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Sero Consulting Ltd  
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## **JISC & SCONUL commission evaluation & horizon scan of HE library management systems & the related systems landscape**

**August 2007**

The evaluation and horizon scan of library management and related systems will cover Higher Education Institutions across the four UK nations. This study has been jointly commissioned by JISC and SCONUL from Sero Consulting, partnering with Ken Chad Consulting and Glenaffric, drawing on a highly experienced multi-disciplinary team.

As well as evaluating the current market and identifying key trends, the report due January 2008 will make recommendations on how academic libraries can achieve best value from Library Management Systems and other significant applications, taking in to account the JISC Information Environment and the international e-Framework for education and research.

JISC is working towards an online Information Environment that supports secure and convenient access to resources to benefit learning, teaching and research. This will involve deep and seamless integration of services and resources within the personal, institutional, national and global landscape.

As David Kay, Lead Consultant at Sero, points out, 'it is essential that library systems should interoperate with external services provided by JISC or others in the wider world, such as Google, as well as with internal services provided by the host institutions, such as Virtual Learning Environments. This raises a range of questions regarding the role, nature and value of library systems.'

'This project is timely', says Ken Chad. 'There is a wave of change in the systems market with many LMS vendors changing ownership in the last two years. The rapid development of web based technologies is changing requirements for library based systems in terms of the learner and the institution.'



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National and University  
Libraries

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*catalyst for change*

## About

**The project website is at [www.sero.co.uk/jisc-lms.html](http://www.sero.co.uk/jisc-lms.html)**

Sero Consulting Ltd specialises in the exploitation of ICT and digital technologies in education and training, from the viewpoints of infrastructure, systems, delivery, management and skills.

[www.sero.co.uk](http://www.sero.co.uk)

Ken Chad Consulting Ltd works with organisations such as government, local authorities, universities, colleges and schools to help leverage technology to realise the full potential of their library and information function.

[www.kenchadconsulting.com](http://www.kenchadconsulting.com)

Glenaffric Ltd is an independent consultancy and specialises in the evaluation of e-learning and ICT-related programmes in HE and FE

[www.glenaffric.com](http://www.glenaffric.com)

JISC is the Joint Information Systems Committee for UK Higher Education. The JISC mission is to provide world-class leadership in the innovative use of Information and Communications Technology to support education and research.

[www.jisc.ac.uk](http://www.jisc.ac.uk)

SCONUL, the Society of College, National & University Libraries, promotes excellence in library services in higher education and national libraries across the UK and Ireland. All universities in the United Kingdom and Ireland are SCONUL members.

[www.sconul.ac.uk](http://www.sconul.ac.uk)

JISC Information Environment (IE) sits within both the global e-Framework initiative and the JISC e-Infrastructure programme. JISC Integrated Information Environment committee is responsible for ensuring the continued development of an online information environment to provide secure and convenient access to a comprehensive collection of scholarly and educational material, building on existing partnerships and forging new ones to contribute to a vision of a single, world-wide information environment

[www.jisc.ac.uk/ie/](http://www.jisc.ac.uk/ie/)