

# VIP Report

[SAMPLE]

## Product Review of SciVerse Applications

In-depth, independent review of the product,  
plus links to related resources

*"SciVerse Applications is an application marketplace and developer network with applications in information management, productivity and workflow tools. The product is from Elsevier, a global leader in the provision of science and health information. The vendor reports they serve around 30 million scientists, students and health and information professionals worldwide."*

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VIP Volume: Reports on Products

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*In-depth review of product by experienced researcher, including screenshots and commentary*

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# About this Report

## VIP Report

VIP (<http://www.vivaVIP.com/>) publishes in-depth reports on products, vendors and user experiences relating to premium content products. The monthly *VIP Magazine*, available by paid subscription, includes news analysis and highlights from the latest product reviews. Subscribers also receive, as part of their subscription, the full product review reports published each month.

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*"SciVerse Applications is an application marketplace and developer network with applications in information management, productivity and workflow tools."*

*"...this full review concerns SciVerse Applications but will make frequent reference to SciVerse Hub, as Applications was tested within SciVerse Hub."*

*"There are a few very good reasons why this product feels like it is on the very edge of the innovation process."*

## Introducing SciVerse Applications

SciVerse Applications is an application marketplace and developer network with applications in information management, productivity and workflow tools. The product is from Elsevier, a global leader in the provision of science and health information. The vendor reports they serve around 30 million scientists, students and health and information professionals worldwide. They are renowned for product ranges with high quality content that can facilitate risk decision-making, enhance workflow and innovation.

Elsevier is headquartered in Amsterdam. The company's roots are in journal and book publishing for now over 130 years. Whilst fostering the peer-review process, their high quality content is now being delivered with innovative cutting edge technology.

SciVerse Applications provides all users of the SciVerse platform a variety of Elsevier and third party developed applications that enable users to customise their experience within three Elsevier platforms: SciVerse ScienceDirect, Scopus and Hub. SciVerse Hub indexes from the Scopus database, (which was [favourably reviewed in 2009 by FreePint](#)), the ScienceDirect journals collection, and content from multiple publishers, repositories, and the scientific web.

SciVerse Applications is a place to find, add and develop applications via the Developer Network (<http://developers.elsevier.com>). An organisation or institution can find and add applications tailored to their own niche interests and workflow requirements. There are opportunities to collaborate with the scientific community to create applications via the Developer Network, and institutions and developers can participate in challenges and hackathons hosted by Elsevier.

This review is not only concerned with high quality content that can be delivered via Elsevier's Content Application Programming Interface (API) or other services facilitated by third party apps, but how that content can be made more useful, valuable and workable. In what ways does it facilitate the innovation process for the researcher, or make the librarian a key asset and support mechanism in the management of workflows within an organisation?

An important note: this full review concerns SciVerse Applications but will make frequent reference to SciVerse Hub, as Applications was tested within SciVerse Hub. This review is not intended to be a comprehensive review of SciVerse Hub.

For purposes of this review I used a Windows 7 environment with Google Chrome browser and Internet Explorer 9.

## VIP's View

As an information professional, it is hard not to get excited about this product. There are a few very good reasons why this product feels like it is on the very edge of the innovation process.

Another scientific publisher reminded me recently that a medical paper is published every 30 seconds, 1.5 million per year. It also takes around 17 years for new knowledge generated by randomised controlled trials (RCTs) to be incorporated into practice. This is an incredibly slow process and what makes it so slow is the inability to sift through vast content and pull out



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