Aleph Product Update

IGeLU 2017 – St. Petersburg

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Agenda

1. Aleph roadmap
2. Aleph 23.1 highlights
3. Aleph 23.2 highlights
4. Plans for V24 and beyond
Aleph Roadmap

- **V22.0** – Major Release
  - Available – January 2014
- **V22.1** – Minor Release
  - Available – December 2014
- **V23.0** – Major Release
  - Available – November 2015
- **V23.1** – Minor Release
  - Available – December 2016
- **V23.2** – Minor Release
  - Planned – December 2017
- **V24.0** – Major Release
  - Planned – December 2018
- **V24.1** – Minor Release
  - Planned – December 2019
- **V24.2** – Minor Release
  - Planned – December 2020
- **V25.0** – Major Release
  - Planned – December 2021

More to come...
Aleph Roadmap

- V23.0 – Major Release
  - Available – November 2015
- V23.1 – Minor Release
  - Available – December 2016
- V23.2 – Minor Release
  - Planned – December 2017
- V24.0 – Major Release
  - Planned – December 2018
- V24.1 – Minor Release
  - Planned – December 2019
- V24.2 – Minor Release
  - Planned – December 2020

Next round of NERS enhancements
Aleph Roadmap – under discussion

- V23.0 – Major Release
  - Available – November 2015
- V23.1 – Minor Release
  - Available – December 2016
- V23.2 – Minor Release
  - Planned – December 2017
- V23.3 – Minor Release
  - Planned – December 2018
- V23.4 – Minor Release
  - Planned – December 2019
- V24.0 – Major Release
  - Planned – December 2020

Next round of NERS enhancements
Aleph V23.1 Highlights
(Released in December 2016)
Amend behavior of Search Field’s Headings

- Allow the library to define subfield/s which should be ignored when activating the GUI-Cataloging function: Search Heading F3/Ctrl+F3

- The GUI-Cataloging -Edit record offers a useful tool (known as F3/Ctrl F3) for searching headings in various bases. This tool uses all subfields of the source data as the search string

- Enhancing this mechanism to ignore specific subfields which are not relevant for the action (such as control/linking fields) will refine the search string and provide a better heading results list
Amend behavior of Search Field’s Headings

• Aleph offers a new setup option to define the *subfields that should be ignored* when building the search string for the ‘search heading’ actions (F3 & Ctrl+F3)

• This new feature affects the manual activation of ‘Search Field Headings’ via GUI-Cataloging-Edit record interface

• It is relevant to both actions, ‘Search Field Headings of Current Base (F3 shortcut) and ‘Search Field Headings of Other Base (Ctrl+F3 shortcut)

• This was implemented by adding a *new column to current configuration table: scancode.dat*

• The new column, number 12, defines the subfields that should be ignored
Amend behavior of Search Field’s Headings

• Sample of setting up *scancode.dat* for defining headings search rules for field 650 with an indication to *ignore the control subfields: 6 and 8* (new column 12)
Amend behavior of Search Field’s Headings

BIB record with 650#0 field that has linking data in the first subfield 6

**Current functionality:**
The content of subfield 6 is used as a starting position when applying the heading list. Non-relevant results are displayed

**Enhanced functionality:**
subfield 6 is ignored
Field validation for ACQ Order fields

• There is a need to validate the data entered in the Acquisitions Order Form field against the library’s valid values

• This enhancement refers to the order’s fields:
  • Order Group
  • Material Format

• Having a proper data inserted in the Order Group & Material Format fields will ease the handling of acquisitions order’s data
Field validation for ACQ Order fields

• Aleph was enhanced with 2 new validation checks on the GUI-Acquisition Order forms: Material Format & Order Group.

• This will be applied for both forms: *Order Form* & *Multi Order Form*
Field validation for ACQ Order fields

• The new check was implemented by setting the new TAB100 flag: VALIDATE-ORDER-FIELDS

For example: ./usm50/tab/tab100
VALIDATE-ORDER-FIELDS = 1

• Upon turning on the flag (value = 1), the entered values will be checked against the pre-defined lists as customized by the library

• The list of possible values are set in the field’s drop-down list (already in used for those fields): ACQ_ORDER_GROUP and ACQ_ERM_TYPE menus of the ADM library table: pc_tab_exp_field.<lng>.
Create Item Records for Detached Holdings Records

• The current Aleph batch workflow that enables creating items for holding records which have no items is complex and requires a complicated setup and dependencies which are not always relevant for the ‘simple’ action of creating items.

• Having a batch service that receives candidate Holding records and produce item records will simplify the workflow and reduce the maintenance.
Create Item Records for Detached Holdings Records

- A new batch service was introduced in GUI-Cataloging module: *Create Items for Detached Holding Records (item-13)*

- This service enables creating item records for HOL records that have no items at all

- It will be submitted in the ADM library environment so that, each library will create its own items
Create Item Records Based On Holdings

The batch interface
Create Item Records for Detached Holdings Records

• The batch will run over all HOL records listed in the input file and detect the eligible HOL records for which items should be created.

• The batch will offer an execution in ‘Update Database=No’ (report only with no actual update of db) and ‘Update Database=Yes’.

• If update database=Y → For each eligible record, a single item (Z30) will be created and the HOL record will be updated.

• All required actions for supporting the linkage between the HOL and Items will be triggered (such as creating ADM record if missing and so on).

• The batch execution actions will be reported in the Report output file, Item rec-key output file and batch statistics report.
Access the Service Form from the Batch Queue node

• The GUI-Task Manager enables monitoring of batch processes, printing out reports, submitting letters/email to patrons/vendors

• Before the enhancement, the form of the services which has been submitted can be accessed from the **Batch Log** node

• This means that only forms of processes which already have been run or currently running can be viewed. There is no option to access service form of processes that are waiting in line

• Enhancing the **Batch Queue** node (that lists the batch processes waiting in line) to allow access to the service form enables the users to view input parameters of jobs which are not yet running and decide the relevant action (postponed/cancel/leave as is/change parameters/other)
Access the Service Form from the Batch Queue node

A new ‘Service Form’ Button is located in the GUI-Task Manager-Batch Queue interface. It allows opening the Service Form of a selected process (similar to the functionality offered in the Batch Log interface) and enable the user to view input parameters/re-submit the form.
Input File in Publishing Services

- A new ‘Input File’ field was added to the publishing processes
- This allows having the publishing process over a refined list of records. It includes:
  - Initial Publishing Process (publish-04)
  - Delete ALEPH Published Records (publish-05)
- The service ‘Create Tar File for published Records (publish-06)’ already has ‘Input File’
Interoperability Enhancements

• Various enhancements for improving the interoperability between Aleph and other products (partial list):

  • Primo – extending various DLF-APIs services to offer a better data exchange/update with Primo as well as all other products that used Aleph’ DLF-APIs (e.g: paging for patron’s loan list)

  • Supporting MAB to MARC process and vice versa in order to support various flows, updates and conversion routines between Aleph Center catalog and Alma members (within the same consortium)

  • Improving security (MD5 Key) when corresponding with payment via OPAC using DIBS External Payment system
Aleph V23.2 Highlights
(planned for December 2017)
GUI-Cataloging-Record Editor:

- Currently, when updating heading by using the "Search field headings of current base or other base" (F3 and Ctrl+F3 shortcuts), the subfields order in the Editor is not changed.

- This will be changed so that the order of the subfields will be changed to match the retrieved heading.
Subfields Order in of a Retrieved Heading

- The GUI-Cataloging -Edit record offers a useful tool (F3/Ctrl F3) for searching headings in various bases
- Upon selecting a specific headings, the BIB record is updated with data coming from the headings
- The order of subfields is not changed (stays as in the original BIB field)
- The requirement is to allow copying the order of subfields from the retrieved heading. This way, the BIB will have the heading subfields order as assigned in the file of established headings
- The current behavior is problematic because it might create a new heading entry in the heading index. There is a need to allow retaining the subfields order as in the headings
Subfields Order in of a Retrieved Heading

New functionality

• In order to achieve the required functionality, a new BIB library’s TAB100 flag will be introduced

• This will allow the user to define the desired behavior of the subfields order when copying a heading into a record.

• The new setup will impact the GUI-Cataloging-Record editor flow (F3/Ctrl F3) and the background process that update headings

• It will work for headings coming from BIB, AUTH or any other base
Subfields Order in of a Retrieved Heading

- A new flag will be added to ./<bib-lib>/tab/tab100 – Heading-subfields-order
- Possible values:
  - 0 – Current functionality. Default.
  - 1 – New functionality

```
#!/heading Subfield Options

#!/ Values: 0 1 Default: 0
#!/ Type: Text, Max Length: 01

! tab100 of library: Yes; tab100 <server type>: No.

! Define the order of subfields when copying heading into BIB record. This setup is valid for GUI-Cataloguing Editor (Search Field Headings F3 or Ctrl+F3), manage-102 service and Util E/8.

! 0 – The order of the BIB record’s subfields is kept (default).
! 1 – The order of the subfields in the Editor is changed to match the retrieved heading.
```
Subfields  Order in of a Retrieved Heading

- Subfields which are set as ‘retained subfields’ (Col.2 of scancode.dat) will not be deleted from BIB and keep their order relatively (as is today).
- The new tab100 flag will also impact the way background process are updating heading
- All updates of BIB headings (from BIB library or AUTH or other database) will consult the new tab100 flag and copy the heading accordingly.
**Subfields Order in of a Retrieved Heading**

Example: HEADING-SUBFIELDS-ORDER=1
Subfields Order in of a Retrieved Heading

The enhanced functionality impacts the way the selected heading is copied to the BIB
Character conversion & non-filing indicators

• Currently, during character conversion, the non-filing indicators become incorrect when decomposed characters in MARC-8 become recomposed characters in Unicode

• This will be changed by supporting the option to re-calculate the value of non-filing indicator
Increase GUI frame sizes – Budget Balance Display

• In GUI-ACQ: the current GUI frame size doesn’t suffice when displaying Budget balance details. Especially when dealing with budget that has a lot of information.

• The GUI frame size of the Budget Balance will be extended so that more info will be shown in a single glance, reducing the need to scroll down the screen.
Alerts on Individual Jobs

• Aleph has the ability to send an alert via mail when a batch service has been completed
• This can be defined for group of jobs, not for a particular job
• It is required to have this feature for a specific job especially when it is run via job list
• Especially important when there is output that waiting to be processed. For example if p_circ_12 has been run and there are pull slips that need to be processed
Alerts on Individual Jobs

Current functionality

- Current functionality allows defining of alerts for group of tasks set in col. 3 of tab_alert.
- For example: setting-up tab_alert for sending mail alerts whenever ACQ job is finished

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This causes an alert for all ACQ jobs
- There is no option to define alert for a specific job (e.g. acq-14) in col. 3
- Executing an alert for acq-14 job can be achieved by setting up ACQ or ALL
- No option to have a different mail recipient per specific job
Alerts on Individual Jobs

New Functionality

• User will be able to define a specific job in col.3 of tab_alert.
• For example: setting-up tab_alert for sending mail alerts whenever acq-14 is finished

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>- Modeling</th>
<th>- Forecasting</th>
<th>- Planning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:E_yifat.lulav@exlibrisgroup.com">E_yifat.lulav@exlibrisgroup.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:eyifat_lulav@yahoo.com">eyifat_lulav@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>855_8 TO_UTF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• The process-id (without the “p”) will be set in col.3. For example: acq-14, cir-12, manage-43, etc.
• The length of the column will stay as is: 10 char
• In case a job is included in 2 lines (specific and group/ALL), an alert will be sent to both recipients
Support Hybrid Consortia

• Hybrid Model
  • Alma Member – ALEPH Central System
  • Aleph member – Alma Network (Alma Network Zone – NZ)
Support Hybrid Consortia

• Hybrid Model
  • Alma Member – ALEPH Central System
Support Hybrid Consortia

• Hybrid Model - Alma Member – ALEPH Central System

  Load Item from Alma Member to Aleph Center

• Phased approach to move a consortium to Alma
• Until the process is completed there is a need to support various library flows that keep the synchronization between the center (which is still in Aleph) and the members that already moved to Alma
• Update the Aleph center with item information coming from the Alma members. This info should create BIB Z300 records which are used for OPAC display, statistics and publishing.
Support Hybrid Consortia

- **Hybrid Model - Alma Member – ALEPH Central System**

  **Load Item from Alma Member to Aleph Center**

  - **Alma members will use the publishing platform** in order to update the Aleph center with new/update/delete records
  - **A new Aleph batch service** (p-manage-60) will load the published file and update the info of the items held by the members
  - Aleph will be using the BIB Z300 infrastructure which is already in used by German speaking consortia
  - The Z300 records will be created/updated/deleted based on the input received from the members (the published file)
Support Hybrid Consortia

- Hybrid Model
  - Alma Network Zone – ALEPH Member
  - In process
Infrastructure Changes in V23.1

- Separate Tomcat from Aleph software tree - will enable the option to update the Tomcat version by downloading 3rd party product only, without installing a SP

- Aleph installer with windows 10 - due to several complains by the Aleph customers, Ex Libris improved Aleph installer in order to support installations on Win 7/10. Was also downgraded to V.22
Plans for V24 and Beyond
V24

• Major release
• Planned – December 2018
• Scope based on input from:
  • User groups initiated enhancements
  • Ex Libris Support
  • Product Management
• Items for consideration:
  • Facilitate or support strategic URM/URD2 direction
  • Extending support for protocols and standards
  • Infrastructure SW/HW certifications
Future versions (beyond V24)

• User group enhancements
• Extending support for protocols and standards such as NCIP, SIP2, RFID, EDI
• Facilitate or support strategic URM/URD2 direction
• Infrastructure SW/HW certifications