Serials Cataloging and Format Integration: Gaining the Freedom to Be Accurate

Cherie Madrash-Hill
Cataloger, University of Akron

With format integration underway, serials catalogers will have more bibliographic fields and subfields to accurately describe multiformat serials such as videotape serials, sound recording serials, map serials, and computer file serials. In addition, serials with accompanying material will now have specific bibliographic fields for the accompanying items in any format. Changes to the 246 Varying Title field have occurred, offering catalogers more flexibility with free text varying titles.

Format Integration Phase I has brought about many changes to the USMARC Bibliographic record as some of the familiar fields were made obsolete and other new fields were added. Several of the key changes for serials are mentioned here.

Field 001 Linking Library of Congress Control Number, field 211, Acronym or Shortened Title, field 212 Variant Access Title, field 214 Augmented Title, field 265 Source for Acquisition/Subscription Address, field 315 Frequency and field 570 Editor Note have all been made obsolete.

Some of the new fields available for serials include field 037 Source of Acquisition, field 041 Language Code and field 546 Language Note.

In the 246 Varying Form of Title field, subfield “a” and subfield “s” are now valid. This is particularly useful for serials since free text phrases such as “title on container,” “at head of title” or “commonly known as” may now be used in subfield “a” to list the varying titles which don’t exactly fall into the eight 2nd indicator categories of field 246.

Field 505 Formatted Contents Note, field 508 Creation/Production Credits Note, field 511 Participant or Performer Note and field 520 Summary Note are now valid for serials. As far as computer serials go, field 256 Computer File Characteristics, field 538 System Details Note, field 753 System Details Access to Computer Files and field 856 Electronic Location and Access are now available.

This spring Format Integration Phase II is occurring, and this will be particularly beneficial for media and multiformat serials such as videotapes, sound cassettes, computer files, and for map serials.

Leader 06 Type of Record will add a new code of “p” for mixed materials and code “t” for manuscript language materials.

The fixed field display elements will change somewhat as some of the elements will be shifted to an 006 Fixed-Length Data Elements - Additional Material Characteristics field and an 008 Fixed-Length Data Elements field. OCLC will accommodate the 008 field into the Fixed Field Elements Display. For media serials field 006 can be used to describe the serial nature of the item and field 008, or the Fixed Field Elements Display, can be used to describe the physical carrier of the serial, such as the audiocassette or the videotape. Catalogers of serials with accompanying CD-ROMs or tapes can use field 006 to describe the accompanying material and field 008 or the Fixed Field Elements Display to reflect the primary serial. Several 006 fields may be used if necessary.

Both field 006, 008 and the Fixed Field Elements Display may be used for books, serials, maps, music, visual materials, computer files, archival and manuscript items. Field 007 Physical Description Fixed field will encompass computer files, maps, globes, projected graphics, microforms, non-projected graphics, motion pictures, sound recordings and video recordings.

For Your Information

TechKnow is published by the Technical Services Division of the Ohio Library Council and is received by individual members of the Division. For more information, or to submit articles, please contact Margaret Maurer at Taylor Memorial Public Library in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio [330-928-2117] at home [330-628-0313] or via the internet [aas885@freenet.akron.oh.us].
Windows95 for Beginners

Bill Whitman
Warren-Trumbull County Public Library

OPLIN will connect all the Public Libraries in Ohio some time in the next year or so, and we will begin searching each other’s catalogs using Windows95 based software. For those of us with little or no experience using Windows95 it could become a frustrating experience. Here’s some basic directional information for Windows95.

On the front screen for Windows95, the large blank area is the desktop. This can be customized by adding shortcuts to favorite programs, documents, and printers, and by changing the look to suit your current mood and needs.

At the bottom of the screen is the taskbar. It contains the START button. Clicking on the START button reveals a menu with access to other functions. Click on PROGRAMS to access the system. Click on PROGRAMS to load programs. Click on the HELP button. SHUTDOWN ends your current session.

When you start a Windows session the only thing on

One-Stop Jobbing for Inspirational Materials

by Nancy Currie, Director
MacKenzie Memorial Public Library

Recently I began ordering hard-to-find inspirational materials from Dennis Smithers of Inspirational Book Distributors (IBD). He offers a local source for materials from all major publishers in the inspirational market.

They specialize in Christian fiction and nonfiction for adults, young adults and children, and are developing lines of inspirational audio and videotapes. Dennis points out a growing demand for YA inspirational fiction which they are trying to fill. IBD carries books on cooking, crafts, sports and history. Standing orders are available for most lines of Christian fiction. They also offer discounts on volume ordered.

Dennis likes to visit libraries to set up their first order. Orders can be placed by mail, phone or fax, and standing orders are available for most lines of Christian fiction. My experiences with IBD have been positive. Dennis is helpful, deliveries are prompt and the invoices have been accurate.

Contact the store and ask for Dennis, Ellen or Paul to set up an account or arrange an order. They are located at 5107 Monroe St., Toledo, Ohio, 43623. Call them at 1-800-541-1133 To send a fax use 1-419-885-3930.

NOTSL Sponsors World Wide Web Training

Amy L. Park
Serials Librarian, Kent State University

Northern Ohio Technical Services Librarians (NOTSL) invites you to attend its semi-annual conference: Weaving the Web: Designing World Wide Web Pages for Technical Services. The conference will be held at Kent State University on June 7 from 9am until 3pm. Registration is $20 for NOTSL members and $25 for nonmembers. Contact Diane Winans at (330) 643-9103 or dwinans@delphi.com for registration form.

NOTSL is an organization made up of librarians and staff members who work in technical services in public, academic, special, and school libraries in northern Ohio. NOTSL sponsors two programs related to technical services issues each year, one in October and one in June.

They also sponsor annual NOTSL Scholarship(s) for persons working in Technical Services. While the 1996 deadline for submitting an application for the NOTSL Scholarship was April 1, keep the NOTSL scholarship in mind for 1997. Contact Timothy Robson at (216) 368-3508 or at tdr@po.cwr.edu for additional information about the 1997 scholarship. Look for more detailed information on this scholarship in the fall issue of TechKnow!

If you’re interested in joining NOTSL please contact Diane Winans at (330) 643-9103 or dwinans@delphi.com. Dues are $10 per year.
LIBSUP-L Provides Forum for Para-Professionals

Margaret Maurer
Taylor Memorial Public Library

Library support staff and technical services librarians who are looking to the internet for practical advice and a forum for new ideas can subscribe to LIBSUP-L. Recent lurkings on this listserv revealed a lively discussion of library assistant certification programs, job postings, advice on processing issues, and product information.

Most of the members of this list appear to be very dedicated to their work in libraries. Although unmoderated, the list seems less "chatty" than some lists can be. However, the volume is high, so you might consider getting the list in digest form.

Subscribe to this listserv by sending a message to listserv@washington.edu. Leave the subject line blank. The body of the message should contain: subscribe libsup-l <Your Name> where <Your Name> is of course your actual name, not your e-mail address.

Format Integration Caveat

Even though your library is receiving records from a bibliographic vendor that contain format integration changes, don't assume your system is set to receive and fully integrate them. Before these records can function fully, someone must adjust the display and indexing options for the system. Your software vendor must also be making efforts to accommodate features such as multiple 006 fields. Remember that while new records will be coming in that follow the new format, there will still be lots of records that were created prior to format integration.

Discussing these issues with reference staff members and on-site automation people could help re-configure the displays and indexing to the library's best advantage. This has the added benefit of educating non-catalogers regarding the changes. Your software vendor's technical support staff might also help clarify indexing options.

Libraries using marc records to produce catalog card sets should still implement the new rule changes, especially if they are counting on using these records for some future retrospective conversion project. This is also the time to review catalog card profile options.
Share Your News

Are you finishing up a special project that other Technical Services people might be interested in? Have you taken training in an area that made a big difference in your daily work? Did your library initiate a new service that impacts on Technical Services? Have you given a speech that you think would be of interest to our readers? Share your news with TechKnow! readers by writing an article for a future issue.

We'll offer you a chance to be heard by your peers, a complimentary copy of the issue your article appears in, and a friendly thank-you letter.

Contact Margaret Maurer
Taylor Memorial Public Library
2015 Third Street
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 44221
(330-928-2117)
Or at home at 1365 Martin Road, Mogadore, Ohio 44260 (330-628-0313), or via the internet (aa686@freenet.akron.oh.us).

A Call For Nominations

by Nancy Currie, Director
MacKenzie Memorial Public Library

The Technical Services Division will have 5 offices open in this year's OLC elections. We are looking for a Coordinator, an Assistant Coordinator, a Secretary and two Action Council members.

Working for a division is an interesting way to learn more about OLC, have an impact on technical services practices, and have fun meeting with your colleagues.

If you are interested in running for a position, contact Patrick Steele at Euclid Public Library (216-261-5300) or Nancy Currie at MacKenzie Memorial Public Library (216-428-2189) by April 26. Go for it!

Spring Conference Winners

Watch for offerings from the Technical Services Division at all of the OLC Chapter Conferences. Check for the following programs at your local Chapter Conference:
- Circulating software
- Inventory - The How and Why
- Marc Records for the Non-Cataloger

If you would like to see more Technical Services programs at your Chapter Conference, be sure to complete the conference evaluation and say so.