



About Special Effects (SFX):

In tandem with hundreds of indices of article and book information, SFX enables students and faculty to easily access content available to them in the collections of the CSU libraries.

SFX stands for *special effects* and is the systemwide application that with one click helps the information seeker identify and use the appropriate copy of a known item in the electronic and print collections available in CSU libraries. Each CSU library customizes this service to suit their clientele, controlling which services appear and the order in which they appear on the SFX menu.

About SFX:

SFX has been in use in CSU libraries since 2001 and offers context-sensitive linking between all components of a library's electronic and print collection, including abstracts, full-text articles, library catalogs, indexing databases, journals

and citations. Context-sensitive linking provides end-users with much easier access to information: metadata about one source links it to other related sources that the user can access simply by clicking the links. This means that with one click the user can retrieve the full text of an article found in a citation-only database.

The essential core of the SFX system is a database of linkable resources such as the online catalog, the indices to article citations, Current Contents and the rules for access (i.e. data elements that must be passed, date thresholds, and categories of material). SFX communicates using the OpenURL protocol that enables metadata transfer between an information service and a service component.

SFX supports a Citation Linker and an A-Z list of all available journals, magazines, and newspapers.

Benefits of SFX:

- Access Citation Linker which allows students and faculty to key-in a citation found to determine if a print or electronic copy is available
- Access to interlibrary loan system through SFX to request material from another library
- Select other SFX services such as links to a live reference chat line or internet search engines

To Learn More:

Visit the [Library Service SFX website](#).

Visit the [SFX A to Z List website](#).

Visit the [SFX Metalib Resource website](#).