



**APPLICATION OF MOBILE TECHNOLOGIES IN
LIBRARY SERVICES**



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ABSTRACT

This study has been undertaken to know about the application of mobile technology in library services. Mobile technology can be used for several applications. Library service through mobile technology is the current modern trend of library service. Mobile technology and its development have generated excitement among faculty and student fraternity. It has changed academic environment from traditional setting to modern learning setting. This paper also examines type of infrastructure required by the libraries to provide such services.

KEYWORD

Mobile application, Services, Mobile Technology

RESEARCH PAPER

Introduction : Libraries are changing day by day with the age of information technology. This modern trend in ICT era has led to modern way of service through mobile. In India, huge number of users is using internet through mobile. In this scenario, the mobile phones are playing a vital role in information communication. Interaction with the User Community can be achieved due to the advancement in mobile-technology. Application of mobile technology results in a new trend. “Libraries in Hand” mobile technology will be of great enhanced user oriented services to existing users.

Mobile technology has made communication and information access more convenient and timely to users which comes up with libraries in hand trend. Now smart phones are more and more affordable and are performing many functions of computers and replacing computers with smart phone apps. A Smartphone is a mobile phone that performs many of the functions of a computer typically having a touch screen interface, internet access and an operating system capable of running downloaded apps.

Mobile Technology and Library services through mobile technology can be provided through various types.

Information Alert service: Library can provide the alert on latest news to us and notices via SMS and MMS to users wherever required. The users can get notified instantly with notice alerts such as alerts on bringing new book to the notice of users for suggestion.

E-Resources with mobile interfaces: E-Resources through mobile interfaces offers access to a variety of databases and digital resources such as e-book, e-journal, web databases, dissertations and audio books, streaming music, films, image and article databases which can be used on mobile. These collections can either be downloaded from the library website on users own mobile devices or libraries that lend mobile devices with the collection already available with them. A large number collection of audio books both free and subscription based services are available for download and also transferable with no mobile device. Libraries can make use of multimedia messaging services (MMS) on mobile devices to share photos, videos and audio. Most of the low book publishers provide 24x7 accesses to the library subscription from any

internet terminal within the campus as well on mobile devices such as I-pad, Android devices and kindle.

Ask the Librarian Services :

Library receives a high volume of enquires which requires brief report, such as dictionary definitions, facts or service information. Then a librarian or staff deputed can provide instant answers and links to articles/ references in real time.

The users can tell any query with librarian or staff. Such services can be provided through SMS, email or text which is easily accessible through mobile.

Library Guide:

Libraries can give users the best of Library guide information such as library user guide, question answering services, library-statistics, rich content in a way that works best for the users.

Online Documents Delivery Services:

The mobile environment and technology at present, opportunities for sending document requests and scanned images and monitoring the use of collections as well as the automation of administrative operations, it can support electronic Fund transfers supply chain management, e-marketing online marketing and online transaction processing, electronic data interchange and automated inventory management system.

Application of Mobile Technology in Library

Swipe :

It is a wonderful web tool for creating interactive presentation. Some of the features it provides to its user are drag and drop to upload, add web content, share a link and present live to any audience.

Chegg flashcards:

This app allows you to create Flash Cards easily for any subject using four mobile devices. You can even add picture to your Flashcards. This app also provides access to pre mode sets of card from the app quizlet. It attends you to track your progress as you quiz yourself.

Notability :

Notability is a powerful note-taker on i-pod and iphone to sketch idea, annotate document, sign contract, complete worksheet, keep a journal and record a lecture. These notes can be accessed anywhere with cloud support.

Evernote

Evernote provides an easy way to document information in the class room and creates a project to do list. A note can be anything you want it to be. And once you make a note, it's accessible wherever you go, forever it captures a note once and it's instantly available on all your devices. Never worry about where you saved something because it's in Evernote and Evernote is wherever you are, share what matters with the people who matter to you. Capture life's little moments and Share them from wherever you happen to be, or share big ideas by collaborating seamlessly with coworkers in a group notebook.

Whatsapp

Whatsapp is the most popular Smartphone messenger app which enables you to send messages to the person connected. But for these, both have to need smart phones with internet connection. Whatsapp provides personalized service which helps the library professionals to interact with users who cannot use library physically.

Instant Messaging services

I.M. is a form of real time communication between two or more peoples based on typed communication. Libraries are using IM for real time chat reference service which enhances the image of libraries in a virtual environment. The nature of I. M. application is changing into more multimedia experience where audio and video is used.

Messaging is becoming more :

Common most of the Library automation Software such as Libsys provides option to send SMS alerts. Libraries might use SMS services in the following domains.

To send SMS to collect the requested books, reminder reminding the user it, book is due in his / her account; information user about the exact fine.

Wi-Fi Internet Access :

Mobile phone especially Smartphone, without internet has no meaning. Mobile phones are available with wi-fi facility. In this context, library can make the provision of Wi-Fi facility in the library to access online information sources subscribed by the library.

Catalogue search :

Libraries can provide their catalogue on the mobile devices. The emergence of new term m-OPAC is the result of application of mobile technology in library to search the library collection.

Future potentials of mobile application in the libraries :

More and more changes are expected within four to five years in the field of mobile technology and its application to the libraries. The day is not far when we will use phone to read barcodes or RIIDS in the library and OPACS will develop GIS sensitivity.

Conclusion :

There is a growing influence of mobile technology in libraries especially as network has become affordable, convent mobile applications have largely been accepted in teaching, research and learning. Revolution in mobile devices is changing the way information delivered and accessed. An increasing number of libraries provide services and content delivery of mobile devices. Libraries have the opportunity to extend new types of services to users of mobile devices and develop, license or otherwise make available scholarly content that is configured for mobile devices. Ideally libraries will become part of an institutional planning process for the development of services for mobile devices.

