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This short guide is intended to provide a brief background to Electronic Laboratory Notebooks (ELNs) with a specific focus on the factors that need to be taken into consideration when undertaking a project to transition from the bound paper laboratory notebook.

The guide does not go in to great detail, as this can be readily obtained through various on-line resources, conference presentations, vendors and consultants. Furthermore, in an era of constant change, the incorporation of too much detail could mean that the guide would rapidly become out of date.

John Trigg

phaseFour Informatics

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