



OPLIN Network Testing Service

OPLIN's actual responsibility for Internet connection management ends with the OPLIN router placed at the library end of OPLIN-provided circuits, but it is not uncommon for libraries to have internal network issues that affect the throughput capacity of their connection.

These problems sometimes are discovered in conversations with libraries or in the course of monitoring network performance, and over the years OPLIN staff members have more and more frequently assisted local library IT staff with some problem solving. OPLIN wants to be sure local libraries are able to take full advantage of the bandwidth provided to them, so we have now launched a new service to test local networks.

Once the library has agreed to allow OPLIN testing of their internal network, OPLIN staff will travel to the li-

brary where the OPLIN router is located and use various software and hardware tools to test the network and gather data. This will involve connecting computers to the OPLIN router and to various points in the internal library network.

Then, OPLIN staff will provide local library IT staff and/or consultants with data about their internal network and help them interpret the meaning of the data. OPLIN staff will not take action to remedy any identified problems; that responsibility remains with the library IT staff and consultants.

For more details, see <http://www.oplin.org/testing>.

New Sanborn Maps Interface

The Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps resource collection has moved to a new home, beginning in August:

<http://www.ohioweblibrary.org/sanborn>

This new interface for our Sanborn Maps makes it easy to find a map, zoom in on details, print portions of maps, or download entire maps for non-commercial use. The collection includes over 40,000 very detailed maps of Ohio cities drawn between 1882 and 1962. Because they were originally drawn as a resource for the fire insurance industry, these maps also include information about the construction of major buildings. Today, these kinds of details are invaluable for genealogy researchers and historians.





Ohio Web Library Database Links



To make it easier to link directly to the Ohio Web Library database resources, OPLIN has for some time provided a list of “shortcut” links that libraries can embed on their website or easily share with patrons. This list is posted on our “How to link to the OPLIN resources and Ohio Web Library databases” page:

<http://www.oplin.org/content/how-link-oplin-databases>

We recently added links to all the various new EBSCO databases. This is important, because results from some of these databases, such as “AHFS Consumer Medication Information,” do not appear if you are doing a standard EBSCOhost search without specifically selecting the database. Using these shortcut links can heighten awareness of all the resources available to Ohioans from the Ohio Web Library collection.



OPLIN Happenings & Reminders

The **2013 Stakeholders Meeting**, our annual report to Ohio public libraries (our “stakeholders”), will take place on Wednesday, October 9 from 1:15 – 2:15 PM at the Ohio Library Council’s Convention and Expo held at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center in Sandusky, Ohio. OPLIN staff will review what has happened over the past year and discuss upcoming plans in the future. This Stakeholders Meeting will report on this year’s big changes to the Ohio Web Library collection of databases and our progress toward moving the entire network to fiber-optic Ethernet connections. Questions will be welcome.

Lorrie Germann, state E-Rate coordinator, will present a free E-Rate workshop to outline the process and assist public libraries in completing Form 470. This workshop will be held at the State Library of Ohio with videoconferencing available to other locations around the state. For calendar, visit <http://library.ohio.gov/event>.

- **E-Rate Workshop (Form 470): November 5, 9AM – 3PM**



LearningExpress Workforce Skills for the 21st Century

The new “Workforce Skills for the 21st Century” online resource from LearningExpress Library, one of the additions to the Ohio Web Library collection this year, is now available for use. The site still needs a little cosmetic work, and training and promotional materials are still being developed, but consider this a “soft launch” with a more formal launch later. Meanwhile, libraries should feel free to explore and use this resource located at:

<http://www.ohioweblibrary.org/db/workforce>

All users must register a personal account that is associated with their public library by providing their name and email address, and creating a password. This means all remote users (outside of the library) coming in through the given link will need to enter a library card number to create the association between their personal account and the library (same way Mango Languages worked). The email address will become the username and will also be used for password reset, if needed.

OPLIN Calendar

Wednesday, 10/9
OPLIN Stakeholders Meeting
OLC Convention, Sandusky

Friday, 10/11
OPLIN Board Meeting

Thursday, 10/24
State Library Board Meeting

Tuesday, 11/5
E-Rate 470 Workshop

Thursday, 11/21
State Library Board Meeting

Friday, 11/22
OLC Board Meeting

Tuesday, 12/10
State Library Board Meeting

Friday, 12/13
OPLIN Board Meeting



Holidays

Monday, 10/14
Columbus Day,
OPLIN CLOSED

Monday, 11/11
Veterans Day,
OPLIN CLOSED

Thursday, 11/28
Thanksgiving,
OPLIN CLOSED

Wednesday, 12/25
Christmas,
OPLIN CLOSED

Wednesday, 1/1
New Year's Day,
OPLIN CLOSED