install an optical network modelled after Western Library Network as their bibliographic utility since 1950.

By November 1990 the optical network had become a reality. Using LaserCat as the library's main catalog, patrons can search, browse, and read books, and access to the holdings of over 400 public, special, research, and academic libraries, including Peterson's. As of December 1991, 3.7 million records were available through LaserCat. WLN member libraries are concentrated in the Pacific Northwest. Peterson has been using Western Library Network as their bibliographic utility since 1950.

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