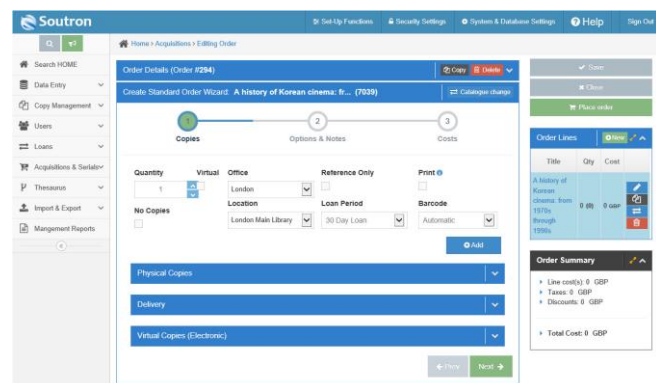Thank you for your interest in Soutron.

We are a privately-owned limited company, based in the United Kingdom with business partners in different parts of the world.

Graham Beastall, founded the company in 1989 and is still very active in the business today. Graham Partridge, joined in 2007 as R & D Director and shareholder.

Soutron's business plan is focused solely on the automation of Libraries and Archives. The result is a fully web-based, purpose designed software application, hosted in the Cloud and combining over 35 years of experience in the corporate library automation services market. This has produced a leading software solution used by many FT100 companies, Chartered Institutes, Educational establishments, Charities and Government departments and Agencies.

Designed for multi-lingual, multi-site, multi-currency operation Soutron is suited to single archives and libraries or global enterprises. Inherent in the design is an incredibly flexibly database that can be customised without needing programming or IT expertise.

Physical and digital assets can be managed in a safe, secure environment with excellent reporting and search capabilities.

Our Head Office

Soutron is located in Derby, in the United Kingdom where pioneering engineers of the 18th and 19th century led the industrial revolution and today is home of the engineering giant Rolls Royce.

Outside of the UK Soutron Is represented by a network of carefully selected business partners who provide clients with a comprehensive range of services, able to customise systems and solutions to meet local needs.

Soutron History

In 1985 there were only mainframe/mini computer-based library systems used by universities and public libraries. Special and corporate libraries had no automation. The introduction of the IBM PC as an affordable tool changed this. Special libraries needed flexibility and efficiency in back office processes and affordable pricing. The IBM PC allowed this to be developed and became the de-facto solution for special libraries.

1989

Soutron was formed to help special libraries make that first step into managing information using database technologies. Initially flat file database systems embodying library concepts. Over a period of 30 years, more than 1,600 businesses have benefited from Soutron's expertise, initially selling and supporting the Sydney Library System (originally introduced on Datapoint equipment and named MicroLibrary) on PCDOS and Netware and DB Textworks software from Inmagic, Inc.

2007

Soutron devised a new strategy to design and develop a fully web-based solution using Microsoft SQL Server Relational Database technologies. The Soutron Library System was conceived to be a Cloud-based, server-side application using Microsoft Web and Text Indexing technologies. The development teams was led by Graham Partridge who as Global Systems Librarian at an international law firm had pioneered their global library automation strategy.

2010

Soutron introduced the first release of a global information management solution. All new program code heralded a new generation of library automation systems. Our first clients included a European Agency, based in Brussels responsible for Aviation Safety across the EU, a multi-lingual system for Welsh Government and a multi-site service for NHS Blood.

2016

Having expanded operations into Canada and the USA it was clear that the mobile phone was pushing the boundaries of web browser software with new HTML5 capabilities. More was possible using the latest SQL Server RDBMS and new browser technologies. A decision was taken to extend the database capabilities to include the management of archives supporting ISAD (G) standards. This initiative led to increased sales and clients quickly took advantage of the combined Library and Archive solution for all types of information assets both digital and physical.

A key ingredient in Soutron's success has been the ability to rapidly develop new code and incorporate new ideas into the software. Our open dialogue with each client has led to initiatives that have benefited our entire client base, all new code being incorporated into the one application that is made available to everyone in our client community.

Soutron Software

Our customer focus is single minded and disciplined. A plan of continuous improvement and agile development of the software means constant refinement and taking the feedback of clients as the prime indicator for new enhancements and future development ensure the software has a very long life and keeps pace with emerging technologies.

In 2016 the decision was taken to replace the original software programs and use the latest web development technologies (Microsoft MVC and C#).

This decision has led to the entire system being re-engineered with new programs incorporating a new interface design, streamlined processes and better performance. This is ongoing work.

Already completed is the user interface design, and this is being applied in all new code now released.

The following areas have been re-engineered and are in production release:

- Search Portal
- System Administration
- Acquisitions
- Serials Management
- Menu system
- API
- Search Results Display Templates

Currently scheduled / in progress:

- *System configuration*
- *User Management*
- *Cataloguing*
- *Loans*
- *Thesaurus*
- *Reporting*
- *Import and Export and extending the API*

Soutron Information Management Solutions

In the increasingly complex world of information management, library work flows and knowledge management, our aim is simplicity and flexibility.

Our clients are at the heart of everything that we do, and our team, drawn from a combination of practising librarians and technical staff will listen, understand and respond quickly. The relationships that we have formed with our clients over the years drives us forward and compels us to continuously develop our solution.

Soutron, as a long-established private limited company with a network of like-minded business partners can continuously deliver value to our clients without hindrance of a corporate management hierarchy or demands from external shareholders. This independence allows us to focus 100% on each client's needs.

We welcome the challenge presented by all sizes of archives, libraries and knowledge services.

www.soutron.com - *#SetYourKnowledgeFree*