



Connecticut Statewide  
Integrated Library System (ILS)  
Planning  
January 9, 2009

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# Why Are We Doing This - Process

- ❑ Looking for the next version of the statewide catalog - reQuest
- ❑ Issued RFI – Responses from traditional and open source vendors
- ❑ Conversation with Marshall Breeding
- ❑ Desire for enhanced functionality

# Why Are We Doing this – from Patron POV ?

- Seamless statewide system
  - Find books in own library – in every library
  - View circulation status of items in own library – in every library
  - Same look and feel – common interface
  - Same process to locate items
  - Same process to order items - patron placed holds
  - One account with all of their checkouts, holds, etc.

# Why Are We Doing this – from Patron POV ?

- Easy to use interface – at all libraries - equity
- Library 2.0 features – at all libraries
  - RSS- book lists
  - Enriched catalogs – user participation
    - Tagging
    - Reviews
    - Ratings
- Satisfy web savvy users – next generation users

# Why Are We Doing this – from Patron POV ?

- Statewide catalog that includes
  - Up-to-date holdings
  - Efficient search (reasonable search return time)

# Why Are We Doing This – from a Library POV ?

- ❑ Cost less / cost sharing
- ❑ Save staff time, particularly in ILL
- ❑ Share technical development costs – esp. important if open source
- ❑ Sharing technical expertise

# Why Are We Doing This – from a Library POV ?

- ❑ Equity of access to higher quality ILS for all libraries
- ❑ Reduction of duplication
- ❑ Standardization of workflow / procedures in all libraries
- ❑ Access to patron records from other libraries

# Beyond ILS - Possibilities

- Integrated content from multiple sources – no separate pathways to get at different types of content
  - Catalog, databases, digital content
- Customizable to each user
- Full-text searching
- Same search/fulfillment process for digital and print



# Consider Open Source?

## □ Pro

- Flexibility
- User Interface – ability to respond to usability testing
- Not tied to development priorities of vendor
- No issues of vendor mergers, buy outs

## □ Challenges

- Technical expertise/support needed
- Funding to develop functionality

# Survey

- Costs (from survey)
  - Standalone libraries (24) – Average of \$9,870/yr
  - Libraries in Networks (3): - Average \$20,704/yr
  - reQuest: \$716,871 (includes \$79,000 revenue from libraries)

# What Has Happened

- Met with network staff, libraries with standalone systems both large and small (early summer)
- Formation of Task Force (late summer 2008)
  - Representatives from network consortia (staff and libraries), standalones, community colleges, UConn, CLC, and will be adding schools
- Continue to research possibilities
  - Nora Blake, Mass Cat, attended last meeting – they moved from a union catalog to Koha ILS
- Requested \$2.5 million as capital request



# Thank You

- Keeping Up-to-Date
  - Follow the developments on WebJunction including the working vision statement at:
  - [Ct.WebJunction.Org/ct/statewide-ils](http://Ct.WebJunction.Org/ct/statewide-ils)
  
- Sharon Brettschneider
  - [sbrett@cslib.org](mailto:sbrett@cslib.org)
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