Supporting the library developer community with Web Services

OCLC Developer Network

A global community of developers who collaborate in order to propose, discuss and use OCLC Web Services to enhance library applications. The Developer Network improves the value of OCLC® membership for everyone because it encourages people to create, test and share new ideas and creativity at a network level.

What are OCLC Web Services?

OCLC Web Services describes a variety of OCLC APIs that are available for external consumption. Most OCLC users interact with data through product-specific, pre-designed user interfaces and protocols. OCLC Web services allow organizations to access OCLC library data at the network level, rather than the user level, in order to implement more customized, specific services and functions. OCLC Web Services available now include:

Production Services

- **WorldCat Search API**: Search and retrieval of bibliographic records in WorldCat, along with information on related library locations.
- **WorldCat Basic API**: Simplified search and retrieval of bibliographic records in WorldCat, with formatted citations and a link to WorldCat.org.
- **WorldCat Registry APIs**: Basic and detailed information about more than 90,000 institutions. The OpenURL Gateway is part of the Registry.
- **Identifier Services**: xmlns, xISBN, xISSN and xOCLCnum supply standard record identifiers and other information associated with an individual intellectual work in WorldCat.

Experimental Services

- **Terminology Service**: for controlled vocabularies.
- **Metadata Crosswalk Service**: enables metadata conversation from one format to another.
- **WorldCat Identities**: uses VIAF headings and bibliographic data to show a writer or character’s “footprint” in libraries, through WorldCat.

Many of the current OCLC Web Services are available as a no-charge benefit of membership to organizations who catalog with OCLC, or for a small subscription fee.

The OCLC Developer Network

The OCLC Developer Network is an open access group that fosters dialogue, collaboration and events such as the WorldCat Mashathon, Web Services Boot camps and other activities. The goal of the Developer Network is to improve the overall landscape of library data management, create a space where developers and librarians can connect and to give members a chance to influence the direction and plans for OCLC Web Services.

How to Join the Developer Network

- Membership in the network is free and open, globally, to any “Web 2.0” developer in the library services industry, and to any other informed, interested user of library services.
- Join the Developer Network by joining the WC-DEVNET-L listserv at https://www3.oclc.org/app/listserv/
- Read the Developer Network blog and tweets at www.worldcat.org/devnet/blog/
- Become a WorldCat Affiliate developer.
- Participation in mailing lists is open to anyone, as is access to any information on the OCLC Developer Network Web site.

For more information...

Web info: http://oclc.org/services/web/
Wiki: http://worldcat.org/devnet/

OCLC Contact:
Don Hamparian: hamparid@oclc.org
Portfolio Manager, OCLC Web Services