ITALIAN EX LIBRIS USERS ASSOCIATION – ITALE

Annual Report 2019

Introduction
ITALE, established in 1999, is among the Italian institutions that adopted ALEPH. Since January 2007, the Association is open to all institutions using Ex Libris products and since June 2015 ITALE became a member of IGeLU.

Members 2019: 38 Institutions
Membership fee: 250,00 € (it covers group activities and projects) per year

Products in use: ALEPH, ALMA, Primo, SFX, MetaLib, MetaLib Plus, Leganto, a few use also DigiTool, Bx, CampusM, one has signed for Esploro. Some members use Summon, others have chosen EDS as Discovery tool integrating with Aleph or Alma.

ITALE working groups
Currently we have five active Working Groups concerning the following subjects:

1. Discovery Tools
2. Bibliographic standards and Italian National Union Catalogue (SBN) integration with Aleph/Alma
3. Alma
4. Aleph & Alma integration with ILL SBN, the ILL Services offered by Italian National Union Catalogue (SBN)
5. Aleph & Alma integration with NILDE (Network Inter-Library Document Exchange) for DD Services

A sixth working group on Legal and contractual Issues (such as Privacy and GDPR, Cloud services, ...) is currently inactive.

ITALE is eager to collect needs, ideas, problems, and requests about Ex Libris products and we intend to share them with other national user groups: for these reasons ITALE sponsors its members to attend the annual IGeLU meeting.

Activities and Events 2018-19
In the first months of the 2019 we moved the ITALE website to the main IGeLU website. This was a good opportunity for us to optimize all our pages and contents, giving them an improved appearance. At the same time, we moved also our mailing lists, used for disseminating information, answers and questions. All this was possible thanks to Mark Dehmlow and Dave Allen from IGeLU.

Every year ITALE organizes two events, one in Spring and one in Autumn, consisting of a member meeting and a seminar / workshop open to the librarian community at large.

In November 2018 the seminar The ALMA day: experiences, projects and prospects for
Italian users was hosted by the University of Salerno and organized by the Alma Working group. All the talks were held by members who have already implemented Alma, with the aim to share of good practices and offer a useful comparison. The main themes were the use of the APIs in different contexts, the use of normalization rules, purchase proposals, the RFID-Alma integration, and the Community zone.

In May 2019 the Spring event was hosted by the University of Verona. In the first day it was organized a Workshop among all the ITALE Working groups in order to discuss the new common goals. On the second day, it was organized the Seminar The future is in the network: sharing experiences and strategies, focused on the cooperation among Italian users for ILL/DD services, followed by the comparison among Primo & Primo VE backoffice functionalities. The seminar ended with a Q&A session with Ex Libris staff.

Steering Committee 2018-20
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Information and documentation
Further information, technical documentation, and news can be found on the web site http://itale.igelu.org