E-Resources Management:
So Many Silos to Synchronize…Still!

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“True integration with systems that already support various aspects of the e-resource life cycle is likely to be the key to success for e-resource management solutions. Such a solution should not duplicate existing data and procedures, but rather complement them while streamlining workflows: it should provide a central ‘control tower’ for librarians from which they can manage the e-resource environment.”

(Sadeh & Ellingsen, 2005)
Some assumptions:

- E-resources management is still a complex and daunting task (too much work!), distributed among multiple data containers (silos).
- Despite the development of streamlined workflows, there is still redundant and duplicate data entry (synchronization).
- Despite technical developments (systems, tools, applications), there are only partial integrated systems and approaches (integration).
- E-resources management needs to be more automated (automation).
Some initial questions:

- Is there a more integrated approach to e-resources management?

- Should the ultimate goal of e-resources management be to minimize the number of silos for e-resources data?
Current Landscape for E-Resources

1. Systems & tools
2. Standards
3. Data providers
Current Landscape (1): Systems & Tools
Current Landscape (2): Standards

Current, new & emerging standards:

• Data structures (e.g., ONIX for Serials (holdings, coverage); metadata, etc.)
• Data exchange formats (e.g., ONIX Serials Online Holdings (SOH); acquisitions transaction data (CORE))
• Usage statistics (COUNTER, SUSHI)
• Licenses (e.g., ERMI2/ONIX for Licensing Terms/ONIX-PL; SERU)
• General e-resources management system standards (e.g., data elements, workflows, etc.)
Current Landscape (3): Data Providers

Source and quality of records:
- MARC subscription services
- MARC records from publishers & vendors
- Records from knowledge base

 ✓ CONSER records (e-journals)
 ✓ Proposals for provider-neutral records for databases (integrating resources → more authenticated records, less duplication, and records will be part of serials management systems)
 ✓ E-book aggregations (publisher, vendor metadata)
A return to the initial questions, and then some more:

- Is there a more integrated approach to e-resources management?
- Should the goal of e-resources management be to minimize the number of silos?
- What are some criteria to pursue a more integrated approach for re-thinking e-resources management?
- Would the development and use of original (local) applications be a solution to achieving the goal of minimizing the number of silos required for managing e-resources?
CSU: E-Resources Landscape

- California State University: 23 campuses
- Consortium acquisition of e-resources
- Some areas of e-resources management and workflows are centralized in collaboration with the Chancellor’s Office, Systemwide Library Initiatives, Information Technology Services (e.g., SFX, MetaLib)

| ILS          | • Innovative  
|              | • Endeavor    
|              | • Dynix       
|              | • GEAC        |
| ERM          | • implemented 
|              | • being implemented 
|              | • under consideration |
| SFX          | • link resolver 
|              | • MARCit!     |
| MetaLib      | • Version III 
|              | • X-Server    |
| SerialsSolutions | • 360 MARC Updates |
Development of Local Application

SFX to Innovative ERM conversion:

• Automated extraction and conversion of holdings data from SFX into III ERM format
• “Direct linking” to send users directly from catalog to vendor website via OpenURL
• One place to control the data and provide OpenURL linking (SFX)
• One place to search and display journal information (catalog)

Developed by David Walker, Library Web Services Manager
California State University
SFX to III ERM format: Local application

• SFX format
  Religious studies 0034-4125
  Cambridge University Press Journals Complete
  $obj->parsedDate('>=','1997','33','1') &&
  $obj->parsedDate('<=','1999','35','4')

• ERM Format
  Religious studies | 0034-4125 | | 1997 | 1999 | Cambridge University Press Journals
  Complete | Volume | 33 | 35 | Issue | 1 | 4 |
Corollary effects:

• Integration (centralization) cause for a re-thinking of acquired systems, services?
• Systems that relate and have capabilities for extraction and importing of data from one single silo (*synchronization*)?
• Selection of services, systems, and products based on integration and interoperability of systems?
• Do more with less (*redundancy*) in fewer silos!
References

