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Doc Acquis

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DOC AQUIS . . .

a column reporting on news and developments relating to acquisitions and document delivery

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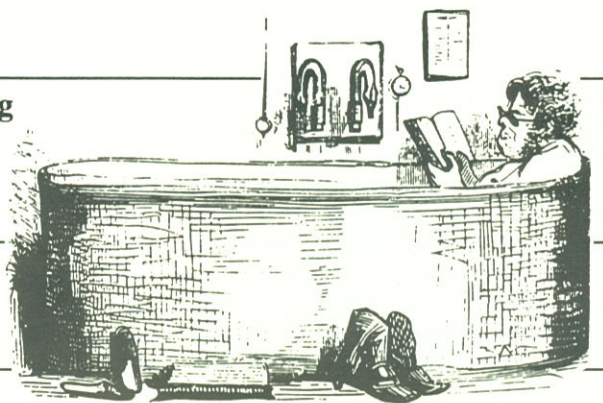
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION: Barcoding Services Provided by Serials Agents

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by Mary McLaren

This month's **Doc Aquis** will discuss the various kinds of barcode services which are being provided by serials agents to their library customers. Details will outline the provision and use of barcodes as a means of data entry, search strategy, or a combination of both.

Upon the request of the library, and following discussion of the client's specific needs, quantities of barcodes are produced by the serials vendor, printed on paper, delivered to the library, and subsequently used by the library's staff. These barcodes are generally provided free of charge and are used for a variety of purposes.

Barcodes are provided to libraries as a labor-saving device, an efficient, fast and accurate way for staff to input data into their library's acquisition system. The method of wanding in data with the use of a barcode reader combines the technology of automation with human manipulation, hence, it may be considered to be a semi-manual operation.

Uses of Barcodes

Although libraries are putting vendor supplied barcodes to various uses, the most common application is as a convenient means of inputting the vendor's title number or subscription code into the library's online records. This need may arise from a library's recent move to an automated system, a transition from one serial vendor to another, or a plan to implement an automated invoicing or claiming procedure which requires such data to be in the records. Additional modifications to existing order records may also be accomplished via the use of supplied barcodes.

A second use is to assist the library in creating order records in their library's system. In order to achieve this end, not only the variable subscription data is supplied, but also constant data which needs to be entered for every record. System commands, account number, subscriber information, and vendor code might be included as constant data elements for this purpose.

A third use of barcode technology is as a means of inputting invoice data. In these cases, the barcodes contain cost information which is put into the appropriate record's pay statements.

Serials check-in and the modification of bibliographic records are two additional applications which may employ the use of vendor supplied barcodes.

A common feature provided with each application is the provision of a barcoded search key by which the staff member can call up the appropriate record. The most popular access points or means of record retrieval are: ISSN, client purchase order number, and vendor title or subscription code.

Data fields which are presently being provided in barcode format by serials vendors include: ISSN, vendor title/subscription code, client purchase order number, title, price, issue chronology / enumeration, vendor codes, fund codes, subscriber codes, and client account numbers. Other fields could possibly be added upon request.

Before the barcodes are produced, the library's system capabilities and needs must be thoroughly discussed with and understood by the vendor, as well as the encoding format to be used. Code 128, Code 39, and Codabar seem to be the most popular encoding formats, but other options may also be available. Generally speaking, all the vendors contacted were very willing to discuss the library's needs and to customize their service to meet those needs.

Vendor Specific Information

The information provided below was supplied by the vendors and may be of particular interest to current or potential clients.

B. H. Blackwell

"Blackwell's have been involved with the application of barcode technology to library automation for a number of years. Initially this involvement was confined to the many uses of the SISAC Serial and Contribution identifier, but more recently has progressed to the wider application of barcodes as a means of bulk entry."

In addition to the data elements listed by other vendors, Blackwell's indicated their ability to create Title barcodes. They also listed four additional encoding formats beyond the three listed in the body of this article. They stated, however, that not all of the codes are suitable for all purposes.

For more information, contact **Tina Feick**, Senior Serials Specialist, Blackwell's Periodicals Division (Oxford, England), (800) 458-3706, feick@bnamf.blackwell.com.

EBSCO Subscription Services

EBSCO has been producing barcodes since the mid 1980's to help libraries input EBSCO data into subscribers' records. They began using barcodes to help clients create their original online records in 1993.

EBScan Data Input System assists in the set up of serials orders or copy records and is particularly useful during transi-

tions. The first barcode scanned retrieves the record. A command strip of codes is then used which contains one or more barcodes that move the user through the record to appropriate fields. The command strip is constant to all records. A final barcode is then scanned containing account and subscriber data for that title.

EBSCO has experience using EBScan with many libraries, including some long-term customers who are using it to clean data files or correct ISSNs.

For more information, contact your EBSCO representative, your Regional Office, or Divisional Headquarters at (205) 991-6600.

The Faxon Company

Faxon had provided barcodes on a small scale in the past to enable clients to input title information. They are gearing up now on a much larger scale to help clients input Faxon's new Subscription I.D. numbers which will replace the old Title Numbers. These new codes are scheduled to be assigned by late Spring, '94.

Faxon will be sending their clients a questionnaire on which they can designate the customization and barcode format they desire.

For more information, contact your Faxon representative or call the Corporate Headquarters at (800) 999-3594.

Harrassowitz

Harrassowitz also provides barcode service to their customers. To help in the transfer of titles, Harrassowitz supplies the barcoded information, the library inputs the data and produces an electronic file which it then sends to Harrassowitz. This allows the vendor to load the library's system I.D. numbers for the titles being transferred into their computer.

For more information, contact your Harrassowitz North American Representatives at (800) 348-6886.

Readmore Academic Services, Inc.

In February of 1994, Readmore announced the development of Bar-Pro, a generic program for production of barcodes for serials applications. This program is designed to assist its customers in routine as well as complicated processes, such as transfers from other serials vendors and collection analysis projects.

The newest Bar-Pro application is the production of barcodes for invoice updating called Bar-Pro Invoice. This application is used in lieu of invoice tapes

by those libraries whose local systems do not accept tape input and is especially useful for smaller and more frequent updating, such as that required for supplemental invoices.

For more information, contact **Judy Schott**, Readmore Director of Microcomputer Services at (800) 221-3306.

Turner Subscriptions

Turner provides a full line of barcode services to its clients. As a general rule, they can include any data field that appears on a client invoice. In addition to the fields mentioned earlier in the article, they can also include the periodical name, number, start date, subscription length, frequency, and shipping information. They will provide the format that the client requires; the costs will vary according to the information that is requested. The majority of their clients require barcodes to transfer subscription specific information into their library systems to assist in check-in and circulation.

For more information, contact Turner Subscriptions at (800) 847-4201.

Other serials vendors not mentioned may also provide barcode services. Contact your vendor representative for product information.

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EBSCAN PROJECT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY MEDICAL CENTER LIBRARY

by **Cindy D. Cline**, Librarian, Serials Department and Collection Development, University of Kentucky Medical Center Library

The University of Kentucky Medical Center Library provides service to the five colleges of Allied Health, Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy. The Library also serves the state's health professionals and the Area Health Education Resource Centers throughout the commonwealth of Kentucky. The library holds approximately 1400 current subscriptions, most of which are ordered through EBSCO.

During 1992, the University of Kentucky libraries migrated to the NOTIS Library System. The main campus is one processing unit and the MCL is a separate processing unit. The main campus library was already using an automated

system for ordering and needed to move to the NOTIS Acquisition System very rapidly. MCL was on a manual system and decided to delay moving onto the NOTIS Acquisition System.

Following EBSCO's purchase of MAJORS Scientific Subscriptions in 1993 and the MCL's decision to use EBSCO's subscriptions services, the library began to consider creating Order/Processing Records (OPRs) through use of the EBScan service. This method would give the MCL a quick and painless way to create OPRs and eventually move onto the Acquisition System. MCL contacted our EBSCO account representative to discuss the process. We met with her to discuss constant information elements such as tabbing, fund codes, vendor codes, etc., which would be used to create online order records for our serials.

Since we were not currently using the NOTIS Acquisition System, we did not have our fund structure in place. We decided to use a "dummy" fund code with a default encumbrance of $1.00. This would allow us to see how many actual titles we had through EBSCO and still allow us to change the fund codes later.

During the second meeting our EBSCO representative brought sample sheets and a template. The template held the constant information fields. The sample sheets listed the titles in alphabetical order, with the ISSN number and EBSCO's title number. After checking to make sure the template and sample sheets were correct, we contacted EBSCO to have the actual templates and barcodes created. We also had to make sure that the barcodes were compatible with our barcode reader. For the project

we used an IBM3164 terminal with a Worthington barcode reader.

The ISSN and title number barcodes arrived, accompanied by templates and a list of our titles in invoice format. The library's acquisition technician began working on this project. Titles were retrieved by wanding in the ISSN number. Next the technician wanded through the template and inserted the EBSCO title number in the note area. Each sheet had an average of 6 titles per page. The technician found the project to be a very easy and simple process. We created about 1,250 order records in 2 weeks, working about 2 to 3 hours each workday. Between 100 to 175 order records were created each day.

One type of problem we encountered was with titles that were "supplements" or "combined" titles. These titles have their own vendor subscription number but are paid on the parent title or one part of a combined title. Care must be taken to code these records in such a way that future payments will be posted to the correct record.

A second problem (but also a good problem) was that we did not include the expenditure class (XC) code as a part of the subscription title number barcode. At the time the barcodes were produced the library had not yet decided what to use as an XC code. After the EBScan project was completed, we determined which code we could use. Then we went back to each record and added the XC code and changed the fund code.

This time the records were retrieved by the NOTIS record number. Retrieving records in this manner helped to identify problems with incorrect NOTIS numbers on the EBSCO records, title changes, supplements, and combined titles. This part of the project provided a quality check to ensure that the OPRs were correct and that the information for EBSCO was also correct.

During this time the University Libraries decided to pursue the possibility of using NOTIS's Vendor Invoice Tape Load program. Having created our serials online order records, aided by the use of EBSCO's EBScan Data Input System, the Medical Center Library is already prepared to participate in this new project.

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Have You Heard?

EBSCO Industries Inc. is expanding its ability to provide customers document delivery services with the acquisition of **Dynamic Information Corp.** of Burlingame, Calif. The joining of these two companies furthers the objectives of each to offer full-service document delivery. Dynamic Information has been delivering all types of documents to academic, corporate and public libraries worldwide for 14 years. Continuing in its role as a facilitator in the delivery of serial information from publishers to consumers, EBSCO is adding document delivery to its palette of services.

Winnebago Software Company has expanded the capability of its union catalog program, **Union CAT**, to include an interlibrary loan feature. With Winnebago's Union CAT, materials in multiple library systems can be shared through interlibrary loan quickly and conveniently. In addition to being a cost effective resource sharing tool, the ILL feature tracks and controls transactions, maintains an ILL log file, secures the library system with password protection and prints a variety of forms and reports. In addition to this expansion Winnebago Software Company also has expanded the capability of its circulation and online catalog program to catalog abstract informational databases. Through an agreement with **UMI**, Winnebago Software Company's CIRC/CAT program for IBM or compatible computers can be supplemented with UMI databases. Winnebago provides a "seamless interface" between a card catalog program and informational databases. This interface allows library users to look up listings in multiple databases, as well as the library's own holdings, within the same search.

ADONIS II, a new Windows system for document delivery has been launched. Many American publishers are now including their titles in ADONIS II as a part of a major expansion and development of the ADONIS image-based document delivery system utilizing CD-ROM. Turnaround time with the new system has been cut to ten days. ADONIS now covers 600 journal titles, predominantly in biomedicine, but also covering related subjects such as chemistry, biochemistry and biotechnology. Most new publishers adding their titles in 1994 are American and include many society publishers, answering a frequently heard criticism that ADONIS was a European-biased service.

Colorado State University has successfully transferred locally created electronic interlibrary loan files from its system to the **OCLC PRISM ILL system**. The transfer was completed as part of an OCLC ILL Link Feasibility Study to see if such transfers from local systems to the OCLC PRISM ILL system can be made without staff having to re-key information. For the past two years, CSU has made electronic mail available to library patrons for interlibrary loan requests. The OCLC ILL Link moves those patron-initiated interlibrary loan requests from the CSU local system to the OCLC PRISM ILL system. Reaction to date by staff and patrons has been very positive.

Latest announcements from **OCLC** include the information that more than 4,000 titles from **Inside Information**, the **British Library**'s serials table-of-contents database, have been added to ArticleFirst and ContentsFirst. This addition boosts journal coverage to nearly 15,000 for OCLC serials table-of-contents databases. The British Library also becomes a document supplier on the FirstSearch Catalog to documents located in the ArticleFirst and Arts & Humanities databases with plans to include other databases later in this year.

OCLC also announces a trial program with **AT&T InterSpan Data Communications Services** that will provide corporate information seekers access to the FirstSearch Catalog via the Internet and AT&T's InterSpan Frame Relay Service (FRS), a worldwide, high-speed intelligent network operated by AT&T. Thirty-one of the 41 databases will be available to end-users, with ordering full text of desired articles through OCLC's document delivery service.

The field test of **OCLC Gateway Software** came to a close on March 1,

Chaos

Standard Address Numbering
by **Sandra K. Paul** (President, SKP Associates)

*Ed Note: Recently, I was training a new order Library Technical Assistant in our department, the wonderfully resilient **Shirley Jeffries**. She asked me all about the SAN. I thought I did a pretty good job of telling her about it and I showed her a few issues of ATG in case she wanted to read more, Then the mail came with Sandy's column! On top of everything else, I guess Sandy has some kind of mind-reading standard! — KS*

This chaotic column has, in the past, mentioned the Standard Address Number (SAN), which is an American National Standard (ANSI/NISO Z39.43-1993). I thought you might find it as interesting as I have to consider the SAN in an increasingly electronic world. Just think . . .

Originally, in the prehistoric 1970s, the SAN was developed by a Committee of the National Information Standards Organization (NISO). However, in those days, NISO hadn't been invented yet, so those of us who created the SAN did so for the organization that was then called American National Standards Institute Committee Z39. We were responding to the frustration of the then-Executive Director of the National Association of College Stores (NACS). He wanted each of his member stores to have a unique

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with all three test sites deciding to keep the new software interface because it significantly increased their productivity. The UNIX-based OCLC Gateway Software connects non-OCLC terminals and workstations on a campus or local network to OCLC and other services. Using an easy, menu-driven interface, a library staff member can log on to two or more systems and toggle among these during the workday. For more information on these services contact your OCLC-affiliated regional network.

CASPR, Inc. and **Farallon Computing Inc.** have announced the bundling of Farallon's **Replica** software with CASPR's electronic library program, **Library Works**. The combination of LibraryWorks and Replica enables librarians to create digital libraries by attaching Replica documents to traditional catalog records. Any user searching the library can now view, copy and print the document regardless of the application, fonts, graphics or personal computer platform.

Data Research Associates, Inc. announced the signing of an agreement with **Blackwell North America** to make Blackwell's New Titles and Tables of Contents Databases available on Open DRANET. Open DRANET is available to any library, whether it is running a Data Research System or another type of library automation software.

The PICA Center for Library Automation (PICA) in the Netherlands and ISM Library Information Services (ISM), Canada, have agreed with the **Research Libraries Group, Inc.** to use **Zephyr**, RLG's Z39.50 service giving their researchers across the globe full access to RLG's **RLIN** bibliographic database and **CitaDel** citation and document delivery service. In the future, RLG plans to offer its customers access to ISM's and PICA's databases. Although several Z39.50 servers are in the testing phase, Zephyr is among the first service to put into production and, now, the first to enter major international alliances.

CARL Systems announced the availability for testing purposes of a Z39.50 target providing access to several databases of their public catalog. Access to the bibliographic catalogs of 26 institutions are available by connecting to z3950.carl.org (192.54.81.12) on port 210.

SIRSI Corporation announced the release of **ZSERVER**, a Z39.50-compatible server used with SIRSI's **UNICORN** and **STILAS** information management systems. ZSERVER is being supplied free of charge to SIRSI customers as part of their software service agreement. SIRSI's ZSERVER offers all the powerful searching capabilities of the UNICORN and STILAS ENHANCED PUBLIC ACCESS MODULE. Administrators can monitor client/server interaction through standard UNICORN/STILAS administrative utilities. Parameters such as record size, timeouts, and number of simultaneous clients can be easily set and changed by the system administrator.

A status report on the **Association of Research Libraries** (ARL) North American Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery (NAILDD) Project has been prepared by **Mary E. Jackson**, Visiting Program Officer for ARL. The report includes activities and accomplishments for the project to date. For information on the project, contact Mary E. Jackson, e-mail jacksonm@al.relay.upenn.edu or phone 215/247-7512.

In a continuing effort to offer the latest technologies to clients, **Dynix** has added **Digital Equipment Corporation**'s **Alpha AXP platform** to its product line and is moving forward in the implementation and marketing of the product. Dynix Benchmark results have proved the Alpha to be a solid performer with a competitive price and a stable platform for the Dynix application. The 64 bit architecture of the Alpha AXP will be very beneficial as libraries move into more sophisticated imaging, multimedia, and networked technologies.

Gaylord Information Systems also announced the availability their **Digital Alpha AXP Computer**. In addition, Gaylord has successfully connected its **GALAXY** Integrated Library System with other library systems using Z39.50 protocol. The Alpha AXP system is based on the 64-bit DECchip 21064, the industry's fastest microprocessor, designed to accommodate high-performance features like ultra high speed multiple instruction sets, and symmetric multi-processing. ✿