

News from Special Libraries Cataloguing

By J. McRee (Mac) Elrod.

MARC records for electronic publishers and aggregators continue to be the major part of SLC's work. We have recently added the production of UKMARC records for an Anglo American e-publisher.

Earlier we had an Irish aggregator client, and have now added our first London England based e-publisher.

As more libraries use WorldCat Local as their own catalogue, they are asking e-publishers and aggregators to supply MARC records with OCLC numbers. We now have an automated arrangement with OCLC to upload records, and receive OCLC numbers, usually the same day, for three clients. We are in the process of setting up accounts for several other clients.

OCLC wishes provider neutral (PN) records, which are unsuitable for an aggregator like Credo Reference, who for e-reference books remove page numbers and indexes, and add audio and video files. PN records are also not very applicable to publishers who are the only providers (several societies), or aggregators (e.g., Canadian Electronic Library) who add value, such as gathering items into subject series which should be traced. We do bow to the PN standard by removing 010\$h (print LCCN), 506 (restrictions on access), 530 (other formats available), and 538 (mode of access) from records for OCLC loading. The version of records loaded to OCLC is much less rich than that received by clients.

We receive glowing reports concerning the intuitiveness of SkyRiver as an alternative to OCLC as a bibliographic utility. It has not had the popularity in Canada that it has in the United States, because it does not offer Canadian libraries the cost savings it can offer American ones. OCLC has a policy of charging research libraries outside the United States less than their American counterparts. We are

exploring adding SkyRiver numbers in 035, as we do OCLC numbers.

As we contemplate the possible implementation of RDA, our thinking has changed 180 degrees. Earlier we outlined the retrospective automated changes required to make legacy AACR2 records more like RDA. (We can supply these if desired.) Now we are developing an export for RDA records, making them more like AACR2 for clients who wish it, including the insertion of AACR2 GMDs in 245\$h, and AACR2 abbreviations. (These can also be sent on request.)

Many clients can not afford ILS changes to display 338 carrier term, and 336 content term, as early notification. In addition, many RDA media terms are less meaningful to patrons than the AACR2 GMD terms. We intend to use IFLA's "electronic" rather than RDA's "computer" as a media type, and "PDF" as unit name (aka SMD) for remote e-books in that format, in keeping with "Blu-ray disc", "CD", "CD-ROM", and "DVD".

Records loaded to OCLC of course would be unchanged RDA, except that: 1) we would upgrade RDA records having only one author entry when there are several authors, and 2) we can not use "language of the catalogue" inclusions, since we serve a variety of language catalogues. Our decision to always supply missing jurisdiction in 260\$a seems to be working its way through the approval process to be added as an option in RDA.

Considering the economic situation of many of our clients, this seems a strange time to consider implementing a new cataloguing code, or a replacement of MARC coding.

*J. McRee (Mac) Elrod is Director,
Special Libraries Cataloguing.*