



ITALIAN EX LIBRIS USERS ASSOCIATION Annual Report 2013

Introduction

ITALE was established in 1999 to bring together the Italian institutions which 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: 39 (of which 25 are Universities)

Membership fee: 250 € (it covers group activities and projects)

Products distribution:

- ALEPH (38, 2 in Saas mode)
- SFX (21, 1 in SaaS mode)
- MetaLib (17)
- MetaLibPlus with Primo (9)
- DigiTool (1)
- Primo Local (1), Primo SAaS (8)
- Bx (2)

Since 2009 the local support is provided by the Italian subsidiary of Ex Libris (Ex Libris Italy)

Activities 2012-2013

After IGeLU Conference in Zurich, a workshop was held in Rome on 15 and 16 November 2012 on the following topic: Choices, plans, guidelines ITALE institutions in times of crisis. That has been an opportunity to talk about:

- first experiences with Primo in Italy (in local mode or as SaaS)
- implementation experiences of MetaLIB+
- experiences using USTAT
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In addition Liliana Morotti, General Manager of Ex Libris Italy, presented the **Alma Early Adopters Program** for the Italian context.

In February 2013, on the occasion of the visit to Italy by Matti Shem Tov, we convened an Assembly of ITALE representatives in Rome: to the President of Ex Libris was presented the current economic situation and the organization of Italian universities.

In the years 2009-2012 the Italian universities have dealt with changes in the law (eg new Statutes), organizational and functional changes; they have adopted new evaluation practices and experimented with new ways of negotiation and acquisition of resources at national level (eg. purchase of electronic resources) in a context of constant and progressive reduction of financial and human resources available to the system. The Library Systems have felt the effects of the crisis and have suffered cuts in their budgets ranging from 10 to 20% in the years from 2008 to 2012. Currently, an aspect of great impact is the introduction, in Italian universities, of a new integrated information system

designed uniquely for Higher Education Institutions (U-GOV) and developed by the Consortium CINECA (privileged partner of the Ministry of the University and the research). The integration of procedures between ALEPH and U-GOV (which handles matters such as budget, personnel, teaching, evaluation, etc..) Is fundamental also in preparation of the integration between ALMA and U-GOV. Mr Shem Tov has expressed interest and attention to this. The first contacts with the CINECA in this regard have been positive and some feasibility studies have already been shared.

Short-term programs

1. **23 September 2013:** Visita in Italia di Koby Rosenthal new Corporate VP, General Manager Europe
2. **14 to 15 November 2013:** Seminar at the University of Perugia dedicated to the implementation of ALMA in the first institution on the Italian territory (though not Italian): the free University of Bolzano. On the occasion of the seminar will be announced the names of the institutions participating in ALMA Early Adopters Plan

Envolvement in IGeLU

Guido Badalamenti (University of Siena) is member of the Steering Committee as IGeLU Treasurer.

In an effort to promote the participation of institutions ITALE at the Annual IGeLU Conference, since 2012 ITALE covers the costs (flight, registration fee, hotel) to a staff member for each institution that requests it.

Contacts

Steering Committee 2012-14

Chair: Liliana Bernardis (University of Udine)

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Information and Documentation

Information about ITALE, technical documentation, announcements can be found at our web site: <http://www.itale.it>. We have also three mailing lists:

itale@itale.it: devoted to ITALE members

it-elug@liste.uniud.it devoted to Italian Ex Libris products users

itale-sys@polito.it devoted to system and library managers, members of ITALE

On behalf of the Italian Users Group
Liliana Bernardis