



For Immediate Release

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## **“COLLOQUIUM 2001” RECEIVES HIGH PRAISE**

*Forty Industry Leaders Examine the Role of Books in the Year 2020 and Ponder the Impacts of Emerging Digital Publishing Technologies on Libraries, Publishers, & Society*

**HERNDON, VIRGINIA, November 28, 2001**—Co-sponsored by the prestigious Folger Shakespeare Library, the Apex ePublishing Colloquium 2001 was held in Washington, D.C. on November 8-10. The Colloquium challenged a select group of top industry executives from Microsoft, Library of Congress, Thomson Publishing, Bertelsmann, Reuters, among others, to discuss the direction, timing, and impact of the digital medium on libraries, publishers, and society.

This Colloquium was the second organized by Apex ePublishing, with the first having been held in 1999 at Oxford University in England. The purpose of these invitation-only events is to create an opportunity for select industry leaders to engage their peers in a collegial discussion of key issues that will frame the future of electronic publishing.

A few salient “2020 Views” emerging from this Colloquium include:

- 1) Electronic publishing media such as e-books, e-journals, e-newspapers are not merely the electronic representation of their paper counterparts; to view them as such is to miss the true power and potential of electronic publishing.
- 2) Printed books and journals will not disappear but rather will co-exist with the newer electronic forms of publishing.
- 3) The roles and functions of publishers and libraries will change radically by 2020.
- 4) For the first time in human history, technology has brought within our grasp, the possibility of providing universal access to the complete body of human knowledge.
- 5) Host-country infrastructure and intellectual property rights will be critical to the worldwide adoption of electronic publishing as the de-facto communication standard.

“At times of radical change, traditional roles of organizations are challenged and stressed. As professionals involved in electronic publishing, it is very timely for the different groups within our industry to share their perspectives, and to reflect on what the future may bring”, observed Joel Poznansky, Apex ePublishing President.

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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. Find us on the Internet at <http://www.apexinc.com>.