



WRITERSWORLD Newsletter - Issue No. 119

Google Works With Rivals to Fight Opposition

By Kimberly Maul

Google plans to fight copyright suits with a little help from its rivals. The search engine, which launched the Google Book Search project in 2004, will subpoena Yahoo Inc., Microsoft Corp. and Amazon.com to get information that will help outline the possible benefits and harm of digitally scanning books for searching capabilities online, Bloomberg News reported. The information, including book lists, costs, estimated sales and interactions with publishers, will be kept confidential and used to fight publishers and others who have filed lawsuits claiming Google doesn't have the right to scan entire books that are under copyright. The papers were filed in U.S. District Court in New York on Sept. 29, according to Bloomberg.

In 2005, Microsoft and Yahoo announced their plans to scan library books. Amazon.com has a "Search Inside" feature that allows consumers to view a limited number of pages, though publishers must sign up to be a part of that program. According to Bloomberg, Google will also gather information from Random House, HarperCollins, Holtzbrinck and the Association of American Publishers. "We have also made clear to these organizations that we will work with them to address any concerns about their confidential information," Google spokesperson Megan Lamb said, according to Bloomberg.

Google, which has an agreement with a handful of university and public libraries to scan their collections, says publishers can opt-out of the scanning program for their copyrighted works. According to Bloomberg, Judith Platt, a representative for the Association of American Publishers, which is working on behalf of publishing companies against Google, said according to copyright law, the would-be copiers have the burden to seek permission, not the other way around. The End

WORDS TO THE WISE

Whether you use **WRITERSWORLD** or any other print-on-demand company insist that when your book is published you have a direct account with the printer. This will cost you nothing and you will end up with 100% of the royalties and the ability to purchase copies of your books at cost. Yes, with **WRITERSWORLD**, you get 100% of the royalties on sales of your book! You will get exactly the same distribution rights as the print-on-demand publisher and a monthly e-mail letting you know what your sales are. With respect, do not leave your book in the hands of any print-on-demand book publisher and be dependent on the publisher to know what your sales and royalties are and allow them to profit from the sales of your book. Also insist that your book's ISBN number is issued to you and your book's imprint page reflects you as being the publisher.

SUBSCRIPTIONS & LEGAL NOTICE

Subscriptions to the **WRITERSWORLD** Newsletter are free and please distribute it freely www.writersworld.co.uk