THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF FINLAND

National Library Network Services

National Ex Libris User Group: Finland

Consortia

Linnea2 Consortium consists of 18 universities (including the National Library), six special libraries (including the Library of Parliament and the National Repository Library), and four libraries of universities of applied sciences (UAS). Altogether these libraries maintain 26 databases. 22 of these are local library databases, the rest are national or union catalogue databases maintained by the National Library.

AMKIT Consortium consists of 25 universities of applied sciences (former polytechnic colleges) most of whom have their individual Voyager databases. Four UAS libraries are also members of Linnea2 and have shared databases with local university libraries. In addition to managing Voyager cooperation, the Consortium coordinates many other cooperative projects of the UAS libraries.

FinELib Consortium is a consortium of Finnish universities, universities of applied sciences, research institutes and public libraries. The aim of the Consortium is to acquire electronic resources centrally on behalf of its member organisations. The electronic resources are accessed through the Nelli portal.

Software

Voyager

Apart from the national union catalogue Linda, all databases in both Consortia are using Voyager. The present version in their production databases is 8.1.1. The upgrade from 7.2.1 to 8.1.1 in summer 2012 caused major Oracle-related stability issues for the rest of the year.

Aleph

The union catalogue Linda was using Voyager Universal Catalogue until the end of 2008. A new Linda, using the Aleph Central Catalogue model, was created in 2008 and opened in January 2009. The present version is 20.2.6.

MetaLib and SFX

The Nelli portal operates with MetaLib and SFX software. Nelli customers can be given a username and password for personalised services, such as resource lists and a personal electronic bookshelf. The Nelli portal was brought into use in January 2005 in universities. In public libraries, the Nelli portal was introduced in October 2004, and in libraries of universities of applied sciences (polytechnics) at the beginning of 2005. The address of the Nelli portal of all the libraries is www.nelliportaali.fi. The present version of Metalib is 4.5.4 and SFX is 4.5.2.

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Functions and Projects

Melinda - the Finnish Union Catalogue (formerly called Linda)

The planning of the expansion of the Finnish union catalogue to cover all library sectors in Finland has been going on through the last years.

UAS libraries

The first UAS libraries joined the union catalogue through mergers with university libraries. Aleph license was purchased for all UAS libraries at the end of 2011. The individual UAS libraries have been joining Melinda since summer of 2012. The remaining UAS libraries using Voyager are planned to join during 2013 and early 2014.

Public libraries

The public sector libraries have purchased the Aleph license at the end of 2010. The first public libraries are now piloting the use of Aleph.

Asteri Authority File

In Melinda Aleph there is a separate database for authority records and Finland is now developing a bilingual authority database. The use of thesauruses and corporate names (maintained by the National Library) is currently being piloted. Negotiations for joining VIAF are on the agenda and sharing name authorities with museums and archives has been discussed as well.

Finna - the National Digital Library project

In the end of March 2010 the national digital library project published its enterprise architecture: http://www.kdk.fi/en/enterprise-architecture. In August Ex Libris Group was chosen to implement National Digital Library's Public interface with Primo software. The piloting phase ended in December 2011 and Primo was discarded as the software solution for the public interface. From the beginning of 2012 The National Library has been developing the public interface as an open source solution based on VuFind: http://www.kdk.fi/en/public-interface. In January 2013 Primo Central Index was chosen as the central index solution for Finna.