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Knowledge Management and Collaboration in Space Activities (2)

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THE DIGITAL LIBRARY AS THE KNOWLEDGE INFRASTRUCTURE IN JAXA

Abstract

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) has been conducting various kinds of 'Knowledge Management (KM)' activities widely among the agency depending on its expertise to support space mission assurance and effective enterprise implementation. One of the symbolic systems which constitute our KM activities is the Reliability Information System; developed and maintained by JAXA's Safety and Mission Assurance Office, which systematically gather and share non-conformance reports regarding spacecrafts under development and those in operation, as well as related ground facilities. One of the other systems; developed and maintained by JAXA's Systems Engineering Office (SEO), is the Know-Who Database, a personnel search directory of whole JAXA's expertise, and the Lessons, Intelligence and Knowledge Sharing system (LINKS) which is a database accessible through internal website for capturing and sharing the knowledge and experiences out of project managers and related core members. Meanwhile, JAXA Information Systems Department (ISD) has collected, accumulated, and catalogued over 40 years' of technical documents into Digital document ARChiving system (DARC) since the foundation of former agency. In addition, ISD maintains other databases such as JAXA's online public access catalog (opac) and Aerospace Information Reports and EXchange system (AIREX), and websites 'JAXA Web-portal' for information and knowledge sharing within JAXA. All these databases and documentation schemes are proven highly valuable especially among ongoing project engineers; however, insufficient linkages between these individually maintained systems often leads to time consuming process when gathering necessary information. In order to improve information accessibility, ISD has provided Cross-Search System (CSS) which also serves as an entry point for reference services in our 'Digital Library'. This paper describes an overview and a future plan of JAXA's 'Digital Library' as the infrastructure in KM activities.