

# LexisNexis U.S. Serial Set Digital Collection

## *Description*

- a. The U.S. Serial Set, an ongoing collection of U.S. Government publications compiled under the directive of Congress, captures every aspect of American life from the early 19th century onward, from farming, to westward expansion, scientific exploration, politics, international relations, business, and manufacturing. It includes Congressional reports and documents as well as executive agency and departmental reports ordered to be printed by Congress.
- b. The U.S. Serial Set, an ongoing collection of U.S. Government publications compiled under the directive of Congress, captures every aspect of American life from the early 19th century onward, from farming, to westward expansion, scientific exploration, politics, international relations, business, and manufacturing. It includes Congressional reports and documents as well as executive agency and departmental reports ordered to be printed by Congress.
- c. Of greater importance to those who study law, the Serial Set contains legislative reports of Congress and, thus, provides unrivaled insight into the legislative intent of laws enacted by Congress before 1969. Few, if any, research collections compare to the Serial Set in size, time span, subject variety, source authority and diversity, or relevance to modern studies of yesterday's activities and attitudes.
- d. LexisNexis has launched an ambitious digitization project, which capitalizes on the existing CIS U.S. Serial Set on Microfiche and CIS U.S. Serial Set Index to provide:
  - i. Web-based full text access to all the material located in the CIS U.S. Serial Set collection on microfiche.
  - ii. Over 325,000 documents totaling approximately 11 million pages.
  - iii. Coverage from 1789-1969, including the American State Papers, and all maps, illustrations, photos, and lithographs found within the U.S. Serial Set during that time period
- e. LexisNexis® plans to digitize the entire collection (1789-1969) within two years, with the first release appearing in December 2003. Monthly updates will be provided until the entire collection is online. Target completion date: December 2005.

## *Features*

- a. For the first time ever, users will be able to execute full-text searches across the entire collection of the U.S. Serial Set (through 1969) to discover previously inaccessible documents. Searches will run against OCR generated ASCII text; each result will consist of metadata describing the retrieved document and a pdf image.

- b. Using Adobe Acrobat, users can easily print selected pages or the entire document at one time. “Smart pdfs” will enable users to perform keyword searches within each pdf to locate the exact page(s) search terms occur within a document.
- c. In addition to performing full-text searches, users will be able to search the collection by:
  - i. Title of document (both CIS descriptive title as well as title on title page)
  - ii. Document type (e.g. annual reports, hearings, or private relief actions)
  - iii. Statutes at Large citation, bill number, or public law number
  - iv. Subject terms
  - v. Keyword indexing to illustrations and statistical tables
  - vi. Corporate (committee, president or agency) or personal authors
  - vii. Petitioners or witnesses
  - viii. Document/report number
  - ix. Serial volume number
  - x. SuDoc number
- d. Institutions that purchase the Serial Set will receive access through LexisNexis® Congressional. Standalone subscriptions are available for institutions that do not subscribe to LexisNexis Congressional. To facilitate even broader access, the collection will be compliant with federated search software by the time it is completed.