



InfoManage

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The Information Interview

RELAXED AT THE REVOLUTION: Ken Megill Takes Us Into Information Resources Management

Someone once said of Ken Megill, "He's so relaxed he could come from Los Angeles." Well, that might be an arguable point, because, first of all, just how "relaxed" is Los Angeles these days, and, more important, Ken Megill would be this relaxed no matter where he came from. He's just not the kind of guy who gets too excited about things.

He is excited about information resources management, though. Megill has been pondering this subject for several years now, and the more he thinks about it, the more excited he gets. With its emphasis on the client/user/patron, its empowering and decentralizing management structure, its integration of *all* information as its primary task, and its commitment to automation and electronic data transfer for providing better information products and services for those clients, well, it's a pretty exciting prospect, and a good field to be working in these days.

"Aha!" you exclaim. "Automation. That's what information resources management is. It's just

another tag for what we all think about all the time. It's just another name for technology."

No. Ken Megill won't let you off that easy.

"Technology-driven, but not about technology." That's how

"Information resources management is about information, lots of information, big blocks of information, the kind of information that is needed by governments and huge multinational corporations."

Megill describes information resources management, the new way of looking at information that recognizes information as an "identifiable, measurable, manageable" resource.

And while the concept is certainly—for today's information managers—a "new" way of