Bowker Teams with Digi-Rights® to Connect Publishers with Rights and Permissions Support

MyIdentifiers by Bowker® now includes links to automated rights technologies

Bloomfield Hills, MI – Digi-EXPress, LLC, a leading provider of Global Automated Rights Solutions, announced today that ProQuest affiliate Bowker® is expanding the range of services available to users of MyIdentifiers.com by including a link to Digi-Rights® Direct, a patented suite of automated rights solutions and services for authors and publishers.

This cloud-based service is designed to enable users to optimize their rights so that revenues are maximized and risks from copyright liability issues are minimized. The link to Digi-Rights Direct is part of Bowker's larger program to identify high-quality providers of key services for authors and small publishers, connecting them through MyIdentifiers.com.

"Rights and permissions can be very confusing for any publisher and finding a quality resource to help navigate those waters can be a real challenge," said Beat Barblan, Director of Identifier Services at Bowker. "We're impressed by Digi-Rights' straightforward approach and we're delighted to include them among the services to which we connect our authors and publishers."

The goal of Digi-Rights® Direct is to help authors and publishers achieve effective rights control, providing them with oversight of the rights process, helping them manage budgets, enabling copyright compliance and optimizing rights values. A key component of the offering is a self-administered "Rights Assessment" app that helps publishers identify what rights the author has or may need to obtain from third party licenses and then, develop an action plan to mitigate copyright issues.

"Users of MyIdentifiers.com will now have quick access to a service that can allow them to simply, effectively and efficiently clear and exploit the full range of rights and permissions issues and opportunities they possess for their content," said Dick Stahl, Managing Director of Digi-Rights. "This is an application that is useful not only to small and independent presses, but to larger publishers, too -- especially those who require their authors to clear their own rights and permissions."

MyIdentifiers.com, part of Bowker® Identifier Services, provides authors and publishers with the products and services that allow their books to be discovered. As the United States' official ISBN Agency customer service interface, it is the first stop in publishing and selling books and now includes a growing range of tools to help expand the audiences for authors' works.

For more information, contact:

Beth Dempsey, for Bowker
+1 248.349.7810 or beth.dempsey@proquest.com

Stacey Mancuso, Media Relations for Digi-Rights
+1 720-810-1836 or Stacey.mancuso@digi-rights.com

Robert Kasher, Rights Industry Consultant for Digi-Rights
+1 971 227 5825 or rkasher@iviago.com

About Bowker® (www.bowker.com)

Bowker is the world's leading provider of bibliographic information and management solutions designed to help publishers, booksellers, and libraries better serve their customers. Creators of products and services that make books easier for people to discover, evaluate, order, and experience, the company also generates research and resources for publishers, helping them understand and meet the interests of readers worldwide. Bowker, a ProQuest affiliate, is the official ISBN Agency for the United States and its territories. The company is headquartered in New Providence, New Jersey, with additional operations in England and Australia.

About Digi-EXPress® (www.digi-express.com)

Digi-EXPress, LLC. is a global provider of consulting, systems development, and rights management services and technology to the publishing industry. The company's technology is used to process hundreds of thousands of licensing transactions by leading publishers through its Digi-EXPress® Rights Management System… a patented suite of cloud-based software technologies and 'best-practice' processes that deliver automated rights clearance and permissions processing, digital asset relational database, and 'real-time' management oversight for team collaboration. (http://www.digi-express.com).

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About Digi-EXPress® and its Technology and Resource Partners

The company provides patented Global Automated Rights Technologies and Professional Outsourcing Services to meet the needs of traditional global publishers in Rights & Permissions, self-publishers and small presses.

The patent enhances Digi's Intellectual Property Rights portfolio and suite of automated software products and professional services including:

- **Digi-EXPress® Rights Management System** – a 'cloud-based' Automated Global Rights Management System. This *patented* app enables users to collaborate on projects, research, acquire rights and manage rights… anytime, anywhere using a PC or Mac. Enterprise versions enable seamless integration with the company's back-office accounting and fulfillment systems.

- **Digi-Rights® Rights Assessment** – a new service being launched at Book Expo America 2013 with affiliate partners – provides a Self-Directed Rights Assessment Tool for Authors, Editors and Researchers to assess whether their creative work conforms to Generally Accepted Practices for Rights Compliance. The automated assessment tool is accessible from an iPad, Tablet or PC to analyze manuscripts and content for copyright compliance and potential risks; and create a customized action plan to mitigate potential liability risks.

- **Digi-Rights® Self-Clear Permissions** – a new service being launched at Book Expo America 2013 with affiliate partners – delivers an easy to use cloud-based Permissions System for Authors, Editors, Researchers and Rights Staff to automate clearing rights and acquiring permissions in a consistent and uniform process for each 'component' of content. The tool captures usage rights in a uniform Digital Rights Definition Language

to enable self-publishers, small presses and traditional publishers to gain oversight and control over print and digital rights and restrictions cleared by authors and independent subcontractors. The information is tracked in a cloud-based relational database – allowing real-time reporting 24/7.

- **Digi-Rights® / Firstsource® Pro-Clear Permissions Resource Center** – a first for the self-publishing industry! This new service provides Authors, Editors, Researchers and Publishers a fully staffed Rights Help Center – including Permissions Specialists to assist in Project Management, Research and Permissions Acquisition using the patented automated technology of Digi-EXPress®

Digi-EXPress software is now licensed by some of the world's leading publishers for internal use as their Rights and Contracts Management System.

Digi's parent company specializes in digital rights management and has a team of Certified Permissions Advisors with experience processing hundreds of thousands of rights transactions through its Digi-Rights® division – on behalf of some of the world's largest publishers.

Digi's alliance with Firstsource® Solutions provides a Rights & Permissions Resource Center staffed with Project Managers and Permissions Specialists to assist media and publishing clients who wish to Outsource Rights & Permissions functions. Its staff of 30,000 professionals in 51 centers enables local specialist support, training as well as both onshore and offshore outsourcing.

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Digi-EXPress, LLC.
6632 Telegraph Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301

Phone +1 248-636-4117
FAX +1 248-671-0347
Email: media@digi-express.com

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Press Information ► www.digi-express.com