IT'S A BONUS PLUS! COLLABORATING TO SHARE LIBRARY RESOURCES ACROSS AUSTRALASIA
Katie Wilson & Greg Anderson, University of Newcastle, Australia

This paper is about BONUS Plus http://bonus.newcastle.edu.au, an international resource sharing consortium that straddles two countries, covers more than one sixth of the globe, and operates across four time zones. Nine academic partner libraries in New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia and New Zealand share monograph resources, with two libraries from Queensland and Victoria joining in 2010. The primary goal of the BONUS Plus consortium is to share seamlessly material from member library collections among their clientele.

Launched in October 2007, BONUS Plus provides access to more than four and a half million items through a central online catalogue. Up to 70 percent of the catalogue titles are unique to one library. Individual member libraries have seen an expansion of their collections by three or four times, and the facilitation of sharing in a climate where resources are limited and clients expect fast results.