About the GeoRef Database

The GeoRef database, established by the American Geosciences Institute in 1966, provides access to the geoscience literature of the world. GeoRef is the most comprehensive database in the geosciences and continues to grow by about 100,000 references a year. The database contains over 4.4 million references to geoscience journal articles, books, maps, conference papers, reports and theses.

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A database search produces a customized bibliography. Within seconds, the computer reports the number of references found on a given topic. You can then specify which references you want to see and how much information you want about each.

The GeoRef database covers the geology of North America from 1666 to the present and the geology of the rest of the world from 1933 to the present. The database includes references to all publications of the U.S. Geological Survey. Masters’ theses and doctoral dissertations from U.S. and Canadian universities are also covered.

To maintain the database, GeoRef editor/indexers regularly scan more than 3,500 journals in 44 languages as well as new books, maps, and reports. They record the bibliographic data for each document and assign index terms to describe it. Each month between 6,000 and 9,000 new references are added to the database.

The GeoRef Advisory Committee meets regularly twice a year. To view its function and membership click here.

The American Geosciences Institute, owner and producer of GeoRef, licenses the database to distributors and user organizations. For information on the content of GeoRef, on licensing the database and on methods of access, contact:

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