

Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design

Topic Alert Service



In brief

Customer request:

Supporting the research work of faculty members, researchers, and doctoral students by providing up-to-date information on and access to the scientific literature published in their fields of research.

Solution:

On a weekly basis, the implemented service recommends new, relevant volumes within the users' fields of research, selected from the upcoming books of hundreds of academic publishers.

What was the customer's need that we provided a solution for?

For users of university libraries—primarily faculty members, researchers, and doctoral students—it is essential **to have up-to-date information on the scientific literature published in their respective fields of research**. This information can be effectively provided by a current awareness service. Therefore, establishing and operating a current awareness service based on the broadest possible range of information is an important task for university libraries.

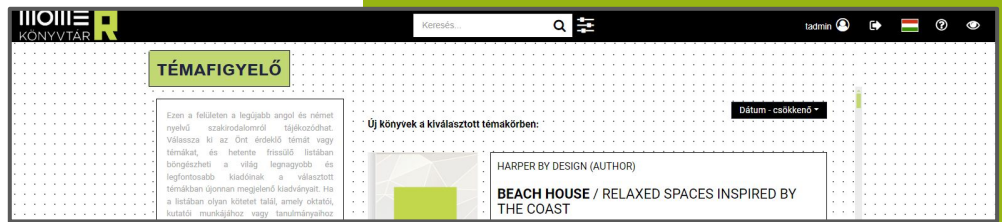
What is the solution?

Implemented as part of the Qulto OPAC/Discovery system, the current awareness service is built upon a similar service provided by the prospero.hu online bookstore. Based on the selected subject areas, **the service recommends 10 to 50 new volumes** weekly (depending on the number of selected topics) **from hundreds of academic publishers**—such as Routledge, Thames & Hudson, John Wiley & Sons, Bloomsbury Academic, Birkhäuser, Hatje Cantz, Springer

Nature, Transcript, Phaidon, Prestel, etc.—which publish hundreds of thousands of books annually. Users of the book recommendation service can choose their topics of interest from approximately 700 subject areas. In addition to the online interface, **users receive notifications about new releases in their selected topics via email once a week**.

How does this improve the service?

Thanks to this service, **library users are continuously informed on a weekly basis about new volumes from the world's most prominent foreign academic publishers**, with each user receiving a list of new releases **filtered to their specific field of research**. This allows the library to provide the university's faculty and researchers with up-to-date information on remarkable new literature, **which is essential for high-quality education and research**. If a library user finds a volume on the current awareness service's online interface or in the weekly newsletter that appears important for their research or teaching work, they can bring it to the attention of the library staff and **submit a purchase proposal** accompanied by a brief justification.



Future development opportunities, plans

Built upon the knowledge base of the prospero.hu online academic bookstore, the service focuses on international, primarily English-language literature. Consequently, the current awareness service does not cover Hungarian-language volumes or fiction at this time. To facilitate future enhancements, we are looking for additional collaborative partners to expand the service to include Hungarian-language publications and non-academic literature as well.

