

Packet-switching pioneers: the early years of electronic document request transmission at the British Library

Gavin Holman, 26 January 1995

How the British Library transitioned from postal requests for document loans and photocopies, to the early use of the internet via email. Often at the cutting edge of current technology, passing through telex and paper tape, 300 baud direct dial connections, PSS packet switching and more.

Unfortunately, my only copy of this 21-page article, and its supporting documentation, was lost in a house fire in 2008.

A brief description of the work and technologies involved in this can be found in my paper:

Automation at the British Library Document Supply Centre v. 5

which is available from <https://gavinholman.academia.edu>