ITALIAN EX LIBRIS USERS ASSOCIATION – ITALE

Annual Report 2024

Introduction

ITALE was established in 1999 as the Association of the Italian institutions that adopted ALEPH. Since January 2007, the Association has been open to all institutions using Ex Libris products. Since June 2015, ITALE has become a member of IGeLU.

Since 2020, all institutions that use Italian as their official language are welcome to join ITALE.

Members 2024: 47 Institutions
Membership fee: 250,00 € (it covers group activities and projects) per year
Membership fee: 500,00 € (for ITALE and IGeLU Consortium member) per year

36 ITALE institutions are also members of IGeLU, 28 of which are in consortium mode.

Products in use: Aleph, Alma, Alma-Digital, Primo and Primo VE, SFX, MetaLib, MetaLib Plus, Leganto; a few institutions use also DigiTool, Bx, CampusM, Esploro, RapidILL. Some members utilize Summon, others have chosen EDS as Discovery tool, merging it with Aleph or Alma.

ITALE is eager to gather feedback on needs, suggestions, issues, and requests about Ex Libris products and we aim to share them with other national user groups. For these reasons, ITALE encourages and supports its members' attendance at the IGeLU meetings.

We share documentation and information regarding Ex Libris products on our website; moreover, we also maintain a mailing list that is only available to ITALE members for the purpose of sharing information, clarifications, and queries. From 2023 ITALE steering committee can open tickets to Ex-Libris support on behalf of the entire community.

ITALE working groups

Currently we have six active Working Groups focused the following topics:

1. Discovery Tools: chair Silvia Trevenzoli (University of Verona) silvia.trevenzoli@univr.it;
2. Bibliographic standards and Italian National Union Catalogue (SBN) integration with Aleph/Alma: chair Raffaella Sprugnoli (University of Pisa) raffaella.sprugnoli@unipi.it;
3. Alma: chair Maria Teresa De Gregori (University of Roma Tor Vergata) de.gregori@biblio.uniroma2.it;
4. Alma Electronic resources: chair to be appointed.
5. Resource Sharing (includes Aleph & Alma integration with ILL SBN, the ILL Services offered by Italian National Union Catalogue (SBN), and Aleph & Alma integration with NILDE (Network Inter-Library Document Exchange) for DD Services): chair Vera Galliani (IULM Milano) vera.galliani@iulm.it;
6. Leganto: chair Matteo Dal Zovo (University of Verona) matteo.dalzovo@univr.it.

Working groups help ITALE community with specific issues, develop projects to enhance functionalities of Ex-Libris products and coordinate the selection of requests for NERS process

votes.

Association Activities and Events 2023-2024

Every year ITALE organizes two events, one in Spring and one in the Fall, each consisting of:

- a workshop reserved for the ITALE working groups, for sharing experiences and setting collaborations;
- the assembly of all members;
- a seminar / workshop open to the librarian community at large.

On December 5 and 6, 2023, we met in Milan, as guests of the University of Milano.
The seminar *Save the time of the user: buone pratiche per un uso efficace del discovery* tool (i.e. *Save the time of the user: good practices for an effective use of the discovery tool*) was organized by the working group on "Discovery Tools".
The presentations aim to share good practices to personalize Primo and Summon and to improve the users' experience. The news from IGeLU 2023 were also presented.

We met again in Padua, on May 8th and 9th, 2024, as guest of the University of Padua. The seminar, *Analytics: dalla teoria alla pratica* (i.e. *Analytics: from theory to practice*) was organized as a joint venture of all working groups and dealt on Analytics and its potentional to support informed decisions.

Other activities: participation to IgeLu/Ex-Libris initiatives

ITALE members participate to several IGeLu/Ex-Libris initiatives:

- Paolo Buoso (Free University of Bolzano): Leganto product working group;
- Laura Ballestra and Chiara Pinciroli (LIUC): Esploro product working group;
- Carla Savarè (University of Milan): Community Zone Management Group (CZMG),
- Nazzareno Bedini (University of Pisa): Alma UX focus group;
- Carola Della Porta (University of Milan): Collection development focus group.

UNIMARC and Primo VE Project

The project is completed: from the February 2023 release the UNIMARC standard is supported by Primo VE.
With the help of Ex Libris, Primo VE early adopters (University of Insubria, University of Sassari, University of Verona) are currently rewriting their UNIMARC normalization rules, getting read off the "workarounds" which were set up before Go Live to cope with originally unsupported UNIMARC fields.

Steering Committee 2024-26

Chair: Silvia Ceccarelli (University of Insubria, Varese and Como)
silvia.ceccarelli@uninsubria.it

Member: Nazzareno Bedini (University of Pisa)
nazzareno.bedini@unipi.it

Member: Carola Della Porta (University of Milano)
carola.dellaporta@unimi.it

Member: Anna Maria Pastorini (University of Genoa)
anna.maria.pastorini@unige.it

Member: Silvia Trevenzoli (University of Verona)
silvia.trevenzoli@univr.it

Secretariat: Marta Putti (University of Siena)
puttim@unisi.it
associazione@itale.org

Working group Coordinator: Anna Maria Pastorini (University of Genoa)
anna.maria.pastorini@unige.it

Information and documentation

Further information, technical documents, and news can be found on the website
http://itale.igelu.org