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# Metadata Initiatives at the GPO

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U.S. Government Printing Office

Before the CENDI Managers Group Meeting  
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# Statutory Mandate for Cataloging/Indexing

- U.S. Code, Title 44, Public Printing and Documents directs the Superintendent of Documents to:
  - Publish a comprehensive index of Congressional and public documents from each executive department, independent agency and establishment of the Government (§1710)
  - Produce a “monthly catalog” of Government publications (§1711)
- Statute dates from 1895
- Statute positions GPO as the national cataloging authority for U.S. Government publications



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# Addressing Today's Metadata Challenges

GPO is:

- Employing flexible cataloging treatment options
- Exploring and experimenting with new methods of metadata creation
- Keeping abreast of developing cataloging and metadata standards
- Planning beyond the bibliographic record



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## Context of GPO's Bibliographic Control Practices

- Anglo-American Cataloging Rules – content standard used from its inception through its iterations to 2002 amendments to the rev. 2nd ed.
- MARC 21 Specifications for Record Structure, Character Sets, and Exchange Media - structural format used since its inception prior to format integration that characterizes MARC 21
- OCLC/WorldCat – Charter member, 1976 –
- Participant in LC's Program for Cooperative Cataloging – all branches – BIBCO, CONSER, NACO, & SACO



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# Bibliographic Record Treatments Employed

- Abridged records
- Brief records
- Full-level records



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Search the CGP

BASIC

ADVANCED

EXPERT

BROWSE

NEW TITLES

HELP

ABOUT



CATALOG OF U.S.  
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

**Welcome** to the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP)! The CGP is the finding tool for federal publications that includes descriptive records for historical and current publications and provides direct links to those that are available online. Users can search by authoring agency, title, subject, and general key word, or click on "Advanced Search" for more options.

The catalog offers you the option to find a nearby [Federal Depository Library](#) that has a particular publication or that can provide expert assistance in finding and using related U.S. government information. Click on the title of interest from your search results list. Then click on the Locate in a Library link within the displayed record.

[Preferences](#) - [Advanced Search](#)

Example: wildlife "environmental impact statement" NOT draft

Keyword(s) ▼

Go

Clear

[Help](#) - [About](#)

<http://catalog.gpo.gov>

Includes records:

- From 1976 –
- For publications of the 3 branches of government
- With links to the online full text



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# Shelf List Conversion Project

A 1.2:	
Sp 3 <sup>9</sup>	V.9. Chemical Division, bulletins nos. 1-4. (See also A 7.3:) Entomology Division, bulletins 3-5.

S 1.2:  
Greenland, Resources of Iceland and; by Robert John Walker and Benjamin Mills Peirce. 1868

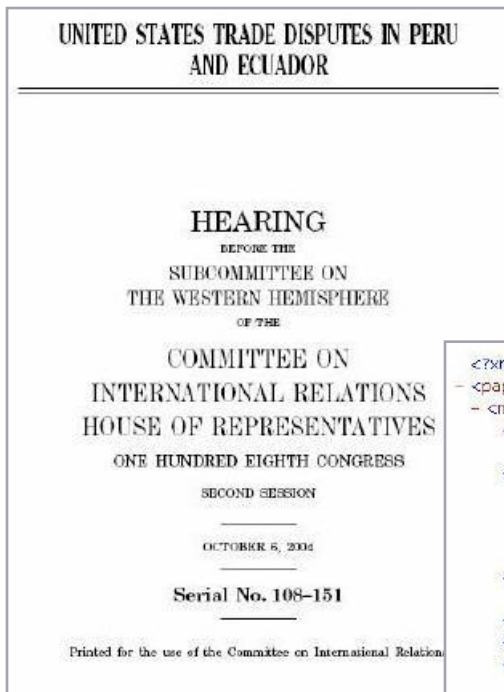
S 1.2: Omitted from Ckl.  
B9777 British North American provinces. Memorandum on commercial relations, past and present of British North American provinces with United States. M'Gill & Witherow, printers, Washington, D. C. [Apr. 27, 1874]. 32 p.  
[This is addressed to the Secretary of State by the joint plenipotentiaries of Her Britannic Majesty, and while it has not been proven to be a Government publication, will give it the benefit of the doubt and kept in Library.]

- Transcription service contract awarded to Progressive Technology Federal Systems
- 6000,000+ records dating from late 1860s
- Initial phase – 100,000 cards
- Scanned pre-1976 records will be the basis for brief MARC records
- Records will be loaded into the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP)



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# Automated Metadata Extraction Project



## Project goal:

Determine the feasibility of creating cataloging records by using automated metadata extraction software, tools, and processes developed by Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC) in collaboration with Old Dominion University (ODU)

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# Feasibility Study & Exploratory Prototyping

- Two-year project
- Based on two sets of randomly selected publications
  - 1000 Web-harvested
  - 1000 monographs from GPO's collection
- GPO provided metadata requirements to ODU
- ODU is using a template-based approach
- Testing and Evaluation Plan being modified based on initial review of extracted metadata records
- Demonstration planned for this summer



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## GPO's Systems and Metadata

- Integrated library system (ILS) will store
  - Bibliographic metadata
- Federal Digital System (FDsys) will store
  - Technical metadata
  - Preservation metadata
- ILS and FDsys will exchange metadata
- Record exchange possibilities
  - Z 39.50 Gateway
  - Complete metadata packages



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# Questions or Comments?

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