WorldCat Resource Sharing

Simplify and extend the reach of your resource sharing capabilities
The simplicity and power of the OCLC® WorldCat Resource Sharing™ service, combined with the reach of OCLC’s global network dramatically extends the resource sharing capabilities of your library. It maximises customer satisfaction, while minimising the time and effort spent by staff obtaining items.

Your time is a cost; using WorldCat Resource Sharing in addition to your primary ILL arrangement means you will spend less time locating materials.

There is no need to wade through a myriad of multiple, overlapping databases. Instead powerful WorldCat® searching finds you resource options locally, regionally and beyond, and does it all at once from a comprehensive database core of more than one billion holdings—both physical and digital—crossing all manner of subjects, languages, cultures and uniqueness.

Using WorldCat Resource Sharing to supplement the reach of your primary ILL service means you fill 95 percent or more of requests, so your library is increasingly viewed as a “one-stop” provider of essential services to its customers.

Increase your collection’s visibility

In addition, become a part of WorldCat, and your library adds its holdings to the world’s largest and most comprehensive catalogue. With over 140 million bibliographic records that represent more than 1 billion individual items held by participating institutions, patrons and Web users find what they’re looking for, and your staff benefits from significantly increased hit rates in their cataloguing and resource-sharing activities.

“The National Library of Education in Copenhagen has used WCRS [WorldCat Resource Sharing] for more than twenty years. Initially we just used WCRS for sending loan and copy requests to libraries in the U.S. but we gradually changed the workflow so that now WCRS is the preferred tool when requesting items from libraries outside Denmark.”

“WCRS gives us access to the holdings of thousands of libraries eliminating the need to consult various different systems. This saves significant staff time and therefore money. In addition the benefit afforded by Integrated Fee Management and Custom Holdings eliminates the hassle of dealing with different currencies or finding preferred suppliers.”

In the five years since we decided to load our holdings into WorldCat—a process that until now has added more than 236,000 original records to the database—the National Library of Education has become a large supplier in the WCRS community. We never imagined that our collection would be so interesting for library users abroad but we’re thrilled to be able to share it. In the twelve months to July 09 the library received almost two thousand requests from libraries across the world.”

—Poul Erlandsen, Head of Document Access Services, The National Library of Education in Copenhagen, Denmark
Authoritative and efficient features

Whether you handle low volume or high volume, occasional requests or seasonal bursts of activity, the components of WorldCat Resource Sharing add up to comprehensive resource coverage and faster processing. You’ll save even more time with features that better manage or automate fulfilment; while filters ensure you receive requests only for items you own and supply.

WorldCat search: Helpful to newcomers, powerful for everyone

Your staff locates resources with robust WorldCat searching. Basic, advanced and expert level search screens match skill level to search complexity. Browsing of subject headings and “more like this” suggestions let novices find their way. More savvy users can hone their searches with a wide variety of indices and limiters; special search methods such as Boolean combinations and logical strings; plus ranking, sorting and breakdown of results by format.

Request Manager: See everything that’s happening

The staff view’s control panel for all sharing activities, the Request Manager (above) clearly summarises current sharing tasks that require action. Request Manager lets you search all task workforms by key criteria, batch-update requests and batchprint requests by category.

Simplify your billing with Integrated Fee Management (IFM)

Save both time and money: Use the Integrated Fee Management (IFM) feature of WorldCat Resource Sharing and you reconcile resource sharing charges and receipts directly through your monthly OCLC invoice.

Often complicated payment issues can prohibit going outside of your primary resource sharing network to satisfy ILL requests. However, through IFM you’ll eliminate invoices and cheque writing to individual lending partners in different currencies, meaning significant cost savings on each request.

By letting OCLC do the paperwork for you, whenever you have ILL bills and payments from other Integrated Fee Management participants, you save money, your staff saves time and everyone can focus on accomplishing other library priorities.

Policies Directory: Set your rules for requests

You have one-click access to the OCLC Policies Directory, where you can review the lending and copying policies of other libraries participating in WorldCat Resource Sharing, plus their billing system and contact information. Publish your own policies as well, to reduce the number of unfulfillable requests you receive.

Item-level policies based on local holdings records

Use custom holdings groups and data in the local holdings records to search and select more accurate lender strings based on information entered by participating libraries (when libraries’ detailed local holdings information is up-to-date in WorldCat).

Detailed settings in the local holdings record also allow lenders to designate item-level policies for copying and loaning materials, ensuring that lenders do not receive requests for items they are unable to fulfill.

More: Data re-use, reports

Save and reapply commonly used data, such as workform templates (constant data), frequent lenders (custom holdings) and boilerplate text (conditional notes).

And see the big picture with reports and raw data that show your fulfillment rates, borrowing/lending ratios and other statistics that can be used to justify expenditures and further improve service.

Simple pricing matched to your situation

The goal of OCLC’s global cooperative has always been to lower information costs for libraries and groups, regardless of size or level of sharing activity. WorldCat Resource Sharing continues this tradition with a single, annual subscription fee that is customised to your needs and prevents extra charges due to sudden spikes in usage.
Benign

OCLC libraries’ lending rules and set your Policies Directory lets you review other users more quickly items, saving staff time and getting items to skip lenders who cannot provide requested automatically.

Features

Automatic deflection options automatically skip lenders who cannot provide requested items, saving staff time and getting items to users more quickly.

Policies Directory lets you review other OCLC libraries’ lending rules and set your own.

WorldCat searching offers basic, advanced and expert query of the definitive bibliographic and library holdings database.

Request Manager keeps staff review of requests organised.

Direct Request fulfillment sends borrowing requests directly into the system based on an institutional profile.

Data re-use lets you create request workflows, make presets of commonly used lenders, and store other text in macro-like form.

Integrated Fee Management simplifies billing with lending partners.

Usage reports provide comprehensive Statistics.

Related services

WorldCat.org™

A platform for broad, Web-scale discovery and delivery of library resources.

A unique benefit your library enjoys when it participates in WorldCat, WorldCat.org is a Web portal to the WorldCat global catalogue with a supporting program of data syndication that makes your library’s collection discoverable virtually anywhere on the Web. WorldCat.org allows more people outside the traditional library environment to find your reliable information and assistance through the Web sites they use every day.

Information about your library’s holdings and online services is actively spread across the Web via strategic partnerships with key sites such as Google and Yahoo!, as well as by social and distributed Web technologies that appeal to users, other information providers and e-business.

The result: WorldCat.org brings more information seekers to your catalogue and services by way of major search engines; book-selling, bibliography and social networking sites; online content providers; browser toolbars; personalised home pages and other popular Web applications. Your local resources gain a global presence, become part of people’s normal Web workflow and get in front of the increasing numbers of people who rely almost exclusively on the Internet.

Learn more about WorldCat.org www.oclc.org/worldcat.org/

For further information regarding WorldCat Resource Sharing please contact your local OCLC office or e-mail: uk@oclc.org

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