The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) is pleased to announce the opening of the ADAMS Public Legacy Library on Monday, January 13, 2003. The Public Legacy Library is now an option in the ADAMS Document Manager. The Public Legacy Library contains approximately two million bibliographic citations describing the NRC's documents dated prior to November 1, 1999, that were made publicly-available. These data records were originally maintained in the agency's Nuclear Documents System (NUDOCS) and the PDR's Bibliographic Retrieval System (BRS). BRS will remain available to current users until the end of March 2003.

The descriptive data from those older systems has been reformatted and migrated into a document profile that is similar to that used in the current Publicly Available Records Systems (PARS) Library. These records contain information about document's location in agency microfiche collections. For the majority of records there is a bibliographic citation only, however, there are about 150,000 text or abstract files associated with these two million data records.

The Public Legacy Library is a static data base, nothing new will be added to it. The documents in the Public Legacy Library are not filed in monthly or daily folders as in PARS. They may only be accessed by using ADAMS Find.

For further information, please contact the Public Document Room, at pdr@nrc.gov, or 800-397-4209.

Public Legacy Library FAQs

What is the Public Legacy Library?

The Public Legacy Library contains citations for documents released prior to November 1, 1999. While there are a limited number of full-text records or abstracts in the Public Legacy Library, the majority of the records are bibliographic citations only. For users familiar with the Public Document Room's Bibliographic Retrieval System (BRS), these records were migrated to create the Public Legacy Library.

How do I access the Public Legacy Library?

The Public Legacy Library is an option on the ADAMS Document Manager screen. You can select either the Public Legacy Library or the Publicly Available Records System (PARS). You will log on to ADAMS the same way that you do to use PARS.

Access to the Public Legacy Library requires installing a Citrix client plug-in. For information on installing Citrix see the ADAMS information on the NRC public website in the Electronic Reading Room.

Do I need a password to use the Public Legacy Library?

No. Just log in with the username "guest" and do not enter a password.

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What types of documents are in the Public Legacy Library?

The Public Legacy Library includes bibliographic citations to regulatory and technical documents and reports issued by NRC, NRC contractors or licensees. Documents include those specific to licensed facilities (such as nuclear power plants, medical or industrial licensees), and generic records (such as NUREG-series reports, NRC Information Notices, or regulatory guides), as well as Commission correspondence. The publicly available documents released prior to November 1, 1999, are in the Public Legacy Library.

Are documents in the Public Legacy Library available on-line in full-text?

There are a limited number of documents that are full-text or have an abstract in the Public Legacy Library, however the majority of records are bibliographic citations only. The text documents open in Notepad. They can be printed or saved to a local drive.

How do I get copies of documents that I find in Public Legacy Library?

Copies of documents can be ordered from the PDR copy service for a fee. Patrons in the area can visit the PDR and view or copy documents from microfiche on coin-operated microfiche reader printers available in the PDR.

Can I order documents on-line from the Public Legacy Library?

Yes. The procedures for placing an on-line order for copies of documents found in the Public Legacy Library are the same as the procedures for placing an on-line order for documents found in PARS.

How do I determine the microfiche address of a document in Public Legacy Library?

When you try to open a document in a results list following a search, you will see a notice indicating that the document does not have text on-line. The notice instructs you to view the Profile Property called Microform Addresses to determine the microfiche address of the document. Right click on the title of the document and select Properties from the drop down list. Select the Profiles tab on the Properties screen and scroll down to the Microform Addresses field.

Can I search the Public Legacy Library and PARS at the same time?

No. You will have to select one library or the other. Both libraries cannot be searched at the same time. Also, given the variances in the profiling methods used in the two libraries, you will probably need to construct searches with different criteria for each library.

I know how to search BRS, how do I do those searches in the Public Legacy Library?

There is a guide to the Public Legacy Library for BRS users to help you with searches. The guide is in a folder on the ADAMS Document Manager - Publicly Available Records System - ADAMS Help and Tips - ADAMS Help.

The ADAMS Public Libraries Users' Guide also has information on using the Public Legacy Library.

How do I save a document hit list?

You can create a report in the Public Legacy Library the same way that you do in PARS. Highlight the records that you want in the list and right click on one of the highlighted titles. Select "Create Report" from the drop down menu and select the report format that you want. You can print the report or save it to a local A or C drive (A\$ on Client (A), or C\$ on Client (C)).

Can I view monthly and daily folders in the Public Legacy Library the way I can in PARS?

No, the Public Legacy Library is a "static" data base, nothing new will be added to it. The documents in the Public Legacy Library are not filed in monthly and daily folders as in PARS. They may only be accessed using ADAMS Find.

How do I get help using the Public Legacy Library?

Please contact the PDR reference librarians. The direct reference number to the PDR is: 301-415-4737, or toll-free at 1-800-397-4209. You can email questions to the PDR staff at pdr@nrc.gov. The fax number is 301-415-3548. If you would like to schedule a training session on using the Public Legacy Library, or ADAMS in general, contact the PDR staff.