Chapter 2
Cutting Edge: Technology’s Impact on Library Services

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ABSTRACT

Libraries and librarians are constructing a better world by experimenting with the latest technology for their patrons. As technologies evolve from time to time, new tools have been discovered to provide optimal services in minimal time. In developed countries like USA, UK, and Germany, the libraries are adopting new technologies for learning, research, and information to give the patron the best possible services. Librarians are struggling more to implement these cutting-edge technologies for learning, research, and information for their users.
INTRODUCTION

According to Technopedia Technology Website Cutting-edge technology refers to technological devices” techniques or achievements that employ the most current and high-level IT developments; in other words, technology at the frontiers of knowledge. Leading and innovative IT industry organizations are often referred to as “cutting edge.” The cutting edge is also known as leading-edge technology or state-of-the-art technology”.

The basic aim of Libraries is to achieve the goal of acquiring, storing, preserving and organizing the information and distribute them in large scale. An era of Information technology many new features and devices have been implemented to impart the best possible services to the end users, forging closer work relations with other department, libraries in the modern era have hugged many technologies which bring users more closer to the services being offered by the libraries. For example, access to full-text journal databases impacts on the acquisition of serials while reference and inter library loan departments use full-text databases to bring the information and client together in a timelier manner.

The libraries of the current era are facing many challenges, as research and services are reshaping, and needs of researchers are increasing, people don’t have time to visit the libraries and get the desired material of their choices without wasting time. The cutting-edge technology has brought revolution in all walk of lifestyle. Similarly, libraries have also hugged this kind of technologies for the best possible services. To offer quick and quality services information to its users, the libraries are becoming trend-setter in the age of digitization, the world has become a global village and information in one corner of the world is quickly spreading in the other corner in no time.

The libraries in global age have adopted new technologies which work for the betterment of its users. The innovative styles in academic libraries are attracting more users in the cutting edge era. The last few years are considered to be the most glorious period of cutting-edge technologies. Many trades have highly been affected by these technologies. The libraries across the globe are striving to overcome these technological changes. For this purpose, they are experimenting numerous technologies in order to give an access to the material available in their library.

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SOME POPULAR CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGIES

There are numerous technologies being adopted by librarians in their library services in order to satisfy the needs of their present and prospective members, some popular cutting-edge technologies are mentioned here: