

LIBRARIES AUSTRALIA STATUS REPORT JULY – SEPTEMBER 2011

BACKGROUND

This is a companion document to the 2010/11 Annual Report and the Libraries Australia Statistics summary included elsewhere in this set of meeting papers.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Launch of the new Libraries Australia information website

On 2 August 2011, the new website which supports the dissemination of information about Libraries Australia services was released. It offers:

- improved site navigation, accessibility and functionality;
- current content - outdated pages were removed or archived;
- a more aesthetically appealing design, incorporating web 2.0 design trends; and
- an ability to log into Libraries Australia Search, Document Delivery and Administration within every page.

The screenshot shows the Libraries Australia website with the following elements:

- Logo:** Libraries Australia, Australian libraries working together.
- Navigation:** ABOUT US | OUR SERVICES | NEWS & EVENTS | TRAINING & SUPPORT | CONTACT US.
- Search:** Username and Password fields, LOGIN button, and radio buttons for Search (selected), Document delivery, and Administration.
- Site Search:** Google Custom Search bar with a GO button.
- Main Content Area:**
 - ABOUT OUR SERVICES:** Search service, Cataloguing service, Document Delivery service.
 - GET STARTED:** How to subscribe, Obtaining records, Contributing records & holdings.
- Latest News:** "UPDATED ILRS CODE CHANGES NOW IN PLACE" dated SEPTEMBER 30, 2011. Text: "This affects all LADD members. The revised Interlibrary Resource Sharing (ILRS) Code prices have now been implemented in the LADD gateway, ILRS directory and the LADD Manual. What this will mean for LADD libraries is that the base cost, which appears [more...](#)"
- Help Desk:** "HELP DESK CLOSED MONDAY 3 OCTOBER 2011" dated SEPTEMBER 29, 2011.
- Quote:** "Libraries Australia is a subscription based resource sharing and discovery service managed by the National Library of Australia." with a "Benefits of membership" button.
- GET INVOLVED:** Attend 2011 Forum, Contact the Advisory Committee, Participate in User Group meetings, Read our newsletter, Subscribe to our discussion lists.
- RELATED SERVICES:** Australian ILRS Directory, Australian Libraries Gateway, Electronic Resources Australia, Trove.

A special note of gratitude goes to Susan Gaw for her work on the project, which took two years to complete.

Holdings deletion trial

Libraries Australia has devised and tested an important new option for libraries to maintain their ANBD holdings. The trial involved 5 libraries (2 special, 2 public, 1 TAFE) and was conducted over a period of six months. Libraries supplied files of MARC records which were processed through Record Import Service (RIS) matching algorithms. Holdings on any records that did not match were deleted before the holding updates were applied. This process removed the need to delete all holdings prior to the refresh and thereby reduced: the number of system transactions; the requirement for human reviewing, and the potential to create duplicate records.

The trial was found to be a success. The accuracy of record matching was good but varied, not surprisingly, depending on the quality of the bibliographic records. Overall 98.7% of all obsolete holdings were detected and removed. Close to 100% of holdings retained were valid however about 10% of the valid holdings were incorrectly deleted. The percentage of valid holdings deleted was lower where the holdings were considerably out of date but higher for more current holdings. This means that this methodology is ideally suited for its target market of libraries which have not maintained their ANBD holdings for some time.

Cessation of global refresh reviewing

The volume of reviewing generated by Global Holdings Refreshes has increased significantly over the past few years due to the increasing number of libraries that want to refresh ANBD holdings that they have not kept up to date. Typically around 5% of records sent to the RIS are sent for human review. In the case of many Global Refreshes this can be 5% of a very large number (sometimes millions) of records. Most of the records in Global Refresh files have already been supplied to the ANBD. Reviewing of these records provides only a small benefit in terms of database quality.

Libraries Australia has therefore decided to stop reviewing potential duplicate records in Global Holdings Refresh files. This will allow us to focus on reviewing current library contributions and also increase the resourcing of more useful data quality work (for example, further development and configuration of the duplicate detection and removal software, more work on batch loading authority records, and the linking of bibliographic and authority records).

In the absence of other actions, the effect of this decision would result in a small number of holdings not being added to the ANBD; we won't simply add or merge records that would otherwise have been reviewed. To minimise the impact of this change on database coverage we are:

- Putting more resource into the analysis and massaging of RIS files before they are loaded to the ANBD in an attempt to reduce the number of potential duplicates that can't be resolved by the software;

- More rigorously enforcing the Libraries Australia minimum record standard to remove records that are too sparse to be reliably matched;
- Continuing to fine tune the matching algorithms;
- Sampling records (based on material type and/or contributing library) that the matching programs have not been able to resolve with the aim of identifying homogenous batches of records that can then be added or match/merged by a script; and
- Asking libraries to retain ANBD numbers in records so that if the records are sent back to Libraries Australia Global Refresh files, the control numbers can be used for matching.

OAI harvesting

An important new option for contributing records to the ANBD – an integration of OAI harvesting with RIS - was tested and implemented. Once set up at each library, ANBD holdings can be automatically updated through regular harvests from library management systems. Holdings are deleted if they are no longer held. 2080 Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office manuscripts records were successfully harvested via OAI, and then imported to the ANBD using RIS. Over 8,000 manuscript records from the State Library of Queensland have also been harvested.

Duplicate detection and removal

Libraries Australia has recently started using OCLC Control Numbers (OCN) as the match key in the ANBD de-duplication software. When a record is contributed to WorldCat an OCN is returned via SRU Record Update and added to the ANBD record. Using OCNs as a match key in our de-duplication software allows us to benefit from WorldCat's matching algorithms. Since 1 July over 50,000 duplicate records have been removed using this method.

LADD software upgrade

Testing of the next upgrade to the LADD software (VDX version 4.1.4) is well advanced. The ISO ILL test system has already been upgraded. The training system upgrade is planned for 19 November and the production upgrade for 26 November. The release includes a number of minor developments and bug fixes and will allow requests to be sent to the British Library Document Supply Centre (BLDSC). An agreement with BLDSC was signed earlier in the year but implementation of requesting has been delayed pending rectification of a minor fault in VDX support for the artemail format that will be used to transmit requests. We expect BLDSC requesting will be implemented early in 2012.

Ongoing alignment of Libraries Australia and Trove

The Libraries Australia and Trove teams work closely to ensure that functions supporting searching remain similar. These include simultaneous addition of links to booksellers, new tags indexed, and deep linking from either service to local system catalogues. Whenever a new index is created in Libraries Australia, it is considered for inclusion in Trove. Since July,

three MARC21 tags have been made available for searching in both services: 541, 561 and 776.

In this quarter, a new trend is emerging as a result of the alignment – although modest, one reason now given for the cancellation of memberships is the availability of Trove.

The Libraries Australia Search Redevelopment Project

Early discussions have been held to establish this new project. In September, Alison Dellit was appointed as the Business Architect. An initial briefing will be provided by the new Assistant Director-General, Resource Sharing Division, Marie-Louise Ayres.

Recommendation

The Libraries Australia Advisory Committee to note the report.

Contact: Debbie Campbell
 Director Collaborative Services
 Resource Sharing Division

Contact: Rob Walls
 Director Database Services
 Resource Sharing Division

11 October 2011