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# Accessing and Managing SOPs Web Portals, Intranets, Centralized Systems

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# Accessing and Managing SOPs Web Portals, Intranets, Centralized Systems

# **Speakers:**

Jonathan Deeks, WORLDiscoveries Hope Hartman, Inteum Co LLC Sharmila Shearing, UNSW Innovations

January 14, 2015



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Hope Hartman, Vice President

Inteum Company, LLC.



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Sharmila Shearing,
Operations Manager

UNSW Innovations



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**Jonathan Deeks,**Business Development Manager

**WORLDiscoveries** 



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# **Accessing and Managing SOPs**

# Web Portals, Intranets, Centralized Systems

Title here



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# **Learning objectives**

- Learn how to select and approach implementing a centralized knowledge sharing mechanism for Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
- Understand key factors that need to be considered and managed on an ongoing basis in relation to maintaining the value and relevance of SOPs through such a system.
- · Identify communication strategies to implement successfully.



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### **Overview**

- · Benefits of documenting SOPs
- · Key factors in effectively managing SOPs on an ongoing basis
- · Design & implementation thereof
- Maintaining relevancy
- Case study 1 Web portal
- Case study 2 SharePoint Intranet portal
- Case study 3 Help file system
- Q&A



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# **Benefits of documenting SOPs**

- Provide structure and consistency in everyday business practice
- Help employees understand their roles and responsibilities
- Central repository of resources and documentation
- Transparency across roles and divisions of the business
- · Support handover of roles
- Training of new staff
- Demonstrate compliance for audit purposes

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# Effectively managing SOPs on an ongoing basis

- Design and implementation of a system for access to SOPs
- Maintain a centralised repository of current and relevant SOPs and resources
- Create awareness of SOPs and resources
  - Ease of accessibility
  - o Training and education on purpose, content and location of SOPs



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# Design and implementation of a system for access to SOPs

- Selection of a system Centralised system is preferable
- Identifying organisational needs (stakeholder/customer consultation)
- Management buy in as opposed to sign off
- Constraints budget, resource restrictions
- Allocation of responsibility for content and site maintenance
- · Content development and design
- · Presentation of content/means of access to information



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# Maintaining a library/centralised repository of current and relevant SOPs and resources

- Resources and support to assist drafting (ie templates)
- Allocation of responsibility (ie mentors)
- Policy of continual improvement (periodic review program)
- · Permissions and editing rights



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# **Creating awareness of SOPs and resources**

- · Ease of accessibility
- Training and education on purpose, content and location of SOPs



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# Case study 1 – Web portal (Inteum LLC)



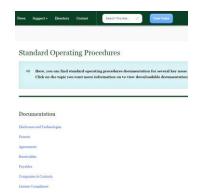
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# Why a Web Portal?

## Reasons for selection of system

- Easily accessible, any time by all personnel
- Geography- global team members, virtual workers, multiple office locations





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### Who & How

# Allocation of responsibility for content and site maintenance

- Executive Management has Oversight
- Relevant personnel contribute
- · Bi-annual review
- Site maintenance one manager has access rights and organizes the categorical content



When developing and refining your SOPs, use key question words to clarify and envision the process Who? I dentify Responsible Staff When? Anticipated or ideal timeline How? Manually, electronically

What? Details

Where? Database, file cabinet, conference room, an office



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# Who & What

# Content development and design

- Domain expertise areas:
   Business Development,
   Agreements, Admin Support
- Collaborative within units via Google docs
- Design common elements, yet flexible per area. Edited by marketing, approved by Executive Management.



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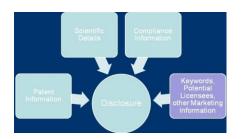


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# What

# <u>Presentation of content/means</u> to access information

- Authenticated login automated by one click
- Videos/ webinars (Vimeo), documents/web content pages
- Online access
- Include Infographics





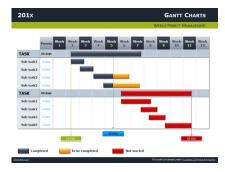
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# When

# Maintaining currency and relevance of SOPs and resources

- Any time there is change, constant work in progress
- Business demands we change
- Executive Management determines the who/how/when
- Review at minimum once a year





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#### How

# <u>Creating awareness of SOP resources</u>

- Discussions/meetings
- · Guided online walk-thru
- Reinforce email messaging/intranets
- · Disseminate links
- Implement, assess, refine





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# Case study 2 – SharePoint Intranet portal (UNSW Innovations)



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# Why an intranet portal?

- Centralised, secure access to company information for staff and external persons given access
- Remote access
- One stop shop to manage multiple team needs for information relating to core business and administration, applications and collaboration
- · Transparency across company



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# Why SharePoint?

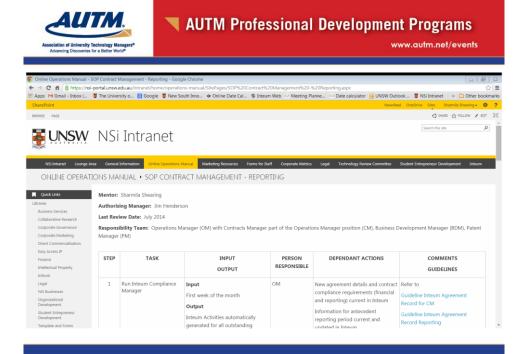
- Functionality
- · Resource limitations dictated by budget and University
- Company needs met and opportunity to make use of additional functionality
- · Increase employee engagement



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# Responsibility for the Online Operations Manual (OOM) SOP Register

- Permission levels to modify content correlates with position and responsibility
- Mentors for intranet pages and mentors for SOPs
- Operations Manager as mentor for SOPs generally and the OOM intranet page supports uniformity in content through templates, guidelines for drafting and editorial advise
- Exec Assistant who has responsibility for uploads ensures SOPs are consistent in format

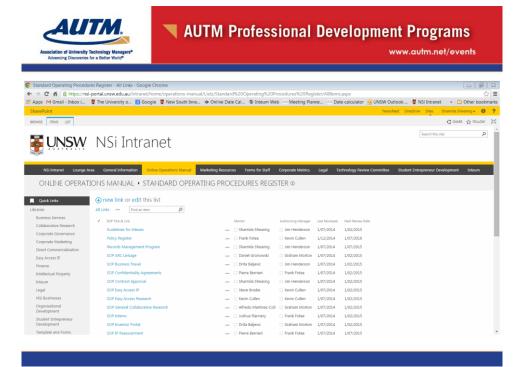




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# **Design and content of the SOP Register**

- Multi-team collaborative workspace
- Classification and grouping of SOPs and related resources
  - o Registers
  - o Libraries
  - Quick links
- · Content format
- Downloading SOPs, templates, checklists for reference and use
- · Displaying information on administration of SOPs





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# **Accessing SOPs**

- Centralised access
- Home page
- Restrictions and permissions
- Libraries and registers
- Hyperlinks
- Downloading templates





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# **Managing SOPs**

- Administration
- Continual improvement
- Document library
- Version control
- Editing in SharePoint
- Training
- New staff induction





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# Case study 3 – Help file (WORLDiscoveries – Univ. Of Western Ontario)



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# Why a help file for SOP?

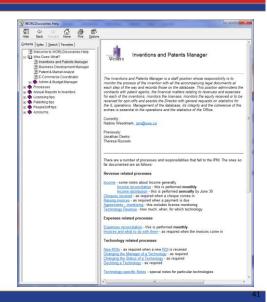
- Originally, personal record of role's varied processes and responsibilities, around 2005-06
- Format of solution had to be easy to update and maintain, easy to use, structured, cheap/free
- Word doc = easy to write & maintain, suits linear navigation (first to last page)
- · Wiki another alternative
- · Help file inherently provides structure, links, searching



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# Helpmaker

- Freeware tool –
   Helpmaker from Vizacc
  - Co. no longer trading, program still available from SourceForge, likely other places
- Easy system to use, install

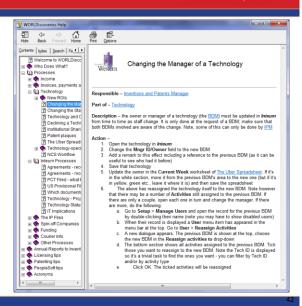




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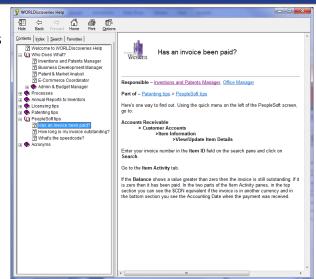
- Very easy to create rich pages with links between related pages
- Step-by-step procedures laid out





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- Very easy to create rich pages with links between related pages
- Step-by-step procedures laid out
- Includes tips (such as using Univ. financial system)

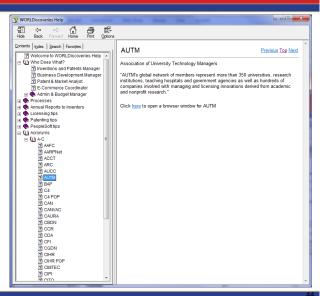




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- Very easy to create rich pages with links between related pages
- Step-by-step procedures laid out
- Includes tips (such as using Univ. financial system)
- Includes acronyms





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# Responsibility for content & maintenance

- Operational roles IPM, Administrative Officer
- · Other relevant personnel as appropriate
- Ongoing informal review/updates
- Source files are stored in n/w location for easy access

# Content development & design

- · Domain area expertise as required
- Always in progress, always updateable avoids review & release cycles, just change when necessary

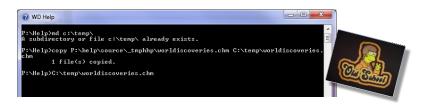


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#### Access

- Compiling to the n/w = always latest version
- ...but Windows security restriction prevents running help files from remote (n/w) locations
  - o Users run batch file copy the latest help file locally then run it





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#### **Awareness**

Shortcut added to all desktops as part of machine set-up



- · Referenced constantly during new starter training
- Supports training, well-used resource for new starters
  - However, not a self-contained training resource, no natural linear path (first page, start middle end, last page - Word doc)
  - Does support grouping processes and hierarchy so certainly not without structure
- Personal, self-directed resource to draw on during training



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# **Relevance & currency**

- Developed from ground up
- Temp staff (e.g. Interns) contribute new acronyms and other current material at end of each term
- Review with each new employee after several months for new material/changes



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#### In Summary...

# **Effective management of SOPs**

- Find a structure that works for your organisation
- · Clarify roles and responsibilities
- Create relationships or links with other related information
- Access is critical (searching, quick links, shortcuts)



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# **Effective access and management of SOPs**

Three different approaches were presented that addressed user needs, organisational goals and resources. What's important is that the system chosen allows effective recording and communication of operational processes and can cater to changing organisational needs.



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# Thank you!

**Jonathan Deeks** 

**Hope Hartman** 

**Sharmila Shearing** 



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