



A Community of Libraries  
*Detroit Area Library Network*

# Library Automation Platforms: The New Library Systems

*ILS Industry Overview*

December 2012

[www.dalnet.org](http://www.dalnet.org)

# What is a Platform?



- A computing platform includes some sort of **hardware architecture and a software framework** (including application frameworks), where the combination allows software, particularly application software, to run.

– Wikipedia.org



- Cloud Computing: hosted technological infrastructure with no local installation, accessed via a Web browser

- Open Systems with Web APIs



# What is a *Library* Platform?

- **Cloud computing**: hosted technological infrastructure with no local installation, accessed via a Web browser
- A **single system** for management of all library resources
- **Single search** discovery catalog public interface
- **Greater cooperation and shared data** among institutions
- **Combined workflows**, including digital asset management
- **Focus on fulfillment**, getting the resource to the user, patron driven
- New and **open systems** with Web APIs
- **Scalability**: for small, large, and groups

# Library Automation Platforms

- ExLibris Alma, working with early adopters
- Innovative Interfaces, Inc. (III), Sierra, working with early adopters
- Kuali OLE (Open Library Environment), based on open source and open systems, in development
- OCLC WorldShare, in general release
- SerialsSolutions Intota, announced in 2012, in development
- SirsiDynix Blue Cloud / ERC (Electronic Resource Central), in development



Brochure

Download Brochure

Alma FAQs

The Alma library management service and its Benefits - FAQs

## The Next-Generation Library Services Framework

Ex Libris Alma supports the entire suite of library operations—selection, acquisition, metadata management, digitization, and fulfillment—for the full spectrum of library materials, regardless of format or location.

**Unified resource management:** Alma supports the entire suite of library operations for print, electronic, and digital resources

**Collaborative Metadata Management:** Alma brings highquality, shared metadata into the resource management environment in a unique, hybrid model that balances global sharing with local needs

**Smart Fulfillment:** Alma provides fulfillment services to users in terms that are easy to understand, while using unified workflows and analytics capabilities to streamline and optimize fulfillment workflows

**Optimized resources and data:** Alma simplifies library workflows by using a unique automated business processes and shared data

**Cloud-based service:** Offered as a cloud service to increase the return on investment and reduce the total cost of ownership of the library's infrastructure, and to provide access to shared data and services

**Intelligent collection development:** Alma allows you to maximize your collection development budget with selection, acquisitions, and evaluation processes informed by usage information, cost per use, and the holdings of peer collections.

**Ex Libris open platform:** Using web-based, open interfaces, Alma can be integrated seamlessly with other systems including external campus systems, and libraries can develop adapters and plug-ins to meet their institutions' unique needs

ExLibris Alma Library Management Services / URM (Unified Resource Management)/Primo

<http://www.exlibrisgroup.com/category/AlmaOverview>

<http://discoveralma.com/>

[http://www.exlibrisgroup.com/category/URM\\_ResourceCenter](http://www.exlibrisgroup.com/category/URM_ResourceCenter)



Innovative Interfaces (III) Sierra/Encore

<http://sierra.iii.com/>

<http://blog.sierra.iii.com/>

# Kuali Open Library Environment

Open Library Environment (OLE) - An Extensible Service-Driven Library Management System

## OLE Overview

Presentations/Publications

Data Dictionary

Symbol Dictionary

News Blog

Modules

Partners

Timeline

Organization

## Overview

- Built, owned, governed by the academic and research library community
- Supports the wide range of resources and formats of scholarly information
- Interoperates & integrates with other enterprise and network-based systems
- Supports federation across projects, partners, consortia, and institutions
- Provides workflow design & management capabilities
- Provides information management capabilities to non-library efforts



**Download**  
the source  
code



**Test Drive**  
this application  
online for free

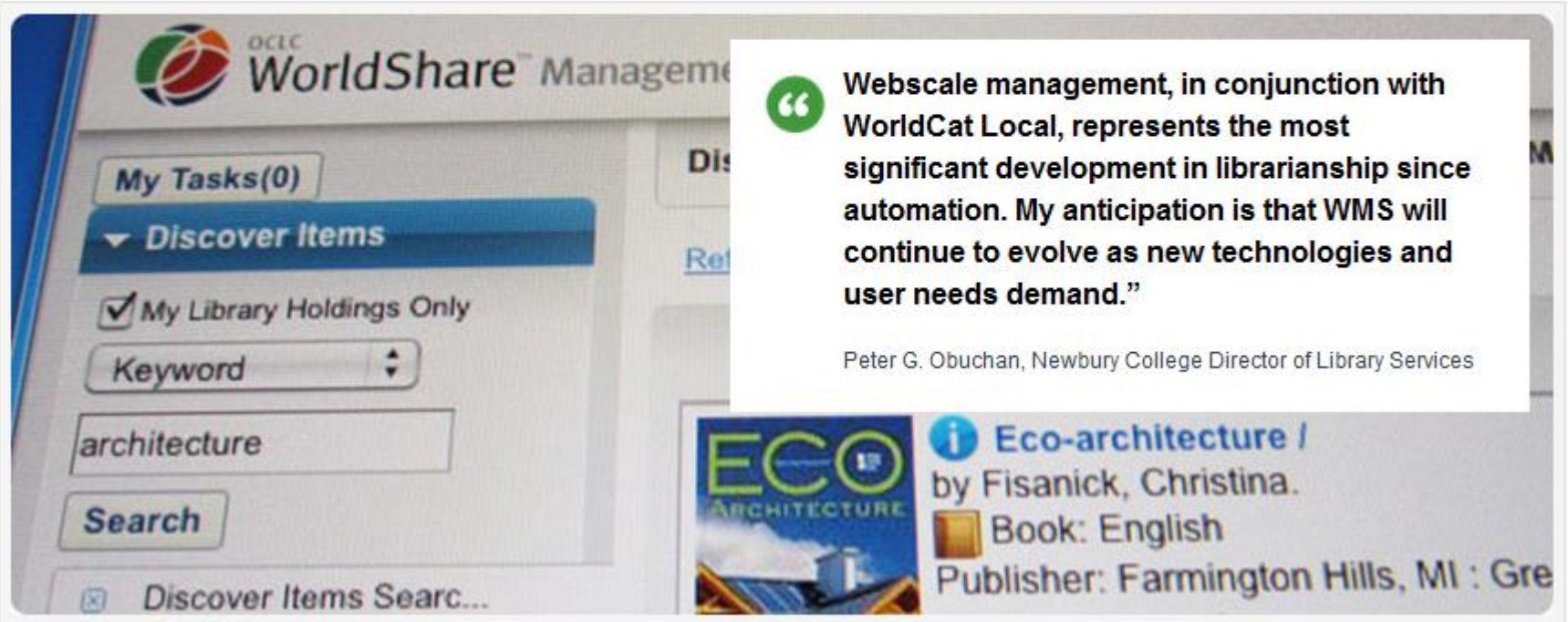
Kuali OLE

<http://kuali.org/ole>

<http://kuali.org/OLE/Timeline>

## OCLC WorldShare™ Management Services

The first cooperative management service for libraries



The screenshot displays the OCLC WorldShare Management Services interface. On the left, there is a navigation menu with 'My Tasks(0)' and 'Discover Items'. Under 'Discover Items', there is a checkbox for 'My Library Holdings Only' which is checked, and a 'Keyword' dropdown menu. Below the dropdown is a search input field containing the text 'architecture' and a 'Search' button. At the bottom of the search area, there is a link for 'Discover Items Searc...'. On the right side of the interface, a book result is shown for 'Eco-architecture / by Fisanick, Christina.' with a book icon, the text 'Book: English', and the publisher information 'Publisher: Farmington Hills, MI : Gre'.

“ Webscale management, in conjunction with WorldCat Local, represents the most significant development in librarianship since automation. My anticipation is that WMS will continue to evolve as new technologies and user needs demand.”

Peter G. Obuchan, Newbury College Director of Library Services

OCLC WorldShare Management Services

<http://www.oclc.org/webscale/>

<http://www.oclc.org/worldshare-platform/default.htm>



- ➔ Unified, intelligent workflows enable staff members to easily manage all types of resources in a single, smart workflow
- ➔ Knowledgebase: A high-quality knowledgebase of authoritative metadata means you can work more efficiently at less cost for data acquisition
- ➔ Assessment allows you to see how resources are being used, as well as how a resource under consideration fits with the rest of your collections
- ➔ True interoperability means more current data and less duplicate data entry. Imagine support for real-time transfer of data from suppliers, student systems and from financial systems—less redundant batch jobs

SerialsSolutions Intota

<http://www.serialssolutions.com/en/services/intota>



# SirsiDynix® **BLUE Cloud**

- One public interface integrating print holdings and access for e-resources
- New Electronic Resource Central management system
- All-new Web modules for staff interface
- Works off of Web Services for existing Horizon and Symphony databases
- Cost included in current Horizon and/or Symphony maintenance contracts



SirsiDynix Blue Cloud and Electronic Resource Central  
<http://www.sirsidynix.com/eresourcecentral>

# Future of the Library Systems

- Expansion of available library automation platforms within the next few years
- Increased importance of discovery interfaces that integrate print and electronic resources in a single search
- Integration of new library standards and adoption of non-library standards for open systems and linked data

# Implications for DALNET

- DALNET has **waited to migrate** to a new system until there was a discernible difference in possible systems to adopt.
- Adoption of a library system platform would completely change the **technological infrastructure** of DALNET, i.e. greatly reduce the number of servers and their costs for maintenance.
- A new platform has the potential to allow DALNET members to **redesign workflows** for acquisition and processing of print and electronic resources, with more time to provide library services.
- DALNET would be able to **focus on services** instead of spending the bulk of time on running the system.
- Migration to a new system will necessitate a complete review and **shift in focus for DALNET annual operating costs**.

# DALNET Planning for the Future

- Laying a foundation, migration to union catalog (single database) in 2009/2010, clean up in 2011/2012
- Saving financial resources for a migration, planning financing for sustaining a new system
- Defining what is needed out of the next system, involving the complete membership of the consortium
- Reviewing the market and hosting product demonstrations
- Determining when and if to migrate to a new system or platform with identifiable advantages

# References

There are no particular references for this presentation other than any hyperlinks provided.

For more information on the ILS Industry, companies, and products see the Library Technology Guides web site at:

<http://www.librarytechnology.org>