



For Immediate Release

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**APEX ePUBLISHING SELECTED TO PROVIDE DATA CONVERSION
AND SGML MARK-UP FOR THE LARGEST, FULL-TEXT, ONLINE
DATABASE OF EARLY, RARE ENGLISH BOOKS**

HERNDON, VIRGINIA, May 29, 2001 – Apex ePublishing Data Services, LLC (Apex ePublishing), the world's premier provider of e-publishing data solutions; servicing academic, research, and scientific institutions, has been selected by the University of Michigan, Oxford University, the Council on Library and Information Resources, and Bell & Howell Information and Learning to enable the development of the Early English Books Online (EEBO) -Text Creation Partnership (EEBO-TCP). Over the next five years, this partnership will produce an online digitized archive of 25,000 volumes of English language texts covering the time period from 1473-1700. An online demonstration is available at <http://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/eebo>.

For the project, Bell & Howell Information and Learning has already created digital images of the 125,000 titles in the English Short Title Catalog. This catalog includes English language texts from the first book printed in English from 1475 through 1700, covering literature, philosophy, politics, religion, geography, science and all other areas of human endeavor. Apex ePublishing will create searchable text that links to Bell & Howell's digital images as well as provide SGML mark-up making the data easy to search and retrieve online. In a joint effort, the University of Oxford and the University of Michigan are working with an international research library community to create structured SGML text files from the Bell & Howell images as well as serving as production sites for the project.

The EEBO images first became available to colleges and universities in 1998-1999. Instructors in a wide variety of fields have used EEBO as a source for required reading and a means of introducing students to research. Electronic products such as EEBO will revolutionize learning in classrooms, as searchable texts become a common day-to-day activity.

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About Apex ePublishing Data Services, LLC

Apex ePublishing, a subsidiary of Apex Data Services, Inc., is the world's premier provider in the conversion of electronic and paper text into structured, electronic data for academic institutions and the e-publishing market. Not only have we set the world standard for accuracy for over a decade, but we have also developed the industry's most sophisticated production management and control system. Established in 1988, Apex ePublishing is a rapidly growing, debt-free, and employee owned company. Visit our Web site at www.apexinc.com.