VLENGEL REPORT for INUG 2009

Vlengel (www.vlengel.org) is the Flemish and Dutch group of Ex Libris users.

Since the last IGeLU meeting in Madrid 2008, Vlengel has held only one meeting, in Wageningen in the new building of the WUR (Wageningen University Research) library.

Meeting

Normally Vlengel has two meetings a year, but when we tried to schedule the 'normal' autumn meeting in November, every participating institution turned out to be very busy with projects, so we decided to skip this meeting and postpone the visit to Wageningen to our spring meeting.

On the 29th of May about 20 participants joined together in Wageningen where we divided the meeting in a morning session about IGeLU and URM developments and an afternoon session about Selfservice and RFID developments in the Netherlands and Belgium. About the latter, at Wednesday 9 September this last issue will be presented in session 28d in Fennia II of the IGeLU conference.

URM

It is always nice to be able to have a member of the Steering Committee of IGeLU do the updating of the Vlengel community. Lukas Koster is from the beginning of IGeLU our liaison and we valid his updates and information highly.

URM is of course an issue every institution is interested in. We are lucky that one of the develement partners of URM is a member of Vlengel.

LIBIS, the Leuven University Library information services department provides services to a large network of organisations and libraries and is therefore chosen by Ex Libris to participate in the development of the URM.

In Vlengel, we hope to get the best out of this participation and we use our meetings to discuss about the needs and wants for URM.

Also three Dutch institutions have drafted themselves for the URM- focus groups, where we used Vlengel to coördinate the division of these Dutchies over the various focus groups.

In this way we hope to be able to influence as much as possible the developments of the URM in a way that we think usefull.

URM, Union Catalogue, ILL infrastructure

One of the features in the Netherlands attracting Ex Libris attention for their URM architecture is the Dutch National Infrastructure for shared cataloguing and ILL. At first Ex Libris thought about joining the Vlengel meeting in Wageningen for this topic, but later on we decided to dedicate a special meeting between the Dutch Aleph libraries and Ex Libris for this.

Outline of the Dutch Union Catalogue

All the Dutch (academic) libraries share a Union Catalogue (GGC) which is owned by OCLC-PICA. This Union Catalogue serves as a shared metadata database from which libraries can derive and to which libraries can add metadata records.
Part of this metadata database is our National Catalogue (NCC), where libraries add and maintain holdings.
There are several ways in which Dutch libraries apply this shared cataloguing in their workflow and local ILS.

Outline of the Dutch ILL infrastructure

Based on this National Catalogue, ILL is possible between libraries and for end-users.
For financial transactions resulting from ILL a clearing house function is available.
Therefore libraries do not pay per ILL transaction to each other, but they pay or receive a periodical balance resulting of all ILL financial transactions.
Even end-users can take part in this system by opening an account, putting and maintaining a deposit they can use to pay their own ILL-transactions. It gives end-users the possibility to request ILL delivery without using a librarian as intermediate.

Selfservice in Belgium and the Netherlands

Several VLENGEL members have developped selfservice solutions. Some of them will be presented this IGeLU conference in session 28d in Fennia II.

- In Leuven (Belgium) the Campusbibliotheek Arenberg has been using RFID from Bibliotheca since 2003 offering check out and check in selfservice machines. One of the add-ons later has been the installation of an automatic item sorter robot.
  Checked in items are automatically sorted in various bins for dispatching to collections.
- In Gent, the University Library has joint ventured with the University College Gent to choose Knothech as provider for their RFID based selfservice. Implementation will start in the second half of 2009.
- In Wageningen the University Library has implemented RFID and selfservice machines for check out and check in when moving in to their new premisses in 2008. WUR has chosen NEDAP as provider.
- In Amsterdam the Free University has chosen Intellident as provider for their RFID and self service solution. The unique selling point of this implementation is the use of UHF RFID frequency which offers more functionality than the common used HF RFID frequency. This also means that the Free University had to enter a development stage before getting al the basic functionality up and running.

- In Leiden the University Library has decided no to go for RFID but to use the good old barcode as identifier for their self service lockers. Their provider NEDAP has developped a solution where requested items are stocked into lockers for pickup by the patron. Once the patron opens his/her locker, the item(s) inside are immediately checked out using SIP2 in connection to Aleph. This solution will be presented at IGeLU
- In Amsterdam the University Library has chosen Autocheck systems as their provider for RFID and self service machines offering check out and check in for their patrons. Amsterdam will go live in September 2009.
- In Utrecht the University Library has also chosen Autocheck systems for their RFID and self service machines. Both Amsterdam and Utrech also decided to outsource the tagging of items to Autocheck. Utrecht has gone live with their self services in June 2009

Other main events

Amsterdam University Library migrated from PICA-LBS to Aleph v.18.
The migration started in summer 2008. Therefore the version to migrate was v.18 en not a more recent version.
Amsterdam went live August 13 2009.

Utrecht University Library migrated from Aleph v.16 to v.20.
The migration started in February as soon as the version was released. Utrecht was a backbencher using v.16 since summer 2005 not having the resources to do any upgrade to v.18 eversince. Going live with v.20 on July 20 2009 transferred Utrecht from backbencher to frontrunner, being the first Non US customer to implement this version.