EndNote – IBM PC and Compatibles Version. Niles & Associates, Inc. Berkeley, California. $149.00.

Reviewed by Charles I. Abramson, SUNY Health Science Center

EndNote is a reference database and bibliography maker for the IBM and compatibles. It is an extremely useful and versatile program and is a must for anyone who does a large amount of scientific writing. It eliminates the drudgery of typing the same references over and over, whether it be for a grant application, a series of submitted manuscripts, or a resubmission of a manuscript to a journal with a different reference format.

EndNote is perhaps better characterized as two programs. First, it is a database manager capable of storing and manipulating 32,000 references. Information can be entered into the database from the keyboard or alternatively, with the addition of EndLink, it can be input automatically from a wide range of online services such as Medline and PsycInfo.

Second, EndNote is a bibliography creator. Information for each reference is easily entered through an Edit Window which is similar to that found in the Macintosh. Entering information with EndNote's user interface is easy and can be accessed with or without a mouse – I suggest using a mouse, however. Data fields are available to input information about the author, title, year, and source (i.e., journal, book, chapter, magazine article). No limitation is placed on the number of authors or length of title. Especially useful is the ability to enter an abstract, keywords, and notes. Furthermore, each reference can hold 64,000 characters.

To use EndNote I recommend that you first concentrate on building your reference library. Once your library is complete you can use the many searching and editing features of EndNote while you work on a manuscript. When the reference is found it can be copied from the library into the manuscript. (What actually appears in the document is a temporary "marker" that EndNote will replace with the proper citation when the manuscript is formatted.) When the manuscript is complete and the references are ready to be formatted, save the paper and exit the word processor. To build the reference list and format the in-text citations simply use EndNote to open the manuscript, select one of the ten bibliographic styles (or create your own), and format the paper.

I have found EndNote to be a well thought-out and easy to use program – it is worth the money. The manual is well written and complete. The technical support

is excellent. EndNote has become an instrumental part of my laboratory not only in the construction of manuscripts but for generating reading lists for students and colleagues as well. A unique service provided by Niles and Associates is the EndNote Bibliographic Services Program (EBSP). This service will permit a researcher who creates a specialized bibliographic database to distribute the database through a number of outlets such as a university library or commercial organization.

To run EndNote your computer must be IBM or 100% compatible. (There is a Macintosh version as well.) It must have one disk drive and a hard drive with 512K free. It is compatible with WordPerfect and any ASCII file. For interactive operation with word processors other than WordPerfect (such as MicroSoft Word), I suggest you call or write Niles and Associates, 2000 Hearst Street, Berkeley, California 94709. (415) 655-6666.