

## **Major Space Consolidation Achieved with Warehouse Move**

GPO undertook a major consolidation of its leased warehouse space in 2000 with the relocation of its Springbelt, VA, paper storage operations to its Laurel, MD, publications storage warehouse. The move ended GPO's need for 180,000 square feet of warehouse space in Springbelt, saving approximately \$5.3 million over the next 5 years, while providing for more efficient use of the Laurel warehouse space. The relocation was completed by September 30.

The move reduced GPO's paper warehouses from 3 sites to 2, leaving Laurel and GPO's Building 4 paper warehouse, located adjacent to its Washington DC central office complex. The Building 4 warehouse also houses

GPO's passport and postal card printing operations.

Since 1990, GPO has relocated Superintendent of Documents and other operations from leased space to its central office complex, relocated printing operations from Washington DC Navy Yard to

the central office, and closed 4 of 5 regional printing plants located around the country.

While GPO continues to purchase a significant amount of paper annually for its in-plant printing operation and for sale to Federal agencies in the Washington DC area, the rising use of electronic information products has reduced GPO's paper purchases. As a result, GPO has less need for paper storage space than it did more than 20 years ago, when the Springbelt warehouse opened. GPO's space needs at Springbelt had declined to about 80,000 square feet, less than half the available space.

In FY 1994, GPO used or sold 90.9 million pounds of paper, maintained an average paper inventory of 16.7 million pounds, and moved an average of 6

truckloads of paper a day from the Springbelt warehouse to its central office plant. In FY 1999, GPO purchased approximately 54.8 million pounds of paper, maintained an average paper inventory of about 11.8 million pounds, and moved an average of 3 truckloads of paper a day to its central office plant. During the same 5-year period, the number of publication titles available on **GPO Access**, GPO's popular Internet information service (at [www.gpoaccess.gov](http://www.gpoaccess.gov)), grew from none to nearly 180,000.

The consolidation of warehouse space in Laurel presented an efficient alternative. GPO leases 382,000 square feet of space there for publications storage, order fulfillment, and related sales activities of its Superintendent of Documents. There were approximately 69,000 square feet of available space, which was expanded through reorganization of existing functions to accommodate the relocated paper storage operation. The reduced publications storage space helped reduce the costs of the Superintendent of Documents' sales program, which operates entirely from revenues earned from sales and receives no appropriated funds.

The distance from the Laurel warehouse to GPO's Washington DC plant is 18 miles; it is 15 miles from Springbelt to the plant. While the Laurel warehouse does not have a rail siding for bulk deliveries as Springbelt did, there is a rail siding into GPO's Building 4 paper warehouse.

GPO reached agreements with the representatives of the Springbelt employees, Local 713 of the Graphic Communications International Union and Local 2876 of the American Federation of Government Employees, that avoided any adverse impact on the employees resulting from their worksite relocation. The relocation was approved by the Joint Committee on Printing.

## **New Links to Scientific and Technical Information Launched**

Late in 1999, GPO and the Department of Energy (DOE) launched an electronic system that provides public access to a DOE database of scientific and technical literature. The system, called Pub-SCIENCE, was unveiled October 12, 1999, at a

*While GPO continues to purchase a significant amount of paper annually for its in-plant printing operation and for sale to Federal agencies in the Washington DC area, the rising use of electronic information products has reduced GPO's paper purchases.*



DOE ceremony featuring remarks by the Secretary of Energy and GPO's Superintendent of Documents, Francis J. Buckley, Jr.

The PubSCIENCE database contains bibliographic records from approximately 1,000 peer-reviewed journals provided by more than 20 publishers with a focus on the physical sciences and energy-related disciplines, and the site's content is expected to increase. PubSCIENCE enables users to identify journal articles, view bibliographic citations, and hyperlink to the publisher's site for full retrieval (if unrestricted), or through a site license, an electronic subscription, or pay-per-view access. Users of Federal depository libraries as well as those with their own computers can link to PubSCIENCE through **GPO Access**.

Later, in August 2000, GPO and DOE initiated two new services that expanded public access to Federal Government scientific and technical research information. Developed by DOE's Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI), the **GrayLIT Network** ([www.osti.gov/graylit](http://www.osti.gov/graylit)) and **Federal R&D Project Summaries** ([www.osti.gov/fedrnd](http://www.osti.gov/fedrnd)) provide users with the capability to find information regardless of where it resides—by searching for documents across multiple databases of many Federal agencies—in response to a single query.

The general public, as well as users of Federal depository libraries nationwide, can link to these services through **GPO Access**. The **GrayLIT Network** provides a portal to more than 100,000 full-text technical reports located at DOE, the Department

of Defense, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Collections in the network include DOE's **Information Bridge** (also currently available through **GPO Access**), the Defense Technical Information Center's Report Collection, EPA's National Environmental Publications Internet Site (NEPIS), NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab Reports, and NASA's Langley Technical Reports.

**Federal R&D Project Summaries** includes more than 240,000 research summaries and awards by three of the major sponsors of research in the Federal Government. The Federal databases available via this tool are DOE's R&D Project Summaries, the National Institutes of Health's CRISP (Computer Retrieval of Information on Scientific Projects) Current Award, and the National Science Foundation's Award Data.

### **Partnership Agreement with National Library of Medicine**

During the year, GPO and the National Library of Medicine (NLM) signed an agreement that assures permanent public access to key information published by NLM and disseminated as part of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP).

The agreement, signed by Superintendent of Documents Francis J. Buckley, Jr., and Donald C. Poppe, Associate Director for Administrative Management, NLM, outlined provisions for permanent access to *Index Medicus*, *Medical Subject Headings*, *The National Library of Medicine Current Catalog*, *The National Library of Medicine Audiovisuals Catalog*, and other titles in the FDLP. *Index Medicus (tm)* was replaced in the FDLP Electronic Collection by *PubMed(tm)*, NLM's search service that provides access to over 11 million citations in MEDLINE and other related databases, at <http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS4708>. Access to the other titles was established through NLM's "Locator Plus" application, at <http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS4582>.

In signing the agreement, NLM acknowledged the FDLP as one of its dissemination partners and agreed to keep the online publications available permanently. In the event of an unforeseen circum-

stance that would alter their ongoing availability, NLM will turn the electronic files over to GPO for continuing access.

### **More than 500 Government Information Librarians Gather for Depository Library Conference**

In what has become the Nation's premier event for Government information librarians, more than 500 depository librarians and Federal agency representatives attended the 9th annual Federal Depository Library Conference held in Arlington, VA, in October 2000. The conference was held concurrent with the 57<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer, and was sponsored by GPO. The Council is composed of 15 representatives of the Government information community who advise GPO on issues related to the FDLP.

Highlights of the 3-day conference included demonstrations of Web sites from FirstGov, the Defense Technical Information Center, the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Institute of Peace, the National Agricultural Library, and others. GPO's ongoing transition to a more electronic FDLP was a primary focus of the event, while the Census Bureau and STAT-USA from the Department of Commerce, the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, the Forest Service, the Department of Energy, and others presented updates on their agencies' public information activities and products. The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science provided a status report on its review of the Federal Government's information dissemination activities.

Concurrent technical and information sessions included digital archiving, economic statistics, Presidential libraries, and library grants. Tours of the Senate Library, the Center for Legislative Archives, GPO's Library Programs Service, and the Library of Congress were also available for meeting attendees. Prior to the formal conference, librarians from the Nation's 53 regional depositories attended an all-day session.

### **Working Group on Permanent Public Access Policy Convened**

During the year, GPO convened a series of high-level meetings involving congressional and executive