THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF FINLAND

National Library Network Services

National Ex Libris User Group: Finland

Consortia

Linnea2 Consortium consists of 16 universities (including the National Library), 4 special libraries (including the Library of Parliament and the National Repository Library), and 4 libraries of universities of applied sciences (UAS). Altogether these libraries maintain 24 databases. 21 of these are local library databases, the rest are national or union catalogue databases maintained by the National Library.

AMKIT Consortium consists of 24 universities of applied sciences (former polytechnic colleges). 19 of these have their individual Voyager databases. Four UAS libraries are also members of Linnea2 and have shared databases with local university libraries. In addition to managing Voyager cooperation, the Consortium coordinates many other cooperative projects of the UAS libraries.

FinELib Consortium is a consortium of Finnish universities, universities of applied sciences, research institutes and public libraries. The aim of the Consortium is to acquire electronic resources centrally on behalf of its member organisations. The electronic resources are accessed through the Nelli portal.

Software

Voyager

Apart from the national union catalogue Melinda, all databases (43) in both Consortia are using Voyager. The current version of their production databases is 8.1.1.

Aleph

The union catalogue Melinda uses the Aleph Central Catalogue model. Aleph version of the union catalogue was created in 2008 and opened for public in January 2009. The current version is 20.2.6. The union catalogue is accessible online: http://melinda.kansalliskirjasto.fi.

MetaLib and SFX

The Nelli portal operates with MetaLib and SFX software. Nelli customers can be given a username and password for personalised services, such as resource lists and a personal electronic bookshelf. The Nelli portal was brought into use in January 2005 in universities. In public libraries, the Nelli portal was introduced in October 2004, and in libraries of universities of applied sciences (polytechnics) at the beginning of 2005. The address of the Nelli portal of all the libraries is www.nelliportaali.fi. The present version of Metalib is 4.3.5.5 and SFX is 4.8.0.

The hardware on which the above systems run will be upgraded in September 2015. After the upgrade at least some of the above software will be updated.

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Functions and Projects

Melinda - the Finnish Union Catalogue (formerly Linda)

The expansion of the Finnish union catalogue to cover all library sectors in Finland has been going on through the last years.

UAS libraries

The first UAS libraries joined the union catalogue through mergers with university libraries. Aleph license was purchased for all UAS libraries at the end of 2011. The individual UAS libraries joined Melinda between summer 2012 and June 2014.

Public libraries

The public sector libraries have purchased the Aleph license at the end of 2010. The city of Tampere was first one to go public on summer 2015.

Asteri Authority File

In Melinda Aleph there is a separate database for authority records and Finland is now developing a bilingual authority database. The use of thesauruses and corporate names (maintained by the National Library) is currently being piloted. Sharing name authorities with museums and archives has been discussed as well.