Annual Report from the Consortium of Icelandic Libraries for Igelu National User group (INUG) 2013

Sveinbjörg Sveinsdóttir, Managing Director, sveinbjorg@landskerfi.is
Sigrún Hauksdóttir, System Development, sigrun@landskerfi.is

"Landskerfi bókasafna hf."/ Consortium of Icelandic Libraries, www.landskerfi.is is a public limited-liability company. The company is jointly owned by the municipalities and the state of Iceland. Participating libraries pay a service fee depending on size.

The consortium operates the following systems and services from Ex Libris: Aleph 500, SFX, Primo, Primo Central Index and bX recommender services. A recent system addition is Sarpur, a cataloging system for museums and cultural heritage institutions in Iceland.

The Icelandic User Group for the Aleph libraries is called Alefli. It is a formal association that acts as a support for the Consortium of Icelandic Libraries. Due to consortia setup there is just one IGeLU vote for all the consortia libraries.

1. Gegnir – The National Library System of Iceland

Gegnir, www.gegnir.is, is a national library system for Iceland. It serves as a union catalog as well as a library system for about 280 libraries. Among the member institutions are the National and University Library of Iceland, universities, most public libraries, and primary and secondary schools as well as research and special libraries.

Gegnir is a brand for the Aleph software from Ex Libris. The setup is one instance of Aleph500 version 20.2.9 and service pack level 3817. The basic structure of the system is one bibliographic catalog and 12 administrative units into which the 280 libraries are grouped.

> *The size of the system by end of 2012 is:*
> Bibliographic records: 1.050.974
> Items: 5.376.688
> Circulation: 3.562.492
> Borrowers: 197.585
> Libraries: 280

2. Leitir.is - A Country Discovery Portal

Leitir.is, http://leitir.is is the Country Discovery Portal for Iceland. It provides access from a single location to the diverse collections of Icelandic libraries, museums and other institutions. Leitir is a brand for the Primo software from Ex Libris, version 4.4.0. Access to electronic country licenses is provided via the Primo Central Index Service. A recommender service for electronic licenses is provided via the bX recommender Service.

3. "Sarpur" – cataloging system for museums and other cultural heritage institutions in Iceland

"Sarpur", http://www.sarpur.is/, is an Icelandic designed cultural database (MS SQL and .NET). It is used to catalog and record artifacts, pictures, archaeological sites, historic buildings, place names and cultural history, and is used by museums and institutions around Iceland.

Since September 1st Consortium of Icelandic libraries is responsible for the daily management and the future development of the system. It presents an opportunity to integrate this cultural material into leitir.is and further develop leitir.is as an national discovery portal for all Icelandic cultural and research material whether it is of bibliographic origin or not.

4. Current Challenges

Data Privacy for patron information in Aleph is quite limited in our setup. Since earlier this year we are in discussions with Ex Libris on how to find an acceptable workaround.

Self-service options for patrons are in many ways not acceptable in Primo (or the Aleph OPAC). "**Forgot your password**?, the possibility for patrons to request a new password online is missing. Even worse is the fact that currently a patron is unable to change his password in Primo. Fortunately this functionality seems to be on the way.

Frequently new system functionalities have limitations that are not documented. Currently we are in the process of implementing **browse search** in our Primo staging environment. This is a slow process, worse yet, we are still not sure that the functionality will meet our needs. Performance has proven to be extremely lacking, language support i.e. in sorting is limited to name a few issues. **Information/documentation on new functionality** delivered in SPs or new versions is often inadequate.

Sometimes things that were working in Primo, stop working after a SP or a new version has been applied. This raises questions about the **software quality assurance processes** at Ex Libris.