

## Presentation summary

Bryan Baldus highlighted the various authority files that are hosted by OCLC, including the source, a description, the number of records (as of April 2020), and other general information about each file.

Nathan Putnam described the functionality within the authority files including Controlling headings, heading enrichment service within Record Manager, the controlling and enrichment retrospective, exporting URIs in bibliographic records, and OCLC help resources related to authority files.

## Resources and URLs mentioned during the presentation

assignFAST: <http://experimental.worldcat.org/fast/assignfast/>

Bibliographic Formats and Standards (BFAS) 5.2.1, General Guidelines:

<https://www.oclc.org/bibformats/en/quality.html#generalguidelines>

Export MARC 21 records in Record Manager:

[https://help.oclc.org/Metadata\\_Services/WorldShare\\_Record\\_Manager/Bibliographic\\_records/Export\\_MARC\\_21\\_records](https://help.oclc.org/Metadata_Services/WorldShare_Record_Manager/Bibliographic_records/Export_MARC_21_records)

Cataloging Community Center: <https://www.oclc.org/community/cataloging-metadata.en.html>

Connexion Client Documentation (Exporting):

[https://help.oclc.org/Metadata\\_Services/Connexion/ConnexionClient/Connexion\\_client\\_documentation](https://help.oclc.org/Metadata_Services/Connexion/ConnexionClient/Connexion_client_documentation)

Connexion Browser Documentation (Exporting):

[https://help.oclc.org/Metadata\\_Services/Connexion/Connexion\\_browser\\_documentation](https://help.oclc.org/Metadata_Services/Connexion/Connexion_browser_documentation)

How to report errors in records, when logged in to a Cataloging service:

[https://help.oclc.org/Metadata\\_Services/Connexion/Troubleshooting/How\\_to\\_report\\_errors\\_in\\_record\\_s%2C\\_when\\_logged\\_in\\_to\\_a\\_Cataloging\\_service](https://help.oclc.org/Metadata_Services/Connexion/Troubleshooting/How_to_report_errors_in_record_s%2C_when_logged_in_to_a_Cataloging_service)

Library of Congress Linked Data Service: <https://id.loc.gov/>

OCLC Community Center Enhancements, Collection Manager:

[https://www.oclc.org/community/enhancements.collection\\_manager.en.html](https://www.oclc.org/community/enhancements.collection_manager.en.html)

OCLC Cataloging and Metadata Subscription: <https://www.oclc.org/en/cataloging-subscription/ordering.html>

OCLC Cataloging Community Session, June 2021 Registration Link:

<https://oclcwebinar.webex.com/oclcwebinar/onstage/g.php?MTID=e5e83b8c80ee4f3d85ec4db24544a156f>

Program for Cooperative Cataloging website: <https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/>

searchFAST: <http://fast.oclc.org/searchfast/>

WorldShare Record Manager Ordering: [oclc.org/getrm](https://oclc.org/getrm)

# Member questions

May 11, 2021 session notes:

**Do non-WMS customers, but those who are OCLC members and Connexion subscribers have free access to WMS record manager? If so, will you provide info about setting up record manager access? Thank you!**

Answer: Yes, if you are a OCLC member and Connexion subscriber, you are able to access Record Manager for free. To do this, go to WorldShare Record Manger Ordering ([oclc.org/getrm](https://oclc.org/getrm)) and fill in the form to request access.

**When we talk about matching records, if I alter a record to place a statement of responsibility in the \$c subfield of the 245 tag in my local record, when reclamation projects or matching projects occur between OCLC and my institution's records, will the system find the match record less the statement of responsibility that I inserted? Everything else being equal but that change, will the records still be the same as the 035 will be the same and mostly everything else except the change in the statement of responsibility that i made?**

**I ask this question because I am relabeling (classifying) the some of the K books in my library (thousands). I am putting new call numbers on them as they did not have any call numbers but only a K and the item book number. Most of them were done when DLC was not putting statement of responsibility of the 1xx creator into the \$c subfield of the statement of the responsibility , everything else was there: the prefacer, translator, etc., but not the creator. Since RDA emphasizes that a statement of responsibility is core, it must be transcribed as it is on the preferred source. So, I have been adding classification numbers and statement of responsibilities. But I might stop adding the statement of responsibilities and let the record stay as they were cataloged as the creator does show up as the system was configured to place by and insert the 1xx field to make it look as of a statement of responsibility is there.**

Answer: If you need to alter a statement of responsibility in a WorldCat record, in general, this can only be accomplished by editing the record manually or by reporting the correction to [bibchange@oclc.org](mailto:bibchange@oclc.org).

In certain circumstances, it's possible that the record will be updated through a record replace process depending on how the project is profiled. If it's set to 'replace own' records and another library has not modified the record, i.e. no library symbols in field 040 subfield \$d, the record will be replaced with the modified version that was sent as long as the record matches.

If the statement of responsibility is correctly subfielded (i.e. \$c), it should not affect matching when the record is matched via a batch process. The presence/absence of a statement of responsibility alone does not affect matching.

**Regarding URIs, would you mind repeating the recommended best practice for controlling uncontrolled LCSH/NAF headings (or not) in Connexion Client when \$0 is present, when replacing the OCLC record?**

Answer: For English language of cataloging, headings should be controlled to the Library of Congress Name Authority File (LC NAF) and the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH). The \$0 will disappear when the headings are controlled but when the records are exported, the headings will include the URIs.

**Will the retrospective controlling match with authority records which should not be used? For example, in Canadiana there are many authority records with the mention in 667 "CETTE NOTICE VERSÉE EN LOT DOIT ÊTRE ÉVALUÉE AVANT D'ÊTRE UTILISÉE, POUR S'ASSURER QU'ELLE RÉPONDE AUX NORMES DU PFAN" -> "THIS RECORD SHOULD BE EVALUATED PRIOR TO USE TO ENSURE THAT IT MEETS THE PFAN STANDARDS".**

Answer: The presence of the 667 field alone will not prevent the heading from being controlled with automated controlling. To prevent the heading from being controlled, it needs to have special coding in the Fixed Fields. For examples, headings coded as undifferentiated names will not be controlled via automated controlling.

**Will the remaining Library of Congress (LC) files, Library of Congress Medium of Performance Terms for Music (LCMPT) and Library of Congress Demographic Group Terms (LCDGT), ever be searchable from Connexion? Even without any control feature, it would be a real time saver to be able to search these directly without going out to an additional source.**

Answer: We are aware of the benefits of adding the option to search these vocabularies from Connexion and Record Manager. It is on Metadata Quality's list of requested files to be added but currently OCLC has no plans to add these.

**I have two questions. 1) Are there any plans to expand the Metadata API to allow retrieval of authorities in addition to bibliographic records? 2) Are there any plans to deliver authority records alongside bibs with Collection Manager's MARC delivery?**

Answer: No, not at this time, but we'll consider it. You are welcome to request enhancements using the OCLC Community Center's Enhancement Suggestions and narrowing the topic to Collection Manager ([https://www.oclc.org/community/enhancements.collection\\_manager.en.html](https://www.oclc.org/community/enhancements.collection_manager.en.html)). Many of the enhancements that have been developed in the past, have come from these member requested enhancements. If you do not already have access to the OCLC's Community Center and have a cataloging subscription, you will need to request access at [oclc.org/getrm](https://oclc.org/getrm).

**Could you please confirm which cataloguing level subscription is required to contribute records for LC/NACO File?**

Answer: All Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) level authorizations and roles come with the capability to edit and add records to the LC/NACO authority file. If you don't already have a PCC level authorization or role, then you are welcome to apply to join the PCC. PCC trains libraries and when a library participates, that library will be given a PCC level authorization or role. You can request training at the PCC website (<https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/>). If you are currently a NACO library and need to adjust your authorizations that you already have, email [orders@oclc.org](mailto:orders@oclc.org) or fill in the webform (<https://www.oclc.org/en/cataloging-subscription/ordering.html>).

For more information on the PCC's NACO, BIBCO, and CONSER programs, see the Program for Cooperative Cataloging website (<https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/>).

For more information on authorization levels and roles within Record Manager, see BFAS 5.2.1, General Guidelines (<https://www.oclc.org/bibformats/en/quality.html#generalguidelines>)

If you have further questions, please email us at [askqc@oclc.org](mailto:askqc@oclc.org).

**Will all controlled vocabularies have the option to export the URIs, because now some are missing and NTA-records that are controlled do not have the \$0 anymore. In Record Manager the \$0 goes away and is missing from export. When the heading has been controlled by the NTA record, \$0 will not show in the bibliographic record anymore.**

Answer: We currently have a development ticket to add the \$0 as an option when exporting NTA records. In general, it depends on the settings when exporting records.

There are currently no plans for adding the HTTP URIs for other vocabularies, although we can see that it would be useful. You should be able to see the subfields \$0 with the URI code/number related to that, so while not a direct use of an HTTP URI, if you were using software like MARCEdit, you could append that part to the number and it should get you the same results as a URI.

**Can you talk about controlling of unqualified names and automated controlling?**

Answer: Unqualified names will not be controlled automatically since they require a choice from the user. A cataloger must verify that that is the authority that applies to this name.

**If your cataloging language is English, you can or cannot use and control terms drawn from authority files the language of which is not English?**

Answer: When controlling descriptive heading, the language of cataloging has to match. When controlling subject headings, the language of cataloging does not have to match.

**I heard FAST are not searchable by the public. What are FAST used for?**

Answer: While FAST is not searchable using the cataloging interfaces, FAST headings can be searched in searchFAST (<http://fast.oclc.org/searchfast/>) and added manually to WorldCat records. OCLC also automatically adds them to records based on Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) that appear in the WorldCat records.

**Is there any plan to create a way to download authority records for holdings synced in WorldCat en masse automatically?**

Answer: Not at this time, however, you are welcome to request this as an enhancement using the OCLC Community Center's Enhancement Suggestions and narrowing the topic to Collection Manager ([https://www.oclc.org/community/enhancements.collection\\_manager.en.html](https://www.oclc.org/community/enhancements.collection_manager.en.html)).

**When I make a new NAR I always go back and control all the records for that NAR. Are there any plans for OCLC to control these once the record comes out of distribution on a weekly or monthly basis?**

Answer: Other than the retrospective that Nathan discussed in the presentation, there are no plans to do this on a regular basis for headings that can control automatically. However, generally, when a bibliographic record is replaced or updated, the offline control heading service will be called to control all controllable headings.

We have an open issue for this in the hope that this will be an option in the future, but right now we are waiting on development time and resources to be able to install this. We would love to be able to see this happen, because it would go a long way in helping with the quality of the controlled headings.

**Does OCLC have a way to detect and report cases where a name authority is updated but its dependent name/title entries are not? e.g., via an interactive audit as the operator updates the name record?**

Answer: No, we currently don't have that. You can always report cases to AuthFile either using the form or email ([authfile@oclc.org](mailto:authfile@oclc.org)). For information on how to use the form, see How to report errors in records, when logged in to a Cataloging service ([https://help.oclc.org/Metadata\\_Services/Connexion/Troubleshooting/How\\_to\\_report\\_errors\\_in\\_records%2C\\_when\\_logged\\_in\\_to\\_a\\_Cataloging\\_service](https://help.oclc.org/Metadata_Services/Connexion/Troubleshooting/How_to_report_errors_in_records%2C_when_logged_in_to_a_Cataloging_service)).

**Are all institution codes authorized for NACO work, or is that something done selectively?**

Answer: No. Once you have joined PCC and participated in the training, then the PCC will send you information on how to contact OCLC to set up cataloging authorizations.

**Could you please identify which value in the fixed field might prevent the automated controlling, is it the leader 17 encoding level, or 008/33 level of establishment, or others?**

Answer: If Leader/14, Leader/15, and Leader/16 are all "b" then it would prevent automated controlling because it wouldn't be valid for use. Otherwise, we check 008/09 but you shouldn't attempt to use this code to prevent automated controlling. Instead the best way is to use Leader/14-Leader/16.

**When I change the 1XX in a name authority, why does it sometimes take days or weeks for the controlled headings linked to that NAR to update?**

Answer: There are a variety of reasons, but primarily it depends on how busy our system is in updating the bibliographic records after a change to an authority file records. We are working on ways to improve the process. If something has not changed after a week, it's possible that will not be changed. Please report these to [authfile@oclc.org](mailto:authfile@oclc.org) to see if there is a problem we can look into.

**What is the value of the subfield \$0 URI code?**

Answer: Value there is going to be the code that's related to the text label in the subfield \$a. If you went to a source like the Library of Congress Linked Data Service (<https://id.loc.gov/>), all of the headings are associated with a URI, either as a URI code/number or an HTTP URI which includes the <https://id.loc.gov/>. The way to add this in a MARC record is to add these manually. We recommend not doing this manually but using some sort of automation such as controlling headings. There are other services such as MARCedit that allow you to add URIs to your records. The value of the subfield \$0 is the URI code which is coming from a source such as <https://id.loc.gov/>.

**Why are there so many records that are less than desirable?**

Answer: There are a variety of reasons. We get records from thousands of sources. Some catalogers will work directly within the WorldCat systems Record manager or Connexion to do their cataloging but a lot of catalogers work within their local Institution's ILS and they send us the records. We have several processes to match and merge and clean up the records as they come in. Anything automated is never going to be 100% good. The other issue with some of these records is a matter of perspective. We get a lot of vendor records for items that have not been published yet but are in the works. These, for the most part, aren't very useful to catalogers and can create a lot of clutter when searching for other materials. The title might not be correct, you might have an all caps situation, and some of the fields might be wrong. While not useful for catalogers, we've had several conversations with a variety of libraries that those records are useful to acquisition staff who need to attach an order record for the pre-publication work because they've already planned on ordering it, they are just waiting for it to come out. So, it's a matter of fit for purpose on who the user is. Records that are not so great for cataloging, might be just fine for another user. That's one of the ways of working within an aggregated system like WorldCat, you get the benefits of catalogers updating records and enhancing records on one end of the spectrum. Then on the other end, you get added noise as a cataloger as we're trying to help out these other situations like acquisition or ordering specialists.

**What is your current/typical expectation for how long it takes a new/recently changed NAR to go in and out of distribution (i.e., be unlocked)?**

Answer: As long as everything is going as it should, it takes 2-3 days depending on when its submitted. If its updated today, then it should get to the Library of Congress (LC) tomorrow. LC would then send it back that night and it would return the next day.

**Is there a workflow that you recommend to libraries that do not use OCLC WorldShare, but a local system (e.g. ALMA) to add their improvements/enrichments to WorldCat and not just their local system? I'd love to hear a QC presentation about such workflows.**

Answer: We would advocate that you do your cataloging in either Connexion or Record Manager and then export the records to your local system. That would allow you to improve and enrich records in WorldCat while you are doing your cataloging.

Depending on your local system's requirements, you could possibly set up the TCP/IP connection which would connect directly to your system and add the record (including any changes made to it) instead of taking the extra steps of exporting the records and then importing them into your local system.

For information on exporting within Record Manager, see [https://help.oclc.org/Metadata\\_Services/WorldShare\\_Record\\_Manager/Bibliographic\\_records/Export\\_MARC\\_21\\_records](https://help.oclc.org/Metadata_Services/WorldShare_Record_Manager/Bibliographic_records/Export_MARC_21_records)

For information on exporting within Connexion Client, see [https://help.oclc.org/Metadata\\_Services/Connexion/ConnexionClient/Connexion\\_client\\_documentation](https://help.oclc.org/Metadata_Services/Connexion/ConnexionClient/Connexion_client_documentation)

For information on exporting within Connexion Browser, see [https://help.oclc.org/Metadata\\_Services/Connexion/Connexion\\_browser\\_documentation](https://help.oclc.org/Metadata_Services/Connexion/Connexion_browser_documentation)

May 20, 2021 session notes:

**When is the new version of Connexion going to be released?**

Answer: David Whitehair posted in OCLC-CAT in January, that an early adopter field testing was planned for May/June and release was tentatively planned for July/August. On June 18, 2021, we are hosting a Cataloging Community Session where David Whitehair will be giving an update on what is included in Connexion 3.0.

**Are there any plans to support controlling all those other thesauri in the new version of Connexion?**

Answer: The data set within WorldCat is exactly the same whether you search within Connexion (current or new version) or Record Manager. There is different functionality between the Connexion and Record Manager but the set of data remains the same.

**Will OCLC please obtain and load and provide access to Library of Congress Medium of Performance Terms for Music (LCMPT) and Library of Congress Demographic Group Terms (LCDGT) authorities? They can be downloaded from LC even though they aren't distributed through CDS.**

Answer: In order to control headings, OCLC has to host the file or a copy of the data set within our systems. At this time OCLC does not have these authorities loaded into our system. While we would love to do this, we don't know when this will happen. Metadata Quality has requested this in the past. If you would like to let OCLC know that an authority file, such as LCMPT or LCDGT, is important to control, please go to the Cataloging Community Center (<https://www.oclc.org/community/cataloging-metadata.en.html>) and request that the authority file be added. The more these are requested by our members, the higher the priority assigned to that request.

Adam Schiff put in a request for LCDGT and LCMPT in the Cataloging Community Center during this webinar: [https://www.oclc.org/community/discussions/cataloging-metadata.topic.html/provide\\_access\\_inconnexionandrecordmanagerto-8yLt.en.html](https://www.oclc.org/community/discussions/cataloging-metadata.topic.html/provide_access_inconnexionandrecordmanagerto-8yLt.en.html).

**For Canadiana, aren't the headings in both English and French? Why does the language of cataloguing need to be French to access Canadiana records?**

Answer: The Canadiana database is comprised of two different files, the Canadiana Subject headings, which are in English, and the Canadiana Name Authority File, which are in French. While the Canadiana Subject headings may be used on any records, no matter the language of cataloging, only records cataloged using French language of cataloging may apply and control the Canadiana Name Authority File.

**Are there plans to provide access to Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)?**

Answer: OCLC provides access to MeSH using Record Manager but currently there are no plans to provide access to MeSH using Connexion.

**Why aren't FAST headings controlled?**

Answer: This is something Metadata Quality would like to do but currently is further down the list of things to implement. One of the things that happens as part of controlling is that headings are maintained when the authority file heading changes. When that happens in FAST right now, we have to go through the effort and change all of the bibliographic records in a different way than is easily done with controlling headings.

This is another example of an authority file to request from the Cataloging Community Center (<https://www.oclc.org/community/cataloging-metadata.en.html>).

**Instead of using subfield \$0 with a string, have you considered adding URIs in either subfield \$0 or subfield \$1?**

Answer: We have considered that but did not implement this. Subfield \$0 has been around longer than subfield \$1. In terms of linked data, subfield \$1 is pretty important. Subfield \$0 can contain an URI or an authority record control number, so we were already on the path of using subfield \$0, even though we didn't display the authority control number in the case of LC controlled headings. We looked at the possibility of outputting either subfield \$0 or subfield \$1, although we haven't quite gotten there through Collection Manager so that you can get what you need for a local catalog, while at the same time maintaining our internal mechanism that was already built that makes use of an authority record control number in subfield \$0. That could then end up being the basis of what it is that we output.

**Will you start controlling 3XX attribute fields in bib records at some point in the future? There's a great need for this now.**

Answer: This is on our wish list. We do not have a date for this but Metadata Quality has been asking for this enhancement.

**The enrichment retrospective will be available in Connexion as well as Record Manager and Collection Manager?**

Answer: Regardless of the interface that you use to access WorldCat, you will see updates. As the changes are made, you will see them applied to WorldCat as a whole. So, whether you are working in Connexion or Record Manager, you will see those updates. If you get updates through Collection Manager, you will see the updates there as well.

**Will the control project flip terms found in fields 450 of authority records to the term in field 150?**

Answer: Yes, if the heading in the bibliographic record matches a reference in an authority file record, the control heading service will flip the heading to match the form found in field 150 of the authority file. It is our hope that as we go through the records in WorldCat, retrospectively, that we will pick up headings that weren't controlled for some reason in the past and get them controlled to the authorized form.

**From SearchFast is there an easy way to insert a heading into Connexion?**

Answer: At the moment the only way to insert a FAST heading into Connexion or Record Manager is to copy and past the heading into the bibliographic record. You can also look into using assignFAST (<http://experimental.worldcat.org/fast/assignfast/>) which may be helpful when adding headings.

**I have problem controlling headings when there is \$e in the 100 or 700 fields in Record manager, no problem when there is no \$e. But no issue when do the same in Connexion client.**

Answer: If you can reproduce it regularly and it seems to be a system problem, then you can report it to [askqc@oclc.org](mailto:askqc@oclc.org) and we can look into the situation and if needed forward the problem onto the correct group of people to make sure it not a functionality issue on our end.

**Is there anyway that I can export all of the name authority file records that my institution's bibliographic records are linked to?**

Answer: We currently do not have this capability. You are welcome to add this request to the enhancements in the Cataloging Community Center (<https://www.oclc.org/community/cataloging-metadata.en.html>).

**Do you want us to ask for an enhancement in the Community Center? If so, is there only a place for enhancements to Record Manager and not to Connexion? Where should we ask for it?**

Answer: All enhancement requests may be submitted using the general Cataloging Community Center (<https://www.oclc.org/community/cataloging-metadata.en.html>). You also have the ability to upvote an enhancement request that has already been submitted by another member library.

**Perhaps OCLC should provide a dynamic link to this "Wish List" you guys work from for the community. Just so we all know which of our wishes may be in the works. Thanks!**

Answer: The best way to see the set of enhancements that have been requested is to utilize the Cataloging Community Center site (<https://www.oclc.org/community/cataloging-metadata.en.html>).

**In other words, some of the upcoming record update batches are gonna be huge?**

Answer: This would be the case depending on your setting for receiving record updates. That is one of the reasons we are giving plenty of notice before starting this project, so that libraries have time to make any needed changes to their settings so the effects on their workflow is minimized. We are planning on starting at the very highest OCN and working our way down to the lowest and expect this to take about 3 months to complete.

**In French records, is it currently possible to control subject strings combining headings from both Canadian and RVM, e.g. a name followed by a subject subdivision?**

Answer: Not at this time. To do this, we would need a request for this in the Cataloging Community Center (<https://www.oclc.org/community/cataloging-metadata.en.html>).

**Often I need to change only the MARC tag (100 to 700, for example), but I have to uncontrol and re-control the whole heading. Can the function be changed so the changing of a MARC tag within the same type (i.e. 100 to 700, or, 611 to 111) does not require the uncontrol/recontrol routine?**

Answer: This would be difficult to do as we protect the controlled headings from tag changes because of the various rules it would take to make sure the tag is correct. So while it's possible, it is not likely at this time.

**We are switching to creating original records directly in OCLC. Should we use Record Manager or Connexion? Currently we use Connexion for authorities and SOME cataloging.**

Answer: Anyone with a full cataloging subscription has access to both Connexion and Record Manager, so which one you use depends on your institution's policy. They each have different functionality. Connexion allows more bulk editing and customization, while Record Manager has other functionality like enrichment and controlling to more authority files. Note that Connexion Client is only available for PC users and requires that you download the software onto your computer, while Record Manager is a web based tool with no software to download.

**When I use the generate authority macro in Connexion, my screen freezes right away.**

Answer: We expect this macro to be fixed with Connexion 3.0.

**Does anyone have problems using WMS with Edge? I find that it freezes up. I am in Record Manager when this happens.**

Answer: This is a good question to send to [support@oclc.org](mailto:support@oclc.org). They can help you troubleshoot with Edge.

**We currently use the Extract Metadata function but have found that it does not work because of a "security issue" on some (but not all) of our computers. OCLC has been notified of the issue and, last we heard, were not going to fix this. Is it possible the new version of Connexion will fix this?**

Answer: We don't know for sure as everyone's set up is different. We encourage you to attend the Cataloging Community Session on June 18, 2021 for an update on Connexion 3.0.

**Could you talk a little about the WorldShare bug that indicated the 006 field was too short, thus wouldn't allow you to edit and save a record.**

Answer: This bug was fixed earlier this week so should not be a problem any more.