



ACEF annual report

2010 IGeLU National User Group meeting

Ghent, 29th August 2010

Association

Founded in 2000, the ACEF was formerly known as the AUFA (*Association des Utilisateurs Francophones d'Aleph*). It changed its name during an extraordinary general assembly on February 12th 2007 and became then the ACEF (*Association des Clients d'Ex Libris France*).

Objectives

- To facilitate communication between Ex Libris Group (especially Ex Libris France) and Ex Libris product users.
- To facilitate mutual support and exchange of experience and information between French-speaking users.
- To act as a spokesperson for all its members towards Ex Libris, IGeLU, FULBI (*Fédération des Utilisateurs de Logiciels de Bibliothèques*), ABES (*Agence Bibliographique de l'Enseignement Supérieur*) other users associations, public French authorities and any society or organization using Ex Libris products.
- To centralize and coordinate all kinds of requests concerning the improvement and development of Ex Libris products.

Activities

To reach its objectives, the ACEF:

- organizes meetings twice a year in June and December/January (these meetings are attended by directors and by practitioners, systems librarians or administrators);
- has created two product working groups:
 - Aleph/ARC,
 - Primo/SFX/MetaLib.

Once a year, each PWG organizes discussions or seminars ('user to user') where their own developments are presented, where experience is shared...;

- publishes on its website meeting minutes of the general assemblies, reports on topics discussed during PWG sessions, news concerning the ACEF and Ex Libris products...;
- has got a mailing-list. The access to the list is only available to clients of Ex Libris France (exceptions for French-speaking institutions that are clients of another Ex Libris office are possible).

Membership

The ACEF users group consists of 45 member institutions in 2010:

- public libraries: 5
- academic libraries: 32
- special libraries: 8

Over the last twelve months, six new institutions have decided to join the ACEF. Most institution members are from France, three are from Belgium, one from Morocco, one from Switzerland and one from Quebec.

Membership fee: 120 EUR.

Products

- ILS ALEPH (v17, v18 and v20)
- Link Resolver SFX
- Portal System MetaLib
- Discovery System Primo
- Repository DigiTool
- ERM System Verde

What has happened so far since the lastest IGeLU meeting?

(1) Meeting in January 2010 (Liège)

For the first time in its history, the ACEF annual meeting was not held in Paris, but in Liège (Belgium) at the University of Liège (ULg). The two main topics of the meeting were:

- a. a presentation of EL Commons: we had noticed that unfortunately few of our members knew or used EL Commons. So, the committee decided to organize a two-part presentation of the portal: ppt and demo. The participants appreciated and some of them (but probably too few) decided to sign in.
- b. a presentation of the ULg open access repository (<http://orbi.ulg.ac.be>). The ORBi repository was launched in November 2008 and has now more than 48,300 bibliographic references (more than 28,900 of which have a full text). The following topics were discussed: the strong institutional policy, the ULg mandate, the workflow and the developments with Ex Libris products.

(2) Training sessions and seminars

A basic level seminar for ALEPH systems librarians was organized in Paris in January 2010. ACEF organizes the seminar and Ex Libris France provides it. Five institutions (eight librarians) took part in it. Advanced level seminars for ALEPH systems librarians should be organized in autumn.

SFX and MetaLib administration seminars could not be organized because too few members were interested in them.

(3) Meeting in June 2010 (Paris)

PWG sessions

Two parallel PWG sessions ('user to user') were organized in the morning:

- 1) Aleph/ARC:
 - a. University Paris-Sorbonne explained how and why they use Report Studio
 - b. University Paris Descartes presented their script used for showing new acquisitions in the opac and on the library's website.
- 2) Primo/SFX/MetaLib:

Ex Libris France presented bX. The presentation was followed by an informal exchange of experience of bX at University Paris-Est Créteil.

After each PWG session, a common debriefing for all was organized.

Primo vs EDS

In the second part of the day, there were two presentations:

- a. Primo v3 by Ex Libris France
- b. EDS by Ebsco

It is probably not quite common that a users group invites a competitor of Ex Libris. Nevertheless, the new discovery tool EDS seems so interesting that the committee decided to organize two presentations in order to help the ACEF members compare the two products more easily. There was a big interest in both tools and many questions were asked!

(4) New website and Twitter account

According to our previous report (August 2009) to the IGeLU, one of our goals for this year was a better updating of the ACEF website. Since none of us was allowed to get a direct access to the server, the task wasn't easy... So, the committee decided to abandon the website hosted at Paris-Est Créteil and to create a new one with WordPress.com:

- a. the new site is much more dynamic than the previous one (news about the ACEF, Ex Libris, IGeLU...);
- b. each committee member has an administrator or editor account;
- c. any librarian from an institution member may apply for an author account.

Beside this new site, a Twitter account was also created: www.twitter/a_c_e_f

Website: <http://a-c-e-f.org>

Committee (since June 2010)

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On behalf of the ACEF users group
François Renaville
August 2010