ITALIAN EX LIBRIS USERS ASSOCIATION

Annual Report 2016

Introduction

ITALE was established in 1999 to bring together the Italian institutions that had adopted ALEPH. Since January 2007, the Association is open (as in the model provided by IGeLU) to all institutions that use Ex Libris products.

Members 2016: 38 Institutions
Membership fee: 250 € (it covers group activities and projects)
Products utilised: ALEPH, ALMA, SFX, Metalib, MetaLibPlus with Primo, DigiTool, Primo, Bx.
Since 2009 the local support is provided by the Italian subsidiary of Ex Libris (Ex Libris Italy).

The Italian projects about Ex Libris products

At the beginning of the 2014 the following institutions became part of the
ALMA Early Adopter Program in Italy:

University of Roma Tor Vergata
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa
University of Camerino
University of Udine
In July 2014 the University of Roma Tre joined the Group of the Early Adopters in order to study and to experiment the creation of a network zone in Alma.

Primo, the discovery tool of Ex Libris, marked important milestones in Italy, registering during the first six months of 2014, the adoption by the University of Ferrara, the Library All Digital of Campi Bisenzio, the University of Bergamo, the European University Institute in Fiesole.

In the meanwhile, in Bologna, there have been some meetings between the Ex Libris system administrators and the representatives of some services widely used in Italian universities. The goal was to develop interoperability process between ALMA and some systems used for the management of accounting (U-GOV), Document Delivery (Nilde) and serials management (ACNP).

Another two national projects supported by the Association ware:
- the *interoperability between ILL SBN (National Network for interlibrary loan) and ILL2 of ALEPH500 via ISO-ILL*
- and the *integration between Aleph500 and the National Italian Catalogue (SBN) via SBN/MARC protocol.*

In November 27th, 2014, was hosted in the University of Florence the Meeting of the members of the Association who has renew the Steering Committe for the period 2015-2017.

Activities and Events 2015-2016

The first event of 2015 organised by the Association was the Seminar "Bibliographic resources and library reference", held in Turin about the experience of discovery tool's adoption and the impact for the reference activities. Especially the reports of University of Turin, that utilise Italian "Sebina" ILS and adopted since 2014 *Primo* as discovery tool, remarked the transformation of relationship between the librarians and the users via network, and some utilities, as the use of the "chat" communication.
(https://www.serviziweb.unito.it/media/?content=7574)

The second event was the workshop "Sharing Geography: the Tuscan experience of widespread library", hosted by the University of Florence. In the first part of the workshop it was exposed the SBART project of the Tuscan institutions and *OneSearch* service, based on Primo, while during the second part was held a round table where they found voice other sharing experiences in place or in progress between different library institutions.

About the Alma experience was organised the first event 2016, the Seminar "Multidimensional libraries", held in Pisa (Scuola Normale Superiore). We have the presence of Frode Arntsen (Director of BYBSYS), relating about the transition from a self-developed and self-hosted ILS to ALMA, a cloud-based library services platform and of Patrizia Martini, representative of ICCU (the National Institution of library services).

It was an opportunity for discussion on the experiences of Italian installations of Alma and for a comparison with Ex Libris about open criticalities.

In particular:

- The integration of ALMA and the National Union Catalogue (SBN)
- The choice of the bibliographic format for future ALMA installations in Italy: UNIMARC or MARC21?
- The interoperability process between ALMA and some systems used for the management of accounting (U-GOV), Document Delivery (Nilde) and serials management (ACNP).

Involvement in IGeLU

Guido Badalamenti (University of Siena) is member of the Steering Committee as IGeLU Treasurer. Since the Juin 2015 ITALE, as Association, became a member of IGeLU.

In an effort to promote the participation of ITALE Institutions at the Annual IGELU Conference, ITALE supports the Conference expenses (travel, accommodation, registration fee) to staff members of some Institutions.

This year we have also at IGeLU Conference the presentation of the University of Turin about a project of territorial cooperation*: Primo as milestone for developing a network of library services in Piedmont*.
There are overall nine Italian towns represented in Trondheim Conference (Bergamo, Bolzano, Como, Genoa, Milan, Pisa, Siena, Turin and Varese).

Contacts

Steering Committee 2015-17

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Information and documentation

Information about ITALE, technical documentation, announcements can be found at our web site: **http://www.itale.it**

Genoa, 2.9.2016

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On behalf of the Italian Users Group
Fernanda Canepa

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