Essential Thesaurus Construction

Vanda Broughton

List price £59.95
Product Details

Format: Paperback
ISBN: 9781856045650
Published: 18th Jun 2006
Publisher: Facet Publishing
Dimensions: 234mm x 156mm x 20mmmm

Description

Many information professionals working in small units today fail to find the published tools for subject based organization that are appropriate to their local needs, whether they are archivists, special librarians, information officers, or knowledge or content managers. Large established standards for document description and organization are too unwieldy, unnecessarily detailed, or too expensive to install and maintain. In other cases the available systems are insufficient for a specialist environment, or don't bring things together in a helpful way. A purpose built, in-house system would seem to be the answer, but too often the skills necessary to create one are lacking. This practical text examines the criteria relevant to the selection of a subject management system, describes the characteristics of some common types of subject tool, and takes the novice step-by-step through the process of creating a system for a specialist environment. The methodology employed is a standard technique for the building of a thesaurus that incidentally creates a compatible classification or taxonomy, both of which may be used in a variety of ways for document or information management. Key areas covered are: • What is a thesaurus? • Tools for subject access and retrieval • What a thesaurus is used for • Why use a thesaurus? • Examples of thesauri • The structure of a thesaurus • Thesaural relations • Practical thesaurus construction • The vocabulary of the thesaurus • Building the systematic structure • Conversion to alphabetic format • Forms of entry in the thesaurus • Maintaining the thesaurus • Thesaurus software • The wider environment. Readership: Although primarily aimed at the practising information professional, the book is also suitable for students of library and information science.

Contents

1. What is a thesaurus? 2. Tools for subject access and retrieval 3. What a thesaurus is used for 4. Why use a thesaurus? 5. Types of thesaurus 6. The format of a thesaurus 7. Building a thesaurus 1: vocabulary collection 8. Vocabulary control 1: selection of terms 9. Vocabulary control 2: form of entry 10. Building a thesaurus 2: term extraction from document titles 11. Building a thesaurus 3: vocabulary analysis 12. The thesaural relationships 13. Building a thesaurus 4: introducing internal structure 14. Building a thesaurus 5: imposing hierarchy 15. Building a thesaurus 6: compound subjects and

citation order 16. Building a thesaurus 7: conversion of the taxonomy to alphabetical format 17. Building a thesaurus 8: creating the thesaurus records 18. Managing and maintaining the thesaurus: thesaurus software 19. Conclusion 20. Glossary 21. Bibliography Appendix 1. Sample titles for thesaurus vocabulary Appendix 2. Sample terms for the thesaurus Appendix 3. Facets at stage 1 of analysis Appendix 4. Facets at stage 2 of analysis Appendix 5. Completed systematic display Appendix 6. Thesaurus entries for sample page.

Author

Vanda Broughton MA DipLib is a Lecturer in Library and Information Studies at the School of Library, Archive and Information Studies, University College London. She has taught, written and led training courses on thesauri for many years. She is joint editor of the new edition of the Bliss Bibliographic Classification scheme, is a member of the UDC revision working group, and also of the UK Classification Research Group.