



Volume 8 Issue 7

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Executive Director's Report

June was the last month of the fiscal year and we were busy wrapping up projects and closing our K-12 members for the summer. We put the first release of Symphony into production. We do not plan to start using a lot of the new functionality immediately after installation but we were anxious for some of the fixes they have included for the Java client. We are scheduled to install the K-12 client with some new features that should make it a very exciting alternative for those schools that access us through the Internet. We have also ordered additional bandwidth for our Internet service which should improve our response time.

As we finish FY08 we look forward to some new projects beginning in FY09. We will be using Directors Station to compile and distribute year end statistics. Based on what we know from running end of year statistics for our K-12 members, we will be able to generate and distribute these statistics in much less time than running reports on the production server. We will be updating the database to support searching for juvenile titles that are designated "Accelerated Readers." If our grant application to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners is approved we will begin the selection process to replace/update iBistro. Our main goal is to improve the user experience, making the searching more intuitive. We have applied to Eastern Bank for funds to add educational and classic videos to our Overdrive Collection.

Over the past 3 years SAILS has gone through some significant changes, beginning with updating all our central site hardware, replacing our telecommunications network, and launching the Java client for all sites. With a significant update to iBistro FY09 should finish the cycle of retooling the network from the ground up. It is also the final year of our Technology Plan so we will be spending the fall determining what types of technology will be appropriate for the network in the future. As always, we will be looking for the input of our members as we develop our next Three Year Technology Plan.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Exec Director's Report	1,2
Toolbar Tip	2
Cancelling Holds	2
New iBistro Features	2
New Overdrive Media Console available	3
Accelerated Reader—iBistro	3
Upcoming Events	4
Network Statistics	4

Early raves!

"I'm loving symphony. I'm finding all sorts of time saving additions that Sirsi has included.

Thank you, and I hope it continues to run smoothly" — Middleboro staff member

"I am *so* pleased that work-flows now displays the call number information and the item information on the same page! This is great :-)"

— Jen Forgit, Pembroke

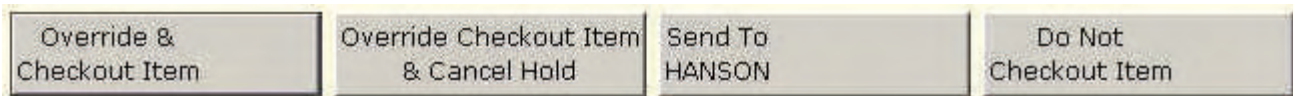
Toolbar Tip

Do you use custom toolbars? If you see a message in Workflows saying you can't delete a toolbar, switch to another module (toolbar), then delete the toolbar. You can't delete a circulation toolbar when you are using the circulation toolbar. Also, only access the Toolbar Management from the Utility toolbar, not the Preferences > Desktop > Current Toolbar > Local Toolbar Management drop-down. These function differently.

Cancelling Holds—Reminder

This is a reminder and clarification about cancelling holds at checkout.

When you are checking out an item, and an alert comes up saying it is on hold for someone else, you have the following options:



If you choose to “Override, Checkout Item & Cancel Hold” you're cancelling it network-wide, it won't be filled by anyone else and the patron will receive an email alert (if they have a valid email in their record) saying the hold was cancelled.

If you have a patron in front of you and they want to check out an item that has holds in the system (not available on the your holds shelf for someone else), it is perfectly fine, and actually good customer service, to let them have it. Just remember not to cancel another person's hold on it.

The only time you should cancel the hold is if the person you are checking out to is actually picking up the available hold on behalf of the person the item is currently on hold for, like a spouse or child (proxy checkout).

New iBistro Features!

With Symphony came a few features that are precursors to the major iBistro upgrade that will be available for us to install at the end of the summer. Here are some of the highlights:

- Much better searching! - You are now able to search an entire record without knowing how to use Boolean logic. For example, if you type in evanovich plum, you'll actually get all the items in the system, whereas before gave you only a few titles. Before the upgrade, all the words needed to be in the same field of the record. Now they can be anywhere in the record.
- Renew books off the "Review My Account" page - no need to go to two places to manage your account.
- Save a whole page of results to add to a bibliography, rather than individually

Reading Program to be Added in iBistro

SAILS has sent out the bibliographic database to be enriched with reading program information. This is going to be fully searchable in Workflows as well as iBistro, and should greatly help staff in finding titles on required reading lists. The picture below is basically what this will look like in iBistro. We feel this will be a huge benefit to schools as well as public libraries.

Many of the titles on the Accelerated Reader list are already in your libraries, but knowing they are designated as Accelerated Reader books is rarely known. Now there will be a field in the record identifying them, or you can use the special search form in iBistro to make it even easier!

ACCELERATED READER

Reading Level:

search term:

library: sort by:

Show Matching Books



OverDrive Media Console v3.0 is Now Available for Download

OverDrive Media Console (OMC) v3.0, now available at <http://sails.lib.overdrive.com>, offers many features that your patrons have been anticipating. You and all your users are invited to upgrade to the new OMC v3.0.

In response to the overwhelmingly positive feedback we received from our Transfer Wizard, we have added a Burn to CD Wizard. With OMC v3.0, patrons no longer need to launch Windows Media Player to burn to CD. Instead, in just a few clicks, patrons can burn WMA audio titles through OMC. Clicking the 'Burn' button launches the Burn Wizard, which guides the user through this simple and straightforward burn process. For your audiobook users who burn titles to CD, they will be excited to learn that the new Burn Wizard splits OverDrive's Audiobook parts into tracks (based on the existing MediaMarkers), allowing users to more easily navigate content they have burned to CD.

As announced and covered in the press, OverDrive will introduce the new OverDrive MP3 Audiobook (compatible with iPods). OMC v3.0 supports the new MP3 format. When OverDrive MP3 Audiobooks are available (coming Summer 2008), Windows users who have already installed OMC v3.0 will be able to use titles in this format. Users of earlier versions will need to upgrade to OMC v3.0 to enjoy OverDrive MP3 Audiobooks. To learn more about OverDrive MP3 Audiobooks, read the press release and Library Journal's coverage of the exciting news.

Again, for any library who would like to schedule onsite training, please have your director email support@sailsinc.org.

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Upcoming Meetings

SAILS Annual Meeting

07/09/2008
 10 am to noon, SAILS

Circulation Users Group Meeting

06/10/2008
 9:30 am to noon, SAILS

Membership Meeting

07/20/2008
 10 am to noon, SAILS

SAILS K-12 Members

08/20/2008 & 08/22/2008
 9:30 pm to 1 pm, SAILS

SAILS Network Statistics

	May '08	April '08	March '08	Feb '08	Jan '08	Total FY08
Total Intranetwork Loans	61,233	59,301	63,346	60,401	64,682	597,823
Total Items Circulated	361,374	365,037	383,990	364,232	379,189	3,640,413
OverDrive Circulation	874	837	880	814	859	7,611
VirtCat Items Borrowed	1,135	1,020	1,187	1,196	1,092	10,838
VirtCat Items Loaned	578	612	607	550	653	5,876
Cataloging Requests	4,571	4,449	4,023	3,388	3,507	37,132
WebDewey Sessions			134	94	88	888
MARC Records Added	39,194	4,001	4,980	3,092	3,132	35,820
Patrons Added	2,707	3,003	2,973	3,388	3,130	37,449
Holds	47,349	47,493	50,901	49,686	53,248	468,471
Total MARC	1,039,784	1,001,459	999,980	1,001,329	999,147	
Total Holdings	3,555,105	3,509,703	3,502,540	3,507,076	3,509,471	
Total Patron	417,174	415,610	418,728	417,977	430,980	
Total Uptime	99.99	99.99	99.84	99.41	98.94	
TumbleBooks	2,349	1,692	1,709	2,012	2,284	17,531