

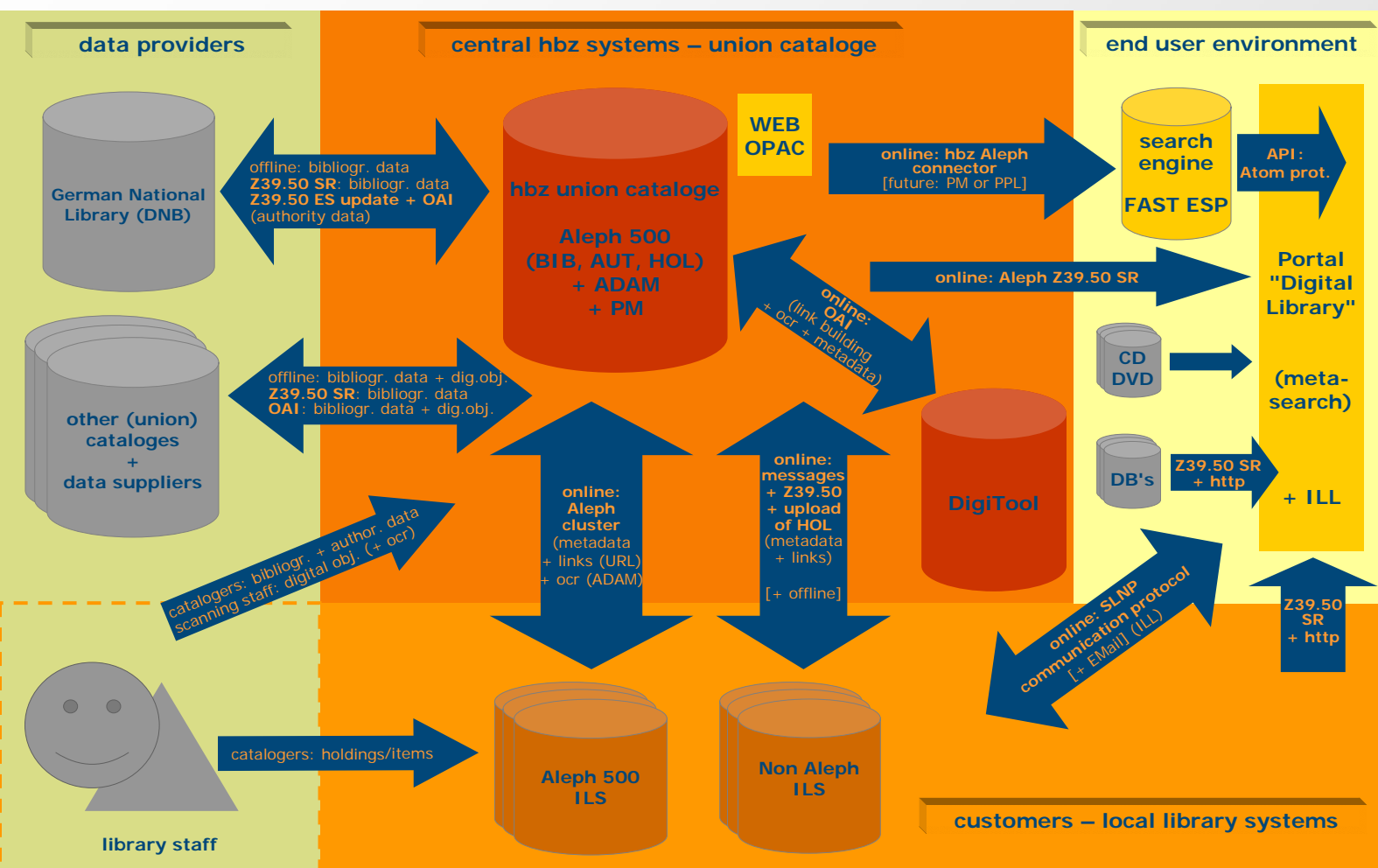
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hbz ...

- Hochschulbibliothekszentrum des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen Center For Academic Libraries of North Rhine-Westphalia
- is a **regional library service center** of Germany (among six)
- hosts a **union catalogue** for co-operative cataloging
 - with ~16 m. bibl. + ~35 m. holding records
 - with ~400.000 digital objects (toc's, full texts, ...)
 - for ~60 acad. libraries with more than 1300 diff. owners
 - by using **ALEPH 500** (incl. ADAM + PM) and **DigiTool**
- provides **portals, ILL** and other services for its customers
- is located in an **heterogenous software environment** of its customers, data providers and data receivers

aim of the poster ...

- to demonstrate the **flow of metadata information** within the hbz consortium
- to show the **different interfaces and gateways** between homogenous and heterogenous software systems
- to illustrate the **solutions that ALEPH and DigiTool offer**
- to motivate the **move from offline/batch interfaces to online communication**
- to indicate the **advantages and disadvantages of online interfaces**
- ... and to "promote" these (hbz) interfaces and gateways



experiences offline ➤ online

advantages ...

- less production steps for IT staff
-> **automated production** (high process robustness)
- **faster update of metadata** - no delays any more for users
- **more comfortable workflows** and **new features** for library staff

disadvantages

- **high complexity and effort** for tests and certification
- **high dependency** of different systems
- **synchronisation** of production time, software versions (updates, fixes) and throughput (operational capacity)
- all updates have **instant side effects** on all interfaces and all customers (example: data cleansing)
- **breakdowns** of one of the systems/interfaces disturb the complete system and all users

conclusion

- different systems **"grow together"**
- **high convenience for staff and users**
- less work for IT staff: "No!" – **different work**: "Yes!"
 - **shifting of work** and human resources
- **high co-ordination expense**
 - all jobs have to be co-ordinated **system wide** as opposed to "lonesome" decisions
 - separation of particular production steps is still reasonable

increased online communication is the logical and proper step for the current information community