

Women's Health Victoria

Inmagic® DB/Text® *Library Suite* in action: Web-based health advocacy and information for women

BUSINESS PROFILE

Industry

Health/Nonprofit

Geographics

Based in Melbourne, serving all of Victoria, Australia

Organizational Initiatives

Socializing and expanding libraries and collections

Inmagic Solution

Inmagic *Library Suite*

Benefits

- Opened up opportunities for storing, classifying, sorting and retrieving information that were previously more complex and difficult
- "Beautiful, customized screens with a professional, friendly look"
- Easier for users to locate the latest content
- The Resource Centre can provide two disparate user communities with relevant information under the one *Library Suite* umbrella.
- Borrowing of items from the collection has quadrupled since *Library Suite* and its built-in InfoCart feature made it easy to find and request items online.

Women's Health Victoria (WHV) is an independent women's health promotion organization run by women for women across the state of Victoria, Australia. Using a social model of health from a feminist perspective, Women's Health Victoria works to raise awareness of gender issues in health and to promote the development of gendered health policy at the governmental level.

Women's Health Information Clearinghouse

The core of the organization's work is the Women's Health Information Clearinghouse, a diverse collection of information and resources, including books, electronic resources, submissions, catalogued articles and information packages.

Women's Health Victoria's "community of interest" includes individuals and organizations who work in areas that influence health outcomes, such as health service and health information providers, policy and opinion leaders, researchers and educators.

Inmagic® DB/Text *Library Suite* (formerly known as Inmagic *Genie*) was the obvious choice for Elaine Cope, WHV's Information Services Manager, when she chose a Web-based solution for the Clearinghouse. *Library Suite* enabled Elaine and her colleagues to maintain their longstanding commitment to user-friendly, flexible Inmagic software. It offered them the cataloging and lending functionality they were looking for, along with the ability to manage multiple copies across multiple collections. What's more, "*Library Suite* gives us beautiful, customized screens with a professional, friendly look," says Elaine.



Women's Health Victoria

knowledge into action

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Elaine Cope
Information Services Manager
Womens' Health Victoria

Inmagic Library Suite: Immediate Results!

Elaine and her colleague Suellen Gosstray have been more than pleased with the immediate results of moving to *Library Suite*. Borrowing of items from the Clearinghouse's resource collection has quadrupled since *Library Suite* and its built-in InfoCart feature made it easy to find and request items online. Even internal procedures have been streamlined as a result of the move to *Library Suite*. Serials are now managed online rather than using the old, manual methods; a new classification system has been instituted and hardcopy items are housed in a way that makes it easy to locate them; and multiple copies of items are handled seamlessly. "Now we can manage our collection much better!" says Suellen.

Abstracts are progressively being added to *Library Suite* catalogue records, providing vastly enhanced search capabilities. The next stage will be the addition of full-text documents and links to electronic information resources (mostly PDF files), providing instant access to up-to-the-minute, highly relevant content.

Breast Cancer Resources

BreaCan is a service of Women's Health Victoria that provides free and confidential information, support and referral to women (and men) with breast cancer, their partners, family and friends outside the medical setting. BreaCan's Resource Centre is unique. Located separately from Women's Health Victoria, BreaCan provides a safe and welcoming place where people can browse and borrow information from a library of books, articles, CDs, and pamphlets; seek support; attend information sessions; share personal experiences; or simply have a cup of tea and a chat.

The Resource Centre is staffed by trained volunteers who have either personally experienced breast cancer, or cared for someone who has. Supported by Women's Health Victoria's Clearinghouse, the Resource Centre offers comprehensive access to the latest and most reliable consumer-focused information resources about breast cancer. Soon BreaCan will be extending its collection and services to offer information and support to those affected by gynecological cancers as well.

The BreaCan information resource collection has been included in the Clearinghouse's *Library Suite* catalogue. Because *Library Suite*'s screens lend themselves so readily to customization, Elaine has designed them so that BreaCan users can choose to retrieve resources that are located only at the BreaCan Resource Centre.

The beauty of *Library Suite* is that Women's Health Victoria has been able to provide two quite disparate user communities with relevant information under the one *Library Suite* umbrella.

"Canned Searches" for Hot Topics

Elaine and her colleagues are starting to implement *Web Publisher Pro* "canned searches" to make it easy for users of the Clearinghouse to find the very latest content relating to crucial health issues such as breast cancer, mental health, and violence against women.

Some of these canned searches will appear on the Clearinghouse web screens, enabling users to see resources on specific topics with a single click. Other canned searches will

appear in the "Clearinghouse Connector," a great new email bulletin of health information resources. Each edition of Connector is devoted to a specific topic and contains, amongst other things, hot links to *Library Suite* canned searches that allow readers to view very specific content.

Making a Difference

Inmagic *Library Suite* is making a difference to the management of resources in a specific yet very diverse collection at Women's Health Victoria. While previous Inmagic products have offered the combination of flexibility and functionality that ensure their usefulness, *Library Suite* has expanded the information management capacity of the Inmagic suite and Clearinghouse staff are starting to exploit the possibilities for collection management.

For Women's Health Victoria's Clearinghouse, *Library Suite* has enabled the staff to work wonders. "Applying *Library Suite*'s brand of database magic to everyday management of resources has opened up opportunities for storing, classifying, sorting and retrieving information that were previously more complex and difficult," says Elaine.

Inmagic software and related consulting services were provided to Women's Health Victoria by Inmagic Partner Maxus Australia.

About Maxus

Maxus Australia provides information management software and consulting services to a wide range of organizations across Australia, in the SE Asian region and elsewhere. Maxus is a distributor of *Library Suite* in Australia. (www.maxus.net.au)

For more information on Inmagic® DB/Text® Library Suite:

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