMPCOM) has added five group files so you can search by subject. The new group files gather related full-text and selected full-text publications.

COMM	The communications group file
CMPTRS	The computers group file
ELTRNC	The electronics group file
TECHNY	The technology group file
OMNI	All group files