Authority Control

Update on the Current Landscape

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Goals for the Authority Control Working Group

- explore current Alma functionality
- advocate for improvements in Alma
- recommend an Alliance-wide approach to performing authority control tasks in Alma
Phase 1

- Explore current Alma functionality related to authority control
- Document Alma functionality gaps
Phase 1 - Report summary

Alma authority control tools

- Link bib headings - daily job
- Preferred term correction - daily job
- Local authorities at the IZ level - only link heading in bibs not linked to the NZ
Phase 1 - Report summary

- OCLC master records complicate things
- Unable to test functionality in the sandbox
Phase 1 - Survey feedback

- 28 institutions responded
- desire for Alma-based tools that would operate at the consortium (NZ) level
- Primo display
- Reports
Phase 1 conclusions
Alliance level / centralized guidance on authority work
Focused approach for enhancing master records
We need better reports from Alma
Phase 1b

- Fully test functionality in the NZ premium sandbox
- Document what works well
- Document functionality that is lacking
Phase 1b testing in sandbox

- Link bib headings job report
- Preferred term correction job report
- Authority control task list
Phase 1b testing in sandbox

- Link bib headings job report
  - report includes: hyperlink to “all titles” set with bibs when heading not linked
  - lacks indication of which headings in each bib are unlinked
Link Bib Headings job

![Job Report from Ex Libris Alma Sandbox](image)

- **Process ID:** 16325504440001451
- **Started on:** 06/29/2016 11:02:22 PDT
- **Total run time:** 21 Minutes 36 Seconds
- **Status:** Completed Successfully
- **Records processed:** 388352

**Counters:**
- Number of Bib-Heading(s) where no appropriate authorized term was found: **39459**
- Number of Bib-Heading(s) were linked: **348893**
- Initial run: **true**
- Number of Bib-Heading(s) with multi-matches for linking: **6226**
Phase 1b testing in sandbox

- Preferred Term Correction job
  - report includes: MMS ID, vocabulary, MARC field, old value, new value
  - Most headings in this report had identical old and new values (case opened)
  - Lots of errors (case opened)
Preferred Term Correction job

- Process ID: 16326785570001451
- Started on: 06/29/2016 11:55:50 PDT
- Total run time: 9 Hours 22 Minutes 32 Seconds
- Status: Completed with Errors
- Records processed: 781490

Of the 781490 records processed, 29700 records failed. For more information view the report.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Counters</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Bib-Heading(s) corrected</td>
<td>907114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Bib-Heading(s) where no appropriate authorized term was found</td>
<td>39647</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bib-Heading(s) correction report: [Click to download report]
How useful are these reports?
Phase 1b testing in sandbox

Authority control task list

- Reports that can be filtered by:
  - Corrected headings
  - Unlinked headings
  - Multi-matches
  - Linked headings
  - Updated/deleted authority records
- Can be exported and sorted by MARC tags in Excel
Phase 1b testing in sandbox

Authority control task list problems:

- PTC reports on headings that did not change (opened case)
- MMS ID does not export, no OCLC numbers
- Lots of errors (30,000) when running PTC job (opened case)
- Unable to filter vocabularies (FAST, GND, MESH, LC) or MARC fields
  - Export and filter in Excel
- Very slow (spins and spins when changing filters)
Which reports are most important?
Phase 1b testing to be continued...

- Browse bibliographic headings (feedback from IZ testing welcome)
- Primo display (unavailable for NZ at this time)
- Worldcat API to batch update headings in OCLC
- Explore approaches to insuring consistent use of terms in the new bibliographic fields 382 (medium of performance), 385 and 386 (demographic group terms), 388 (time period terms), and 257 (Country of producing entity).
- ExL linked data initiatives
Work with Ex Libris staff on implementing existing Alma authority control functionality where possible, advocating for Alma enhancements where necessary, working with Ex Libris to design enhancements that meet our needs, and test enhancements as they become available.
Your feedback and ideas are welcome!