SAILS Network News
Library Network

Online Patron Registration

Would you like to be able to enter patron registrations on your time, or on a Saturday morning with a line of patrons waiting to checkout? If you answered "with a line out the door", skip the rest of this article!

SAILS has created an online form for patrons to pre-register for a library card. The information on the form mirrors the printed forms in your library. The only difference is that you will be given the time to enter the patron's data into the system.

This will also allow you to prepare a welcome packet, and have everything ready when your new patron arrives to pick up his or her card. Patrons are given two weeks to pick up their card and are informed they are expected to provide proper identification.

A typical scenario is as follows: Patron gets to the form through a link on on your library's Website. They fill out the form. The patron has the option of printing the form and bringing it to the library, already signed. Whoever on staff receiving the registration request would print it out and have it available for the patron to sign in person. Since you would be receiving all the pertinent information in electronic format, you could easily copy and paste the information from the email into Workflows. Just use the Edit > Copy and Edit > Paste commands. This way, you don't have to worry about typos! Each library will have their own way of handling the process.

Standard Interchange Protocol – V. 2 (SIP-2)

Last month we talked about a product called RFID and the new products that are using this type of technology for checkout, checkin, and inventory. Another new term in library automation is SIP –2. SIP – 2 is a protocol that provides a standard interface between a library's automated circulation system (ACS) and library automation devices. The protocol was developed originally as an interface between an automated circulation system and 3M SelfCheckout system but it has become an industry standard for other types of library applications that require the identification and validation of patron data and transmission of some type of transaction.

A typical SIP-2 product would consist of the following features:

Don't forget—Norfolk Library is on the Move! The library will reopen in its temporary quarters on May 17th.

View "Library News" on the SAILS Public Site for further details.

SIP-2—Continued from page 1

Borrowing privileges Ability to verify the borrowing privileges of the patron, to verify the borrowing status of the library material, and to communicatemessages to the patron. Standard Interchange Protocol (SIP) specifies the necessary messages and appropriate responses between the two systems.

Checkout Ability to selectively allow authorized patrons to checkout materials.

Blocked Checkout Unauthorized borrowers, non-circulating materials, attempts to simultaneously process several books on one bar-code and/or substitute library materials, are all detected, and the patron is prevented from further processing.

Checkin This feature allows a patron to check in an item.

Of these features the ability to verify borrowing privileges has become most important to the development of new products.

Sirsi has developed a SIP-2 certification program that allows third party vendors to be officially certified as SIP-2 compliant. Vendors who have sought this certification include companies that sell self-checkout units, pc reservation software, printing control software, self- serve computer reservation systems, and on-line fine/bill payment. We have received information requests from directors about these types of products and the past they have been prohibitively expensive. With the introduction of a standard that facilitates information exchange between 2 different products the cost of these products is going down and the number of products available is going up.

Laurie's Going on Leave

I, Laurie, will be leaving SAILS for the summer, while I am on maternity leave. I plan to return part-time in mid-August. For the month of May, I will be wrapping up my current projects and transitioning the remainder of my responsibilities to the SAILS management team.

The Summer Reading List is one that affects most libraries. We realize that the chances of being able to get the 2004 list in before June are near impossible. For this reason, we will be posting a note on last year's lists indicating that the list has not been updated, and to verify the titles with the school or library. There will be a link from iBistro and from the SAILS public page to the various lists. Almost all of the lists contain links into iBistro, which allows students to place titles on hold.

Webmasters, if SAILS hosts your site, you will not receive your monthly link checker reports for the summer. You may be able to use your Webtrends reports to view pages on your site that received "not found" errors. It would be under Technical Statistics, below the heading "Page Not Found Errors". Many of these are attempts from hackers to try to get into the server, but some you'll be able to see are missing pages.

Please understand that the SAILS management team, on top of their own duties, will be assuming my daily tasks, and for most of this year, the office has been short-staff. Although we try hard to hide it when one of us gone, we do have a small staff and internally the absence is felt. Your patience and understanding are always appreciated.

Online Patron Registration!

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You can take a look at the form created for the Plumb Memorial Library at:
http://www.sailsinc.org/registration/rochester.asp
Rochester has created a link to the form from their Website (http://plumblibrary.com). Since SAILS hosts the form, there is no maintenance required. If you wish to have this set up for your library, have your director contact support@sailsinc.org with the following information: Library name, email address of the person receiving the registration forms, person who is responsible for maintaining the library's Website.

Note: If you do not contact us by the end of May, we cannot guarantee that the form will be set up before September.

Newly Added Dartclix Sites

Mark Rothko : the mural projects : October 12, 2003-May 31, 2004

—http://www.nga.gov/exhibitions/rothkoinfo.htm

This Web site is an on-line companion to an exhibition at the National Gallery of Art on the works of Mark Rothko, long recognized as one of America's foremost artists. The site focuses on two mural commissions: the Seagram murals and the Harvard murals, which date from the late 1950s and early 1960s, respectively. Take an on-line tour and checkout exhibition highlights, watch a film, or attend a gallery talk on Rothko's influential work.

Gazetteer —http://Gazetteer.HomeTownLocator.com

This Web site is an on-line United States gazetteer of physical features, cultural features and the most current census information. Here, visitors can find census information for local areas with links to maps and aerial photographs of the street they live on, access the zip code+4 for an address, or find out what the current weather conditions are at any airport around the globe!

The dinosauricon

—http://dinosauricon.com/

This Web site is devoted to dinosaur information and illustration. Visitors can enjoy hundreds of images of dinosaurs and other prehistoric life forms, view dinosaur images created by artists around the world, find out how dinosaurs are related to each other and to other organisms, look up definitions to words, and much more.

Insight Into the Virtual Catalog

The most common error we hear about the Virtual Catalog is for items which are received, but "rejected" by the local system. This is most often caused by the complex communication network between the various servers. When you receive an item from the VC, this is the basic path of communication:

Your Internet Connection (you receive the item) > VC Server @ UMassBoston (checks the request) > Unicorn Server @ SAILS (creates the temporary item) > VC Server (tells server item's been received) > Your Internet Connection (sends message to you about status of request).

As you can see, if any one leg of the trip has telecom problems, an error will result. If your item is rejected, and you search Workflows, by barcode, and find the item, call SAILS and we will remove it so you can try to receive it again. You can also use the online error reporting form.

Acquisitions - Getting Started

This is a very basic introduction to Sirsi Acquisitions. It is intended to provide libraries with sufficient information to decide whether using Acquisitions is appropriate for their library. We will be discussing acquisitions workflows, fund accounting, vendor setup, issues regarding electronic orders, issues regarding holds, how acquisitions interacts with cataloging. There is no limit to the number of people who can attend.

It will be held on May 26th, 2004 in the SAILS Meeting Room. You may register online.

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Upcoming Training & Meetings

Upcoming Training
Detailed descriptions and registration information, are available on the SAILS website.

Beginning Cataloging Training
05/11/2004
9am to noon SAILS Training Room

Acquisitions—Getting Started
(contact dconrad@sailsinc.org)
05/26/2004
10am to 11:30am SAILS Meeting Room

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Wireless Committee Meeting
05/04/2004
10am SAILS Meeting Room

PubPac Committee Meeting
05/05/2004
10am SAILS Meeting Room

PC Support Users Meeting
05/19/2004
9am—10am SAILS Meeting Room

Board Meeting (Full Membership)
05/19/2004
10am SAILS Meeting Room

Preparing for a Building Plan
05/19/2004
Noon SAILS Meeting Room

SAILS Network Statistics

FY04 Overview	December	November	October	September	August	July
Total Intranetwork Loans	41,116	41,675	48,551	39,894	44,057	47,458
Total Items Circulated	286,943	340,470	375,088	344,044	351,606	412,162
VirtCat Items Borrowed	559	644	673	620	408	518
VirtCat Items Loaned	202	314	295	318	250	301
Cataloging Requests	2,491	2,520	4,225	3,176	2,403	2,586
MARC Records Added	2,959	2,917	4,088	3,699	2,376	2,985
Patrons Added	1,617	3,419	4,240	6,935	3,571	3,513
Holds	22,014	26,822	28,163	24,411	24,421	25,558
Total MARC	903,727	901,016	898,448	893,731	890,100	888,434
Total Holdings	3,257,995	3,254,731	3,244,320	3,228,140	3,218,976	3,210,212
Total Patron	494,005	493,118	490,224	486,379	481,343	497,196

FY04 Overview	June	May	April	March	February	January	Total FY04
Total Intranetwork Loans				54,594	43,877	45,728	406,950
Total Items Circulated				420,753	358,188	354,331	3,243,585
VirtCat Items Borrowed				857	633	636	5,548
VirtCat Items Loaned				273	268	257	2,478
Cataloging Requests				3,202	2,592	2,566	25,761
MARC Records Added				3,982	2,784	2,784	28,574
Patrons Added				3,063	2,908	2,697	31,963
Holds				33,474	29,016	32,016	245,895
Total MARC				912,282	908,851	907,169	912,282
Total Holdings				3,255,203	3,256,683	3,256,320	3,255,203
Total Patron				510,717	499,011	496,345	510,717