M-Libraries

From Library Success: A Best Practices Wiki

Libraries offering mobile interfaces or applications

Mobile interfaces (and/or OPACS)

Library websites (with out without OPACS) which are especially designed for viewing on mobile devices.

- Aalborg Libraries, Denmark
- Etudes Universitaires en Tunisie
- American University Library
- Auburn University Libraries
- Ball State University Website OPAC (screenshots)
- Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München
- Biblioteca i Documentació Científica. Universitat Politècnica de València
- Biblioteca Rector Gabriel Ferraté. Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya
- Binghamton University Libraries
- Boise Public Library
- Etudes Universitaires en Tunisie
- Boise State University, Albertsons Library
- Boston College
- Boston University Medical Center Mobile Library
- Boston University Pappas Law Library
- Brigham Young University, Harold B. Lee Library
- Cal Poly Pomona University Library
- California State University, Fullerton, Pollak Library
- California State University, Monterey Bay, Library
- Cambridge University Library
- Canton Public Library (using Responsive Web Design)
- Cape Fear Community College Learning Resource Center
- T. Carney Library Mass Dartmouth Claire T. Carney Library
- Centre d'accès à l'information juridique (CAIJ)
- Chelmsford (MA) Public Library
- Christian Brothers University, Plough Library
- College of DuPage Library
- Contra Costa County Library
- Cornell University Library
- Crowley Ridge Regional Library System
- DeKalb County Public Library
- Dowling College Library
- Etudes Universitaires en Tunisie
- Duke University
- Enoch Pratt Free Library
- FIU Medical Library
- Florida International University Libraries
- George Mason University Libraries
- Georgia Health Science University, Greenblatt Library
- Georgetown University Library
• Gettysburg College
• Ghent University Library
• Hanover College, Duggan Library
• Harford County Public Library
• Harvard
• Indiana University South Bend
• Ithaca College Library
• Iowa City Public Library
• The Italian Serials Catalogue ACNP run by the University of Bologna
• London School of Economics (LSE) Library (UK) via university app
• Koninklijke Bibliotheek, National Library of the Netherlands
• Massachusetts Institute of Technology
• McGill University Libraries
• MD Anderson Center Research Medical Library
• Etudes Universitaires en Tunisie
• Miami University Libraries (Ohio)
• Michigan Technological University Library
• Mississippi State University Libraries
• Molloy College Library (New York)
• Mount Prospect Public Library
• Nanyang Technological University Library
• National Library Board Singapore
• New York Public Library Website (screenshots)
• North Carolina State University Library Website (screenshots)
• Nova Southeastern University - Alvin Sherman Library
• Onondaga County Public Library, New York
• Open University Library, United Kingdom
• OPLIN
• Orange County Library System (FL)
• Oregon State University Mobile Site
• Penn State University Libraries
• Rice University, Fondren Library, Houston, TX
• Ryerson Uni
• Ryerson University Library
• Sacramento Public Library
• Sistema de Bibliotecas DuocUC Chile
• San Diego State University
• San Francisco Public Library
• Simmons Library
• Sonoma State University
• St. John’s University, College of St. Benedict (Clemens Library)
• Texas Christian University
• Tulsa City-County Library
• UCP Marjon (University College Plymouth) (UK)
• University of Alberta
• University of Alberta PDA Zone
• University of Amsterdam
• University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Library
• University of British Columbia Library
• University of California, Irvine
• University of California, San Diego
• University of California, San Francisco
• University of Central Oklahoma
• University of Denver (Penrose Library) in beta version
• University of Hawaii - Leeward Community College Library
• University of Illinois Library
• University of Iowa Libraries
• University of Lethbridge Library
• University of Massachusetts Dartmouth - Mobile Beta
• University of Michigan Library
• University of Minnesota Library
• University of Missouri - Columbia
• University of Navarra - Spain
• University of Nebraska–Lincoln Libraries
• University of Nebraska Omaha Library
• University of North Florida Library
• University of Pennsylvania
• University of Puerto Rico
• University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
• University of Richmond Libraries Website OPAC (screenshots)
• University of Richmond (Boatwright Memorial Library)
• University of Rochester Libraries Mobile
• University of San Francisco Mobile
• University of Tennessee Health Science Center Library Mobile
• University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio Libraries Mobile
• University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas Library Mobile
• University of Virginia Library or fancier version (screenshots) background info
• Utrecht University Library
• Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries
• Wayne State University Libraries
• West Virginia University Libraries
• Worthington Libraries
• Yale University's Cushing/Whitney Medical Library
• Yale Law
• Etudes Universitaires en Tunisie

Mobile OPACS only

• Athabasca University OPAC
• Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München OPAC
• Black Hills State University OPAC
• California State University, Monterey Bay, Library OPAC
• Florida State University Libraries Automatically recognizes devices and switches to mobile interface - run by Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA)
• Deichmanske Bibliotek (public library in Oslo, Norway) OPAC (in Norwegian)
• Georgetown University OPAC
• Ghent University Library, Belgium OPAC - see also blog entry about its mobile interface [Dutch]
• Jefferson County Public Library OPAC (AirPAC)
• Library Information Network for Community Colleges (Florida) (LINCCWeb) - OPAC - run by College Center for Library Automation (CCLA)
• University of Liverpool Library (UK)
• Molloy College Library (Voyager Opac)
• Nashville Public Library OPAC (screenshots)
• National Library of Health Sciences - Terkko, Finland OPAC
• National University of Singapore Libraries OPAC

Webinar Instructor Patric Stillman of Media Arts Center San Diego www.MediaArtsCenter.org
• Ryerson University Library OPAC (AirPAC)
• Stavanger Public Library, Norway OPAC (in Norwegian)
• Tricolleges (Bryn Mawr, Haverford, Swarthmore) OPAC
• Universitaetsbibliothek Heidelberg, Germany OPAC (HEIDI)
• Universitaetsbibliothek Koeln, Germany OPAC
• University of Cadiz Library, Spain OPAC (more information in Spanish)
• Virginia Beach Public Library OPAC
• Washington-Centerville Public Library OPAC
• Wayne State University Library OPAC

Mobile applications

• Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München Famous books - Treasures of the Bavarian State Library (iTunes link)
• Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München Oriental books - Oriental Treasures of the Bavarian State Library (iTunes link)
• Gladsaxe Public Library iPhone application (iTunes link)
• District of Columbia Public Library iPhone application (iTunes link)
• NC State "Wolf Walk" geo-locative campus tour
• Indiana University Search IU - Library Application
• Seattle Public Library application Also available on Android, Blackberry, Windows Mobile, Palm - go to [1]
• University of Saskatchewan iUSask (part of a campus application) (iTunes link)
• New Germanic books app for University of Illinois Library, Urbana - Champaign (iTunes link)
• New LIS books app for University of Illinois Library, Urbana - Champaign (iTunes link)
• Video tour app of the Undergraduate Library, University of Illinois, Urbana - Champaign (iTunes link)
• Ghent University Library Belgium, application for iPhone (iTunes link). Available on iPhone, Android, Symbian, Windows Mobile and Java.
• Santa Clara County Library, iPhone and Android
• The Regional Automation Consortium (TRAC) TRACpac for iPhone (iTunes link)
• Yellowhead Regional Library YourLibrary for iPad (iTunes link)
• EconBiz, the Virtual Library for Economics and Business Studies Maintained by the ZBW-Leibniz Information Centre for Economics in Kiel and Hamburg. Available on iPhone and iPad

SMS notification services

Libraries using SMS services, e.g.:

• SMS if requested book is available (collect messages)
• SMS reminder if a book is due
• requesting a list of loans via SMS
• renewing books via SMS
• requesting an overview of outstanding fines via SMS
• checking the availability of books via SMS
• requesting the opening hours of the library via SMS

For SMS reference services, see Libraries Offering SMS Reference Services
• **BI Norwegian School of Management** offers SMS-alerts when items patrons have put on hold are available for pickup (see a 2007 press release and their regulations).
• **Biblioteca Rector Gabriel Ferraté, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya** sens SMS-alerts when a laptop is available for pickup (More information here)
• **Bryn Maw** send call numbers from OPAC via text message
• **Denton Public Libraries** offers text message notification to inform customers of items ready to be picked up, due dates, items that are overdue and other notices through their cell phones. See a november 2007 news item.
• **The ELNET consortium, Estonia** is sending SMS messages from their OPAC.
• **ETH Zürich Library** sends SMS collect messages. They are part of the NEBIS network (see below).
• **Ghent University Library, Belgium** is sending SMS messages from their discovery interface.
• **Helsinki School of Economics Library, Finland** is sending various SMS messages.
• **Helsinki University of Technology Library, Finland** is sending various SMS messages.
• **IDS St. Gallen, Switzerland**, sends SMS messages to students of the University of St. Gallen.
• **Monash University Library, Australia** offers SMS notifications when items are due back, to remind patrons about overdue items, and to inform them about outstanding fines.
• **The NEBIS network, Switzerland** offers library notifications via SMS: reminders for books being overdue (i.e. first reminder) and collect messages.
• **Public Library Münster, Germany** is sending various SMS messages.
• **Rice University, Fondren Library, Houston, TX** sends title and call numbers from catalog
• **Ryerson University Library** sends call numbers and locations by SMS from the catalogue.
• **Simmons College Library**’s catalog sends text messages from the library catalog with item records attached.
• **Stavanger Public Library, Norway** (in Norwegian) offers the possibility to renew loans, make reservations and search the base, and they are using MoBib.
• **Swiss National Library** sends SMS to registered users when a reserved book is ready for pick-up and to inform about special closing times.
• **Tartu Public Library, Estonia** is sending SMS collect messages. Users are charged for this service.
• **Undergraduate Library** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: sends text message alerts about Librarians’ Office Hours the day they are happening (pilot for the Spring 2008 semester).
• **University Library of Tromsø, Norway** is sending SMS collect messages.
• **University Library of Tromsø, Norway** is sending SMS collect messages.
• **Woollahra Library and Information Service, Sydney Australia** is sending free SMS messages for pick up of reserved items and reminders for long overdue items.

Of the 97 public libraries in Denmark: 60 sent SMS if books requested are ready for pickup, 37 use SMS for recalls, and 46 sent SMS as warnings some days before a book is due [data from the 2007 annual statistic for public libraries in Denmark].

• **Oregon State University Mobile Site** sends location based directions to the library and library contact information. In addition, patrons can send an SMS message containing a catalog record or course reserves. We also offers text the mobile site link to your phone from the main website as a way to promote the site.

### Mobile collections
This includes audiobooks, ebooks, audio language courses, streaming music, films, images, etc. which can be used on mobile devices. These collections can either be downloaded from the library websites on user's own mobile devices or libraries lend mobile devices with the collections already on them.

- **Crouch Fine Arts Library at Baylor University** offers audio streaming databases. Music files from these databases can be downloaded on user's mobile devices.
- **The C/W MARS library network in Massachusetts** offer ebooks and audiobooks via the OverDrive service, also for the Mac.
- **Duke University Libraries** offer digitized image collections (over 32,000 images) through the DukeMobile iPhone app ([demo](#) and [press release](#))
- **New York Public Library** offers ebooks and audiobooks via the OverDrive service, also for the Mac.
- **St. Joseph County Public Library** offers audiobooks on iPod - either your own of the library's iPod.
- **Thomas Ford Memorial Library**, a public library which lends iPod audiobooks to the public.
- **University of Alaska Fairbanks** offers audiobooks through the ListenAlaska web portal.
- **University of Virginia Library** Electronic Text Center
- **IEEE Xplore Mobile** offers free search of all IEEE Xplore documents directly on your mobile device. You can view up to [only] TEN (10) article abstracts per search. To view full-text articles, send the article links to your e-mail address.

**Mobile instruction**

This includes the application of mobile devices for library instruction. Can be text-based, audio or video. For audio-based instruction, see also the section on [Podcasting](#).

- **Open University Library, United Kingdom** text-based instruction
- **Washington State University Libraries** "How To ..." - Help with Library Resources and Tools: instructional podcasts

**Mobile tours of the library**

Audiotours can be either downloaded on users' own mobile devices, or mobile devices with audiotours on them can be lend by the library. Audiotours can be made available in various languages.

- **Bostock Library Walking Audio Tour**: Duke University Libraries offer MP3 files to download on your own MP3 player
- **London School of Economics, United Kingdom**: tour podcast can be downloaded or you can borrow a tour handset from the Welcome Point.
- **Oxford Brookes University Library, United Kingdom**: tour can be downloaded or you can borrow an MP3 player at the Enquiry Desk.
- **Tartu Public Library, Estonia** provided an audiotour of one of their exhibitions (Spring 2008). The audiotour was put on MP3 sticks. These were entered in the catalogue, so that users could borrow the MP3 sticks.
- **University of Otago Library, New Zealand**, in English, Mandarin and Maori.

**QR (Quick Response) 2D Codes**
For a more detailed page about 2D codes, also known as QR codes, see the page in this wiki for QR Codes. See also the description in Wikipedia and the explanation in CSI on YouTube. Users with a camera phone equipped with the correct reader software can scan the image of the QR 2D Code causing the phone's browser to launch and redirect to the programmed URL.

- University of Bath Library, United Kingdom is doing a project including QR2D codes in their OPAC. Catalogue records are provided with these codes. When scanning the code, a map of the library is launched on user's mobiles, helping them to locate the library material in the library building. The university uses QR in their teaching and learning and even blogs on their QR code service.

- Biblioteca Rector Gabriel Ferraté, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya uses QR Codes to provide additional information on promotional posters and to provide username and password to users who subscribe to the CLIC Area service (a computer classroom)

- University of Lethbridge Library uses QR codes on their bookable Group Workroom doors. Scanning the code takes the user into their booking system, where they can immediately book and/or view availability. We also use QR technology in our WebOPAC and promotional posters and materials.

- Biblioteca i Documentació Científica, Universitat Politècnica de València uses QR Codes to give added information to its users (schedules, maps, thematic searches in the catalog...), for self-learning taking users to on-line videos or to promote the blog of literature linking the book with the review.

**Augmented Reality**

- Ludwig II – Walking in the Footsteps of a Fairytale King available via Apple’s AppStore and with slightly reduced functionality via Layar, Wikitude, Junaio.

- 5th Spanish Conference on Public Libraries Layer with information about the places of the conference (hotels, restaurants, conference room...) in Layar.

**Other mobile applications**

- The Institut fuer Informationswissenschaft in Saarbruecken, Germany offers Twitter for new titles.

- Ghent University Library, Belgium offers a mobile app for the Academic Bibliography.

- National Library of Health Sciences - Terkko, Finland, offers Mobile article request and mobile RSS feeds.


- At the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands, SMS is used during information literacy classes. Lecturers can add questions to PowerPoint presentations, which students can answer via SMS. The results of the sent SMS messages is directly visible in a diagram on the screen. Lecturers can thus assess the students’ knowledge, but the tool is also useful for starting discussions. See the Dutch press release at http://www.vu.nl/nl/Images/pb%2009%20015%20SMS%20stemmen_tcm9-67541.pdf.
• The Ryerson University Library and Archives offers a mobile student room booking module.

• The University of Texas at Arlington Library developed ShelfLister, a mobile device staff client for stacks maintenance and inventory. The application is designed to work with the Voyager ILS and has been released under an open source license.

• The University of Oregon Libraries and OSU Archives developed BeaverTracks, a mobile Historical Locations guide and Walking Tour. The mobile application provides historical images and information about 22 locations on OSU campus. Using geo-location, some mobile users can take a directions based walking tour of campus. Also see the Project Page - page about the project including screenshots.

Vendors and Publishers

Evolving content delivery for mobile learners

On 7th March 2011 the Open University Library Services hosted a workshop for publishers and librarians to discuss the problems of finding and accessing the content needed for mobile learners from the Library perspective. This was a follow up to a workshop held in May 2010 at University of Westminster at which senior members of the UK HE Library Community discussed the difficulty of supplying content to an increasingly mobile student body. The major issue identified through that discussion was the lack of appropriate mobile-friendly academic content to meet learners’ needs.

All the materials from the event can be found on SlideShare. These include all the presentations, programme, list of attendees and two short reports. One is a quick summary of the event as a whole and the second is a synthesis of the discussion from the workshop sessions with specific recommendations and suggested next steps.

Library Vendors offering mobile interfaces or applications

• Altarama Information Systems, Australia offer a Reference by SMS service.
• Axiell, Denmark offers the most widespread ILS for public libraries in Denmark (DDELibra). Their mobile services are called DDElibra Mobil Professionel and DDElibra MoBiblo.
• Bibliofil, Norway offers the NettHent software
• Boopsie USA, Offers platform agnostic mobile applications.
• e2Campus offers campus-wide text notification system.
• Innovative Interfaces offers the AirPac module (mobile OPAC) and an SMS product.
• Orange County Library System provides a SMS text messaging service that sends reminders to patrons when their items are coming due, as well as an SMS reference service.
• Rave Wireless offer campus-wide alert system.
• SirsiDynix offers the PocketCirc handheld circulation tool.
• Text A Librarian, Powered by Mosio - SMS/Text Message Reference Services

Vendors offering mobile tours

• Guide by cell
• Museum 411
### Publishers offering databases for mobile devices

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<tr>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Mobile website</th>
<th>App</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tr>
<td>American Institute of Physics iResearch</td>
<td>The American Insitute of Physics’ Journal of Renewable and Sustainable Energy (JRSE)</td>
<td>Auto detects</td>
<td>can now be accessed from any mobile device equipped with a modern web browser</td>
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<td>arXiv</td>
<td>arXiv Browse mobile URL</td>
<td>arXivview for iPhone</td>
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<td>Cambridge Journals Online</td>
<td>Auto detects</td>
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<td>EBSCOhost Mobile</td>
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<td>Encyclopaedia Britannica</td>
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<td>Factiva news database</td>
<td>Mobile URL</td>
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<td>Hoover’s Mobile company information</td>
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<td>Lexis Nexis</td>
<td>iPhone app</td>
<td>Lexis/Nexis Get Cases and Shepardize</td>
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<td>Project Gutenberg</td>
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<td>PsychiatryOnline</td>
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<td>PubMed for Handhelds medical database</td>
<td>Two iPhone apps</td>
<td>PubMed On Tap 3rd party and Mobile Abstracts an iPhone PubMed search engine. Both not official from NIH.</td>
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<td>Questia</td>
<td>iPhone</td>
<td>iTunes link</td>
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<td>Refworks Mobile</td>
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<td>Safari Books Online</td>
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<td>SciVerse</td>
<td>iPhone</td>
<td>From ScienceDirect</td>
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Webinar Instructor Patric Stillman of Media Arts Center San Diego www.MediaArtsCenter.org

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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>iPhone</th>
<th>From ScienceDirect</th>
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<td>Scopus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Sciences Research Network</td>
<td>Web app for iPhone, Blackberry, Android, Palm or Windows</td>
<td>(Serials Solutions Web-Scale Discovery)</td>
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<td>ISSRN</td>
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<td>Summon</td>
<td>Mobile URL</td>
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<td>Westlaw legal research database</td>
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<td>Worldcat.org</td>
<td>Mobile URL</td>
<td>From OCLC</td>
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Publishers offering mobile collections

- BBC Audiobooks
- EBL Ebook Library
- Google Books
- OverDrive
- Safari Books Online
- Amazon Kindle for the iPhone (US Only)

Suggested Reading

Researching M-Libraries - a wiki page for sharing experiences of researching m-libraries and discussing appropriate/applicable research methods.

Books, reports and journal articles

- Libraries and the Mobile Web Special Issue of Library Technology Reports, v. 47, no. 2 (February/March 2011), by Cody W. Hanson
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology: Transforming the Campus Experience with the MIT Mobile Web Educause/ECAR 2009
- Mobiles, chapter (page 8-10) from The Horizon Report - 2009 Edition
- PDA (special issue) ed. by Oliver Obst and Helmut Doolfuss, GMS Medizin – Bibliothek – Information. Zeitschrift der Arbeitsgemeinschaft für medizinisches Bibliothekswesen, 8(2). This issue is partly in German and partly in English.
Webinar Instructor Patric Stillman of Media Arts Center San Diego

The Mobile Difference Pew Internet and American Life report - March 25, 2009
m Services in libraries Special Issue of Reference Services Review. 2010 v.38(2)
M-Libraries: Information on the Move Keren Mills, A report from the Arcadia Programme (June, 2009)
There's an App for That! Libraries and Mobile Technology: An Introduction to Public Policy Considerations Timothy Vollmer, ALA Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) Policy Brief No. 3, June 2010 (PDF)

Blogs and Posts

What are mobile library sites offering? A survey - Survey of 40 mobile library sites, selected screenshots
Summer of Mobile Library Services - ALA TechSource Blog
30 Mobile Trends in Libraries - Stephen's Lighthouse
DCPL iPhone app launch
Handheld Librarian Handheld computer news, ideas, and opinions from librarians and others interested in libraries. Editor: Grace Lee
Mobile Libraries blog
Vicki Owen's Topically Technological Library Blog
New York Public Library Labs posts on mobile tech
Swiss Army Librarian on how to build a mobile website, including auto-detecting/redirecting mobile devices to it from the full website, presentation slides, downloadable mobile website template, and resource list

Other Resources

Including slide presentations, conferences, websites, etc.

Percent Mobile a website that lets you track the percentage of traffic going to your website from different mobile devices. Requires you to copy and paste some code into your homepage.
Libraries to Go Ellyssa Kroski Slideshare Presentation
The First International m-Libraries Conference Open University, Milton Keynes, United Kingdom, 13 -14 November 2007
The Third International m-Libraries Conference Brisbane, Australia, 11-13 May 2011
Handheld Librarian Conference Online Conference, July 30, 2009
Megan Fox - PDAs, Handhelds and Mobile Technologies in Libraries Website
Electronic Resources to Go Slideshare presentation from 2009 Electronic Resources in Libraries Conference
mobilelibraries discussion group
mobile usability by Jacob Nielsen
Oregon State University Mobile Projects presentations and articles

Possible Health Effects

The use of wireless devices is increasing rapidly, yet there is concern in the scientific community that this technology could have adverse side effects. Some documents and websites to find out the facts and recommended precautions.

EM Radiation Research Trust
• International Commission for Electromagnetic Safety (ICEMS)
• Nationaal Platform Stralingsrisico's (in Dutch)
• Powerwatch Wi-Fi and Health
• Wireless Networks (WiFi) Consumer Health and Safety Advice EMFacts Consultancy
• Etudes Universitaires en Tunisie