Introduction

Founded in 2000, ACEF was formerly known as AUFA (Association des Utilisateurs Francophones d’Aleph). It changed its name during an extraordinary general assembly on February 12th 2007 and became the ACEF (Association des Clients d’Ex Libris France).

Initially dedicated to Aleph, the association has grown with Ex Libris’ customers base.

Membership

In 2017, the ACEF users group has thirty seven member institutions, most of them are academic libraries. Most institution members are from France, some are from Belgium, Switzerland and Quebec.

Main events since the last IGeLU meeting

Aleph admin training (paid)

A five days training session was organized at Bibliothèque Sainte-Barbe in December 2017. The training was given by Mrs Valérie Philibert (Ex Libris). Fifty percent of the cost is borne by the association, the remaining fifty percent is paid by the institutions that sent staff members to the training. Members of five french Universities have attended the training session.

Primo admin training (free for members)

A three days training session was organized at Bibliothèque Sainte-Barbe in March 2018. The training was given by Mr Laurent Nabias and Benoît Vicart (DBU Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3). Members of eight french Universities have attended the training session.

SFX admin training (free for members)
A three days training session was organized at Bibliothèque Sainte-Barbe in April 2018. The training was given by Mrs Ewa Nieszkowska (Université Paris Est Créteil). Members of eight french Universities have attended the training session.

**ACEF meeting in January 2018**

The meeting was hosted by Collège de France, Paris, on January 30th.

Renewal of the board

Dorothée Benhamou, from Université Paris Descartes, was unanimously elected by the general assembly as new vice-chair of the ACEF.

Gabriel Raupp, from Université Paris Nanterre, was unanimously elected as secretary of the ACEF.

Customer feedback sessions

*Paris-Saclay university portal* by Camille Mazé

This presentation showed the complexity of the project involving nineteen institutions. The portal is based on Primo and SFX (SaaS). Few developments were necessary in Primo New UI to manage consortial features that were missing in default Front End.

*Alma implementation at UPEC university: forehead news* by Ewa Nieszkowska

UPEC libraries, one of the oldest Aleph customers in France, are in the middle of an Alma implementation (outside of the SGBm project). The presentation was focused on data migration: bibliographic records, items, acquisitions, serials, libraries, patrons and SFX KB.

Ex Libris session

In the afternoon, the Ex Libris Staff was given the opportunity to present several topics.

- Ex Libris news, products roadmap, status of the French office by Arnaud Guenegan, Vice President Sales West & South EMEA, and Maud Arnaud, Senior Solutions Expert, Pre Sales Europe
- Esploro presentation by Elad Hoffman, Director Head of Pre Sales Europe
- General point about Alma projects underway in France par Jeannot Ouellet, Project Manager
- Alma project management and training sessions by Jeannot Ouellet, Project Manager
- Q/A

**ACEF meeting in June 2018**

The meeting was hosted by Université Paris 3 - Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, on June 6-7th.

Because of the amount of news, the assembly took place over two days.
Renewal of the board

After a two-year term, Laurent Aucher, from Université PSL, was unanimously re-elected by the general assembly as chair of the ACEF.

After a two-year term, Marjolaine Simon, from Université Paris 3 - Sorbonne Nouvelle, was unanimously re-elected as treasurer of the ACEF.

Current members of the board:
- Chair: Laurent Aucher (laurent.aucher@psl.eu)
- Vice-chair: Dorothée Benhamou (dorothee.benhamou-suesser@parisdescartes.fr)
- Secretary: Gabriel Raupp (graupp@parisnanterre.fr)
- Treasurer: Marjolaine Simon (marjolaine.simon@sorbonne-nouvelle.fr)

Trends

Workload for the board becomes more and more important. It was necessary to appoint referrals by product / KB / index to assist our team. They will mainly coordinate Idea Exchange, NERS enhancements and animate the mailing list.

- Loïc Ducasse (Université de Toulouse): Alma, Alma KB/CZ
- Camille Mazé (Université Paris Saclay): SFX, SFX KB, Primo Central Index
- Benoît Vicart (Université Paris 3 / Bibliothèque Sainte-Barbe): Primo, SFX KB, Primo Central Index

Year 2018 will remain in “history” since the SGBm project enters the deployment phase after more than seven years. Up to now, Ex Libris won 100% of published tenders with Alma/Primo (twelve institutions so far). Competitors are literally stunned. Thirty four other tenders will be released in the coming months.

Consequently, the board started to officially discuss with the ABES agency. A video conference was organized in April. Both ABES and ACEF agreed to collaborate. According to its nature, documentation materials will be centralized by ABES or ACEF. Additional training sessions could be managed among different organizations: ABES, ACEF and regional training centers. ABES has a great expertise of Ex Libris’ APIs. It will be useful since there are more and more needs regarding the interoperability of Ex Libris’ solutions with national and local systems.

The director of the ABES agency (David Aymonin) and the SGBm project manager (Serge Genot) were invited to attend the assembly as observers.

An Alma working group is currently being formed within the ACEF to coordinate the exchange of information between institutions and to share documentation and training. The first project is to take over BO translation into French.

Customer feedback sessions

No less than five Alma sessions were organized with customers that recently switched to production. A lot of relevant information was given. Presenters were very frank. The audience was able to ask many questions regarding project management, data migration, functionalities and so on.

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1 Higher education mutualized system whose tenders are managed by the ABES agency. http://www.abes.fr/Projet-SGBm/Systeme-de-gestion-de-bibliotheque-mutualise-SGBm
Alma project at Université de Bordeaux: focus on the CZ architecture by Alexandre Faure (project manager)

Alma project at Université Fédérale Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées (general presentation of the project, Ex Libris project management, privileges and printing management, focus on acquisitions and electronic documentation) by Loïc Ducasse (project manager)

Alma project at Universcience: staff involvement and change management by Barbara Contassot (project manager)

Alma project at UPEC by Tiphaine Tugault (deputy director)

Alma project at Université de Montpellier by Matthieu Desachy (director) and Laure Franceschi (project manager)

Cross presentation of Ex Libris - Proquest products

Two and a half years after the Ex Libris acquisition by ProQuest, the integration of Summon / 360 Link customers is still underway. That's why we decided to introduce selected solutions to both customer communities.

- Romain Boistel (ENPC) presented Summon, 360 Link and 360 Core
- Stéphanie Boudet (DBU Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3) and Laurent Aucher (Université PSL) presented SFX, Primo and PCI

Content Working Group

Metadata coverage and quality is still a main concern for French-speaking customers. François Renaville, University of Liège, Belgium, Co-coordinator IGeLU, was invited to present CWG activities. We also discussed about current issues in SFX KB, PCI, Summon and Alma CZ.

Primo New UI Workshop

Many Primo customers are considering to move to the New UI while not having the resources. A Primo New UI workshop was organized in the continuity of the meeting.

The workshop was animated by:
- Camille Mazé (Université Paris Saclay)
- Benoît Vicart (DBU Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3 / BSB)
- Julien Sicot (Université Rennes 2)

On behalf of the ACEF user group
Laurent Aucher
July 2018
http://a-c-e-f.org