

Dawson Books – a Year of Physical and Financial Growth

24th September 2002

Dawson Books, the UK's largest academic library bookseller, has just celebrated its first anniversary at Foxhills House, Rushden.

Since relocating to new custom-built premises exactly one year ago, over 500 librarians and publishers have been welcomed to the company's international headquarters. Without exception, all have been generous with their praise for the new facilities. No other library supplier has created such a streamlined, open plan approach to book processing. The entire operation follows a logical and transparent path across the floor of the building which all visitors are welcome to view.

Covering 3800 square metres, the new facility has provided Dawson with the opportunity to introduce innovations in book handling and to increase turn around times. Additional space has improved unpacking and despatch. It has also increased the opportunities to carry out book servicing – jacketing, security tagging, laminating, stamping and spine labelling – required by a growing number of domestic and overseas libraries. An area has been set aside specifically for the processing of 'standing order' items – directories, annuals, yearbooks, monographic series – using dedicated IT resources for the purpose. On the main floor a sturdy fleet of trolleys, designed by Dawson staff, has been coveted by librarians, many of whom have gone away with the name of the carpenter who built them!

Diane Kerr, Dawson Books Managing Director, commented "We expected efficiencies and we got them, but the complementary rapid growth in sales during the past year came as a very pleasant surprise. Although we currently have plenty of room to grow, I foresee us filling the space more quickly than I originally planned."

Dawson Books is a member of Dawson Holdings plc and leads the market in the use of information technology to expedite the book buying process, providing a total acquisitions package for professional librarians worldwide.

For more information about Dawson Books, or a photograph of the new facilities, contact George Hammond on 01933 417500 or email george.hammond@dawsonbooks.co.uk