

SirsiDynix Users Group (UUGI/CODI) Conference Reports

The first joint Unicorn Users Group/Customers of Dynix Inc. conference was held April 6-8 in Dallas, Texas. This will also be the last joint conference because the two user groups will merge on June 1, 2009 into a single users group representing all the customers running all types of software supported by SirsiDynix. SirsiDynix is now supporting Horizon, Symphony, Unicorn, Classic Dynix, DRA (very few) and MultiLis (even fewer). It has taken four years for the two groups to combine but it certainly will benefit us all to have a single voice when advocating with SirsiDynix for features we want. The conference was attended by 750+ users - about 400 fewer than originally anticipated. Mid-year budget cuts eliminated many libraries' travel budgets. But the people who were able to attend came with lots of questions and ideas. SirsiDynix staff members conducted 45 individual sessions and were also available to meet individually with customers in the Ask Sirsi Room. Both Kristin Slater and I took full advantage of the time we had to meet with as many members of the SirsiDynix staff to discuss their software and future development plans. Customers conducted an additional 50 sessions so the meetings were running from 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. not including a few evening sessions.

There were several important announcements made at the conference. Release 3.3 is scheduled for general release in July 2009. There are a number of circulation enhancements in this release. There will be a new wizard in the hold group of wizards that will allow staff to shuffle the hold queue - in Symphony this will be referred to as Reorder the Hold Queue. This feature will only be available in the Java client. The number of days to refund a paid bill will be a new option in the bill configuration. Each library can determine if refunds will be credited to a patron if an item is returned within a defined number of days. Multicirc items will be a new feature in this release. This would allow a individual barcodes to be identified in a kit record. They can then be circulated at one time without having to scan multiple barcodes but each piece will record a circulation. There wasn't any information about how that will work with holds so this is going to be a feature that will require testing before we can make it available. Payment slips be able to subtotal by type of payment if you choose that option. The name fields of a patron record are going to be parsed out into first, middle and last name fields. SAILS will have to reindex the patron database one library at a time. This will not work in the C client.

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Release 3.3.1 is scheduled for general release in early 2010. With this release, the final pick-up date for holds will be determined by the library calendar and not just a number of days. There will also be a new option to allow for creating a list of items and then doing a batch change (item type, item cats) all at once. This will be similar to the global edit but should provide more options for editing and is supposed to include the ability to save the list so that changes can be changed back at a later time without having to scan the items again.

Release 3.4 is scheduled for mid-2010. This release includes enhancements to the report module specifically requested by consortia customers. We will be able to send out a blanket notification to all users logged into Workflows if there is a system problem. This will be more immediate than email. A new icon will appear in the item list indicating items with holds. A spellchecker for cataloging should be included in this release.

SirsiDynix will be conducting usability studies for circulation and cataloging sometime in 2010. SAILS has volunteered to participate in this. We also volunteered to beta test any of the future releases so you may get an email from us asking if you want to help us test certain features.

There was a lot of discussion about new products being developed or enhanced by SirsiDynix including Enterprise the new User Discovery Platform, staff web client, and a new version of Directors Station. The company is making a great effort to merge the features of Horizon into Symphony. Many of those features were included in our old classic Dynix systems but much enhanced so we are looking forward to seeing the release documentation for Release 3.4 and beyond.

~Debby Conrad

Symphony 3.4 Updates

Acquisitions

The next release of Symphony will have a new Vendor Integration Protocol (VIP) this will search a vendors catalog and the SAILS catalog at the same time. VIP will copy records and create temporary records in our system. This will have to be done one record at a time and not in a batch. There are rollover report improvements, you will need to be able to do a fiscal year rollover by vendors, receipt, and claim information. Material types can now be added to orderlines so you can see if you ordered DVDs. EDI reports will have specific error messages instead of computer programming code.

Cataloging

There is a new property Global Call Number modification in the Call Number and Item Maintenance wizard. You will be able to edit a batch of call numbers, classification scheme, or the shadow flag on a single record. You will also have the option to do this via a report so that you can do it in test mode.

The Print Spine labels automatically option has the ability to associate item type and library to a label template. This is a new configuration in the policy map.

Item Search and Display wizard has a new display option. You can view checkouts, renewals, and historical

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checkouts. You will also be able to view if an item is in-transit.

The ability to turn off the search pane is now a property instead of a toggle switch. This will be available in all wizards that start with a search. The option to set what tab displays first in Cataloging wizards will be available.

Move collection report has been changed so that a library is not needed to move a collection of items to a new home location. This will make it easier to move floating collections.

Serials

There is a new helper called Change Title Link. This will give libraries an option to move the serial control instead of creating a new control record when a new bibliographic record is created. New Rollover Report available for Serials it is Rollover Vendor cycle report. This report update all vendor cycles in current serial control records. Presently libraries have to manually update the vendor cycle in serial control records.

–Kristin Slater

Holds Reminders

If you do not see a **Pull Onshelf Holds** report for your library, it can be one of two reasons:

1. You are closed, and have not specified to SAILS you want to receive reports on closed days.
2. You are a school and your collection is now only available for your library's patrons.

If you get a "no hold allowed override" message when trying to place a hold, please do not place the hold. The only exception would be for placing multiple copy specific holds. If you have any questions or think you're getting the message in error, please contact support@sailsinc.org.

Overdrive—Most popular titles

The Friday Night Knitting Club, 11 checkouts

Death Qualified, 7 checkouts

Twilight, 7 checkouts

Absolute Certainty, 6 checkouts

Body Parts, 6 checkouts

Cold Case, 6 checkouts

Cranefly Orchid Murders, 5 checkouts

Deadly Nightshade, 5 checkouts

The Deepest Water, 5 checkouts

Lifeguard, 5 checkouts

The Age of Innocence, 4 checkouts

The Appeal, 4 checkouts

The Associate, 4 checkouts

The Brass Verdict, 4 checkouts

Breaking Dawn, 4 checkouts



Apostrophes in Call Numbers and Holds

Please do not use apostrophes in call numbers for author's names (for example: O'Brien). The apostrophe is causing problems for people trying to place holds in iBistro. When patrons click on the Place Hold button, they are not taken to the next screen in the holds process to finish placing their hold.

If you find any of your own library's call numbers with apostrophes, you can make updates to your call number. If you find another library's call number with apostrophes, please fill out an error reporting form (<http://www.sailsinc.org/forms/cat-errorform.asp>).

Nice comment about the new iBistro look & feel

Just as you said, the more I use the new iBistro the more I love it! Its simple, clean look and neat organization make the site very user friendly. Having the HOLD button included in the search result list is great. The text size seems fine and my eyes are old and tired...



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Network Statistics

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	March '08	March '09	Total FY'09
Total Intranetwork Loans	63,346	61,123	536,394
Total Items Circulated	385,354	409,963	3,431,250
OverDrive Circulation	880	1,252	9,266
Tumblebooks	1,709	5,801	28,037
VirtCat Items Borrowed	1,187	1,276	10,208
VirtCat Items Loaned	607	628	5,109
Cataloging Requests	7,023	4,461	39,771
WebDewey Sessions	134		
MARC Records Added	4,980	4,153	37,644
Patrons Added	2,973	3,448	34,800
Patron placed holds	50,901	53,197	442,463
Total MARC	999,980	1,066,135	
Total Holdings	3,502,540	3,622,815	
Total Patron	418,728	435,516	
Total Uptime	99.84	99.87	

Upcoming Events

- 5/5/2009—5/8/2009 **MLA Annual Conference**
 MassMutual Center, Springfield
- 5/19/2009 **Adding records using the Java Workflows Client**
 9 am to 12 pm, SAILS
- 5/20/2009 **SAILS Membership Meeting**
 10 am to noon, SAILS
- 6/2/2009 **Technical Services Meeting**
 10 am to noon, SAILS
- 6/9/2009 **Circulation Users Group Meeting**
 9:30 am to noon, SAILS

Detailed descriptions and workshop registration information, are available on the [SAILS website](#)

▶ May 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						