February 26, 2012 Release Notes Communication

Just a friendly reminder that the next quarterly software installation will be occurring this Sunday, February 26 from 2am-8am Eastern Standard Time. Please note that the downtime has been extended by 2 hours. This is because other OCLC systems also participating in this Sunday’s installation require additional time for installation and quality testing. Because of WorldCat Local’s dependency upon these other systems, the increased downtime affects our WorldCat Local customers, too. We apologize for any inconvenience in advance.

We are pleased to report that this year the WorldCat Local team was able to develop and install many of the new features and software corrections earlier than planned. In December 2011 and January 2012 we rolled out features originally scheduled for the February 2012 install. This month we took advantage of being ahead of schedule to move forward with work on enhancements that you’ll see in upcoming installs. Stay tuned!

Because we rolled out several features ahead of schedule, this month’s enhancement list contains only one item. We think you will agree with us that it is an important one. WorldCat Local now has the capability to display non-Roman characters correctly on the ‘Details’ page. With this improvement, non-Romanized languages such as Hindi, Polish, Arabic and all of the Asian languages will now display correctly.

Example of non-roman characters displaying correctly

Here is a quick review of the eight enhancements installed in December 2011 and January 2012. We included the date we announced each enhancement’s availability. You can view the original messages on the WorldCat Local User Support Center, or check your emails from the WorldCat Local listserv.
• Installed updated version of reCAPTCHA’s API key which should alleviate some of the frustration that has been experienced by some libraries. Additional work continues in the removal of the reCAPTCHA challenge from the Local interface for authenticated users. December 15, 2011

• Installed fix for the recent Open URL resolution issues that several libraries were encountering. The problem was causing users to be resolved to the incorrect full text for an item, in particular items using PMIDs. December 15, 2011

• Set the stage to offer libraries the ability to choose display options based on item type (Monograph, Serial, Article, E-serial, Mass digitized electronic content, and all other electronic content) for the Availability on Brief (AOB) feature. (Completed feature installation was announced on January 13, 2012.) December 15, 2011

• Corrected the “View Now” link so it will not appear if no links are available. The grayed out ‘view now” caused confusion and now will not display when links to full-text are not found for all circumstances except when Local OPAC eLinking is enabled. In this case, the ‘View Now’ link will continue to display and the call to the Local OPAC to retrieve links will occur upon the user clicking this link. January 11, 2012

• Removed the “Local system down” message. There were occurrences of a ‘local system down’ error message appearing when availability information was retrieved causing confusion to the users. This message has now been removed in these scenarios. January 11, 2012

• Corrected the scoping persistence for the “Libraries to search” as selected until changed by user or new search conducted. January 11, 2012

• Installed full ability to choose display options based on item type (Monograph, Serial, Article, E-serial, Mass digitized electronic content, and all other electronic content) for the Availability on Brief (AOB) feature. January 13, 2012

And, last but not least....

• Installed Full-Text Searching Functionality. Groundwork was laid for this capability with the November 2011 software release and as a result, WorldCat Local libraries can now take full advantage of searching the full-text within IEEE Publications Database, BioOne and Emerald Group Publishing. Look for future announcements as we work with additional providers to supply additional full-text databases which will be added to our growing collection of full-text content. January 19, 2012

We continually strive to enhance WorldCat Local to meet your needs. If you have questions or concerns, please let us know. We also encourage you to post comments to the User Support Center. Our global users bring a broad perspective to the user community and we encourage you to share best practices with each other.

As always, thank you for your continued commitment to and support of WorldCat Local, your web-scale discovery service.
The WorldCat Local Team