

The Danish Aleph User-group for Research and Special libraries (DAB) – report / INUG 2009

MEMBERSHIP:

- Danish Research- and Special libraries who run Aleph through contract with Fujitsu or Ex Libris
- At present 7 member-institutions. Several insourcing solutions means that the 7 actually represents more than 100 individual institutions
- Membership is free of charge

OBJECTS:

- Forum for co-operation and sharing experiences concerning Aleph and Aleph-related matters
- Co-ordinate and prioritise common suggestions, requests and demands (Fujitsu, Ex Libris, IGeLU)
- Contact with Fujitsu and IGeLU
- Contact and co-operation with the Danish public libraries user group

GENERAL ACTIVITIES:

- National listserv
- Web-site (in Danish)- Contains list of members, contact persons, library-super-users etc. <http://www.hba.dk/dab/dab-start.htm>
- 3-4 annual meetings each of which includes also joint meetings with Fujitsu

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES - 2009:

All members but one have upgraded from version 16.2 to version 18. According to support contracts our Danish distributor (Fujitsu) does the upgrading.

A consortium of members, i e The Royal Library, Technical University of Denmark, The Administrative Library/MiniBIB and Aalborg University Library signed a development contract with Ex Libris concerning Primo. Primo now gradually replaces the Aleph OPAC as the standard user interface although the former is still in use. We are not very happy with the integration between Primo and user information in Aleph, e g placing holding requests. We hope that it will be improved in the next Primo release.

COOPERATION WITH Fujitsu

In general we see Fujitsu as a very competent, open minded and cooperative distributor – especially when it comes to developing special, local features and add-on's to our system in cooperation with the national user groups. Among projects this year are integration between Aleph OPAC and mobile phones and between Aleph budgets and cash information and Navision, which is used as standard i Danish state.

ALEPH related PROBLEMS

At present the main problem is new ILL-module which has proved to be rather difficult to adopt to real life in the libraries!

NATIONAL USER GROUP ORGANISATION

Up to now a national merger of the various Ex Libris user groups have not been considered relevant, due to the different interests of the groups. From this year, however there is representative from the Danish Public Libraries Aleph User Group present at our meetings, hopefully leading to a better coordination between the two groups. Likewise the Føroya landsbókasavni (National Library of the Faroe Islands) are attached to the group from this year.

The Danish group “DANSMUG” for users of Metalib, SFX and/or Verde continues on its own with one or two meetings a year. Instead of a listserv we have created a Google group (for invited members). It might have been a better idea to place it on the IGeLU website although some institutions are not IGeLU-members. There are no plans splitting the group into two groups for Metalib and SFX.

Version

18.0/16.2

IGeLU

We haven't been particularly active this year, but we do appreciate the SC and the PWG's for all their efforts and time building the new organisation and getting influence on the development of the Ex Libris Suite.

On behalf of the user-group

Peter V. Christensen

MiniBib/The Administrative Library

August 2009