

SCIS technical note: cover images

Revised July 2011

Background

Education Services Australia has an agreement with Bowker which allows SCIS to retrieve and store Bowker book cover images for the purpose of supplying them to schools. Schools may use the book cover images within their library catalogues and on the school website, including in blogs, wikis, online newsletters and intranets. For full details see the [SCISWeb licence agreement](#).

Until July 2011 the SCIS online catalogue (SCIS OPAC) also displayed the images retrieved from Bowker and stored on the SCIS server. Images displayed in SCIS OPAC are now linked to Bowker's Syndetics service. Customers should not save images directly from SCIS OPAC but use SCISWeb Orders if they need to retrieve images.

Image format

Images may be in either gif, jpeg or png format. Originally images were supplied by Bowker in gif format, but from September 2008 they have been supplied in jpeg format. A small number of publishers may supply images in png format.

Image naming

The cover image is named with the ISBN of the corresponding book. The ISBN may be either a 10 or 13-digit ISBN. From 2007, most books are issued with 13-digit ISBNs.

Examples

076362781X.jpg
9780310711193.jpg
9781863666626.gif
9781863666558.png

Options for downloading images

SCISWeb Orders

<http://scis.curriculum.edu.au/scisweb/orders.php>

Schools may download a zip file of cover images when they place an order in SCISWeb. The link to the images.zip file appears whether or not it contains images. There is a limit of 1,000 images per file.

ORDERS TABLE <i>Note</i>				COVER IMAGES <i>Note</i>
DATE AND TIME	ORDER FILE	SCIS DATA	RESULTS	GET IMAGES
2011-01-11 17:09:31	Order file	usmarc.dat	results	images.zip
2011-01-10 12:01:04	Order file	usmarc.dat	results	images.zip
2011-01-05 10:09:44	Order file	usmarc.dat	results	images.zip
2011-01-05 10:08:57	Order file	usmarc.dat	results	images.zip

Automated retrieval

Vendors may choose to configure their library systems either to link dynamically to the images or to retrieve images for local storage. A valid SCIS username and password are required.

The path to a Bowker image is in the format:
<http://scis.curriculum.edu.au/images/getopacimage.php?isbn=>

Examples

<http://scis.curriculum.edu.au/images/getopacimage.php?isbn=1876973633>
<http://scis.curriculum.edu.au/images/getopacimage.php?isbn=9781863666558>

The 'getopacimage' request will retrieve a cover image if it matches on ISBN. If there is no matching image, a tiny blank image (null.gif, 809 bytes) is substituted.

Example of a null link:

<http://scis.curriculum.edu.au/images/getopacimage.php?isbn=187636792X>

More information

Contact SCIS Customer Service for further assistance.

Email scisinfo@esa.edu.au

Subscribe to the SCIS library system vendors mailing list. Details are available at http://www.esa.edu.au/scis/library_system_vendors.html