

# Collection

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## Collection

The NL's catalogues saw marked improvement during the year in review: *Helveticat* now comprises all currently published periodicals and offers a new order function for digital reproductions, while *swissbib* constitutes the first ever metacatalogue of all of Switzerland's academic libraries.

### Acquisitions

In 2010 the NL listed 10 568 new publications by Swiss publishing houses (2009: 11 105). The Helvetica Collection received 63 895 new items (2009: 59 072) and at the end of the year comprised 4 098 530 documents, including digitally born documents (2009: 4 033 596). Archival holdings comprised 368 archives and estates in the Swiss Literary Archives (SLA) and the Prints and Drawings Department (PDD), as against 345 at the end of 2009. Some 1.2 million documents are to be found in the Federal Archives of Historic Monuments (FAHM), part of the PDD.

Among the focuses for acquisition were publications by advanced technical colleges, some one hundred of which were contacted and asked to submit their annual reports; the latter were then integrated into the collection of association publications.

### Catalogues

At year's end the *Helveticat* library catalogue held 1 485 076 records (2009: 1 449 269). It now also lists titles and holding information of all of the roughly 10 000 currently published periodicals now managed and ordered online. Coming years will see the integration of the far larger number of periodicals no longer being published.

Meanwhile, with a click of the mouse on *Helveticat*, digital reproductions of titles no longer subject to copyright can be ordered. This paid service, *eBooks on Demand*, which can at present be used to order around 100 000 monographs from NL holdings, is made possible by collaboration with a network of European libraries.

*Helveticat*'s records are now integrated into *swissbib*, the metacatalogue of Swiss university libraries and of the NL. *Swissbib* greatly facilitates the work of academic researchers while also offering functionalities familiar from the social media, giving users, among other functionalities, the opportunity to upload their own keywords and reviews. *Swissbib*, run under the auspices of the library of the University of Basel, is part of the e-lib.ch project of the Conference of Swiss University Libraries, which is developing a range of digital platforms for key library holdings.<sup>9</sup>

At year's end, *HelveticArchives*, the archival catalogue of the NL's holdings, comprised 108 634 records (2009: 88 294), while the Swiss Poster Collection comprised 56 072 (2009: 54 473).

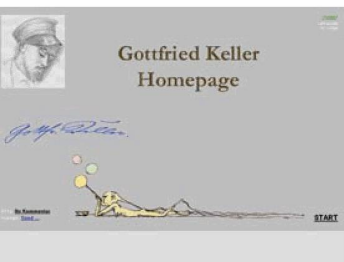
In order to facilitate access to collections, all catalogues were opened to indexing by search engines, such as Google, so that the relevant NL catalogue entries now also appear in the result lists for such searches.

With an eye to increasing cataloguing efficiency, work was begun on two new developments: importing data from other library catalogues, principally that of the German National Library, and standardising the use of name authority files in *Helveticat* and *HelveticArchives*, the latter also simplifying research.

The *Bibliographie der Schweizergeschichte* (Bibliography of Swiss History, 2007 edition) appeared for the last time in printed form in 2010. As part of the ServicePlus project (see p. 14), online access was enhanced so as to make the printed version unnecessary.



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## Preservation and Conservation

During the year in review, 42 137 new titles underwent conservation treatment (2009: 44 473), 2934 protective covers were manufactured (2009: 4326) and 737 books were repaired (2009: 850). A total of 37 113 documents with a combined weight of 34.2 tons were deacidified (2009: 38 548 documents weighing 34.6 tons).

For the past ten years the NL has deacidified its paper documents by means of the papersave swiss process it helped to develop. The plant, which opened with federal financing in 2000 on the grounds of the Nitrochemie company in Wimmis, is run as a private enterprise. The federal government guaranteed credit funding for the first ten years to both the Swiss Federal Archives and the NL, allowing each institution to have some 35 tons of paper deacidified each year and ensuring basic utilisation of the plant.

Over the past ten years the NL has had a total of 1.1 million documents deacidified, or a total weight of 385 tons. The documents treated mainly comprised books printed between 1930 and 1980 and capable of mass processing. 100 tons of documents on acid paper remain in the collection. Tests must be carried out to determine whether deacidification is appropriate as a conservation method for these, and if so, what form of treatment is indicated.

The underground stacks west, opened in 2009, have experienced no problems, with climate conditions remaining within predetermined tolerance values.

The survey of the collections involved the assessment of a large number of photographs, and the NL accordingly held a meeting of restorers to discuss "Photo conservation and restoration". The presentations and discussions led to some new ideas about dealing with the medium. The survey of all collections was completed in 2010, and assessment is to follow in 2011.

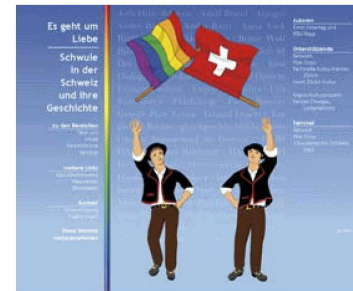
## Collection of Digitally Born Documents

The Collection of Digitally Born Documents doubled during the year in review. At the end of 2009 it comprised 3899 units, occupying a total of 136 GB of storage space, which by the end of 2010 had increased to 403 GB or 9724 units. Of those units, 44% are commercial publications, 19% dissertations, 12% official publications and 25% websites, which are collected in the Web Archive Switzerland. This last now includes collections with websites of relevance to the social sciences and literary studies alongside the collection of sites relevant for Swiss studies.

It cannot be stressed enough that a range of partners is indispensable to the construction and expansion of the electronic collection. Such partners include publishing houses as well as cantonal, university and special libraries.

The year in review saw the development of a prototype for the consultation of all electronic collections, both digitally born and digitised from analogue media. Access for users is planned for 2011, with many digital publications in the collections available for free online consultation. Access to publications subject to copyright restrictions, when not entirely blocked, will only be possible onsite at the NL.

Digital and analogue collections cannot be completely segregated. Between these two types are publications appearing simultaneously in printed and online form and for which collections guidelines are currently in development.



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