Elsevier Launches Digi-EXPress®
Third-Party Permissions Database
with Firstsource®

Elsevier announces the rollout of Digi-EXPress®, a patented cloud-based workflow solution for the acquisition and management of third-party permissions

Bloomfield Hills, MI – Elsevier, a world-leading provider of scientific, technical and medical information products and services, has announced it has partnered with Firstsource Solutions to implement **Digi-EXPress**®, a patented cloud-based automated workflow solution and rights management system, for the processing, tracking, and management of all permission grant information from third-party rightsholders relating to Elsevier book products.

The Digi-EXPress® permissions database is a Software as a Service (SaaS) solution that will serve as Elsevier's central repository for all third-party permission information, including details of the Elsevier book product, the rightsholder's product, the specific material for which permission has been granted, any applicable restrictions to the permission grant, and any applicable permission fees, among other data.

"We partner with experts around the globe to develop world-class content, delivering it in multiple media formats," said Linda Belfus, Senior Vice President & General Manager of Content at Elsevier.

"As more of our products migrate from print to digital formats, ensuring rights compliance for all content is a top management priority, and Digi-EXPress Rights Management System is proving to be a valuable tool to support our compliance and 'due-diligence' efforts." said Mark Seeley, Senior Vice President and General Counsel at Elsevier.

"By deploying Digi-EXPress®, Elsevier is able to enhance visibility and management oversight of the global rights we license and own, and to automate and optimize many of our rights management functions," said Natalie Qureshi, Global Permissions Manager at Elsevier.

The Digi-EXPress® permissions database will help Elsevier improve time-to-publication and production workflow by reducing delays caused by incomplete or outstanding permissions. User dashboards will display each user's active projects upon log-in along with the current status of each project, flagging any priority items that require follow-up such as a high permission fee, no response from a rightsholder, or a permission restriction or denial. Digi-EXPress® also provides automated data exchange capabilities allowing users to import Excel format permission logs provided by Editorial staff, authors, and freelancers and to export permissions data for reporting on restrictions, fees, total usage per project and per rightsholder, and overall performance. Elsevier's Copyrights Team has processed permissions for more than 100 total projects containing more than 15,000 total permission items via the database since its launch in May this year.

"We work closely with Elsevier's team to provide secure hosting and complete training and support packages, including context-sensitive online help screens, webinars, and global help desk support through the resources of Firstsource® to facilitate staff development and optimization of Digi-EXPress features," said Dick Stahl, Managing Director, Digi-EXPress LLC.

James Hill, Vice President, Publishing for Firstsource, added: "We look forward to working with Elsevier to make this a successful partnership. Our publishing capabilities focus on delivering the latest in technological advancements to help publishers comprehensively manage rights and permissions and mitigate legal risks."

For further information, please visit **www.digi-express.com**.

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About Elsevier

Elsevier is a world-leading provider of scientific, technical and medical information products and services. The company works in partnership with the global science and health communities to publish more than 2,000 journals, including *The Lancet* and *Cell*, and close to 20,000 book titles, including major reference works from Mosby and Saunders. Elsevier's online solutions include ScienceDirect, Scopus, SciVal, Reaxys, ClinicalKey and Mosby's Suite, which enhance the productivity of science and health professionals, helping research and health care institutions deliver better outcomes more cost-effectively.

A global business headquartered in Amsterdam, Elsevier employs 7,000 people worldwide. The company is part of Reed Elsevier Group plc, a world leading provider of professional information solutions. The group employs more than 30,000 people, including more than 15,000 in North America. Reed Elsevier Group plc is owned equally by two parent companies, Reed Elsevier PLC and Reed Elsevier NV. Their shares are traded on the London, Amsterdam and New York Stock Exchanges using the following ticker symbols: London: REL; Amsterdam: REN; New York: RUK and ENL.(**www.elsevier.com**)

About Digi-EXPress, LLC

Digi-EXPress, LLC is a global provider of consulting, systems automation and rights management services to the publishing industry. Digi-EXPress® is a patented suite of cloud-based software technologies and "best-practice" processes that deliver automated rights clearance and permissions processing, contracts and rights relational databases, enabling "real time" management oversight and team collaboration. The company's Digi-EXPress®platform has processed hundreds of thousands of licensing transactions by most of the world's leading publishers. With our partners Firstsource, Digi-EXPress offers a full suite of Rights and Permissions solutions and services including not only software but help desk and support outsourcing.(**www.digi-express.com**)

About Firstsource

Firstsource Solutions (NSE: FSL, BSE: 532809, Reuters: FISO.BO, Bloomberg: FSOL@IN) is a leading global provider of customized business process outsource services to the telecom & media, banking & financial services, insurance and healthcare industries as well as a certified service provider for Digi-EXPress. Its clients include Fortune 500, FTSE 100 & Nifty 50 companies. Firstsource has a "rightshore" delivery model with operations in US, UK, India, Ireland, Philippines and Sri Lanka.
(**www.firstsource.com/Publishing_Partnership_with_Digi-EXPress.html**)

Press Release

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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 launched this year 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 launched this year 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 Permissions Advisors who process 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 Resource Center staffed with Project Managers and Permissions Specialists to assist media and publishing clients worldwide. Its staff of 30,000 professionals in 51 centers enables local specialist support, training as well as both onshore and offshore outsourcing.