



SCKAN (*South Central Kansas Automation Network*) is a hosted library automation consortium provided as a value added service of the South Central Kansas Library System (SCKLS). SCKAN began in November 2010 and our library is currently one of 24 libraries who participate in the consortium. Using a cost sharing method, SCKAN allows us to provide you, our patron, with cost effective services and features of Polaris, one of the library industries top library automation products.

SCKLS negotiated pricing, wrote/received Federal LSTA Grants to assist in paying for the initial installation of sites and serves as our main point of contact for support services and problem resolution. On our own, the automation system with the features we currently have access **would cost on the average 350% more per year**. Financially, that cost increase would virtually eliminate this automation program from consideration for use at our library.

As a patron you have access to your library's holdings. Looking for an item your library does not have? Submit an interlibrary loan request to one of the library staff. SCKAN allows its users to search the online catalog from computers anywhere with Internet access, but also allows you to use your mobile device (iPhone, Android, etc.) to access the catalog to search for items and/or renew items when that functionality is turned on. The catalog also displays jacket art of the books you are searching along with reviews.

Since going live with SCKAN on November 17, 2010 the consortium has checked out 2,801,825 items to 47,216 patrons. The SCKAN membership has filled 51,803 holds of 59,199 hold requests to date, which 8,928 of those holds were placed by PAC users. SCKAN consists of 591,594 items, 272,518 authority control records and 65,637 registered patrons at the present time.

SCKAN encompasses the following 24 member libraries of the South Central Kansas Library System: Arkansas City Public Library, Augusta Public Library, Ruth Dole Memorial Library (Burrtton), Cheney Public Library, Clearwater Public Library, Colwich Community Library, Cunningham Public Library, Deets Library @ Southwestern College (Winfield), Bradford Memorial Library (El Dorado), Garden Plain Community Library, Halstead Public Library, Haven Public Library, Hesston Public Library, Lindsborg Community Library, Moundridge Public Library, Mulvane Public Library, Oxford Public Library, Rose Hill Public Library, Sterling Free Public Library, SCKLS System Headquarters, Towanda Public Library, Valley Center Public Library, Wellington Public Library and the Whitewater Memorial Library.

We hope this brief overview provides you with a better understanding of the SCKAN library automation system and its benefits to you. More info on SCKAN can be found at: <http://sckan.info>

