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(Chinese text by Katie K.C. Su)

■ 2005 ISBN/CIP Application Statistics for Taiwan

A survey conducted by the Cabinet-level Government Information Office found that Taiwan's publishing industry had a total output value of about NT\$22 billion in 2004, a sharp decline from the NT\$40-plus billion registered two years before. It is likely that the 2005 figure will fall even lower as the publishing industry feels the pinch from natural disasters and soaring oil prices. Nevertheless, with the rise of closer cross-strait cooperation and specialization, along domestic publishers have been drawing on their strengths in marketing and business planning to develop sales channels in the mainland market, hoping thereby to tap new growth opportunities.

One window on the state of the publishing industry in Taiwan is the NCL's New Books: Recent and Forthcoming Publications in Taiwan, ROC, which provides statistics on ISBN and CIP applications in 2005, as summarized in the chart below. (Chinese text excerpted from article by Wang Hsuan)

Application Date	No. of ISBN Applications	No. of CIP Applications	No. of ISBN Applicants	No. of ISBN Applicants
Dec. 2005	3,764	2,477	1,125	135
Nov. 2005	3,686	2,315	1,087	144
Oct. 2005	3,797	2,470	1,061	111
Sept. 2005	3,558	2,456	1,045	115
Aug. 2005	3,348	2,136	930	107
July 2005	3,382	2,345	1,042	108
June 2005	3,573	2,239	1,034	142
May 2005	3,448	2,239	1,015	124
Apr. 2005	3,569	2,228	1,006	96
Mar. 2005	3,552	2,197	967	108
Feb. 2005	3,454	2,306	1,001	108
Jan. 2005	3,683	2,306	1,001	108
Dec. 2004	3,683	2,305	1,066	116

ISBN and CIP Application Statistics (Dec. 2004~Dec. 2005)

Events

■ NCL Delegation Visits Rare Book Collections and Libraries in Mainland China

NCL Deputy Director Sung Chien-cheng led a six-person delegation to visit rare book collections and libraries in Hangzhou, Shaoxing, Ningbo and other sites in Zhejiang Province, mainland China, from October 17 to 23, 2005. He was joined by library staff members Keng Li-chun, Chen Te-han, Liang Tsu-ying, Liu Tsai-shan and Sun Hsiu-ling. The group visited the Zhejiang Library on October 17, and the Hangzhou Library and Rare Books Department of the Zhejiang Library on October 18. On October 19, the visitors toured the Jiayetang Library; on October 20 they visited the Shaoxing