The Network Zone (NZ) Maintenance Task Force is investigating best practices for ongoing management of OCLC bibliographic holdings in the NZ and, by extension, each institution’s Institution Zone (IZ).

Based on our review of Ex Libris documentation, as well as documentation available from other Alma consortia using an NZ, the effective and efficient update of OCLC holdings at the IZ and NZ levels will require that automated OCLC publishing profile jobs be run on a daily basis. Ideally, these jobs will run in parallel at each institution’s IZ level and the SUNY NZ level, and keep all SUNY institutions holdings current.

The following statement comes from the Ex Libris knowledge Center documentation, “Managing Records in a Network Zone.”

Publishing to OCLC is processed at the local institution level since this process is used to expose institutions’ physical holdings. Each institution in a collaborative network determines how bibliographic and holdings records are published based on their requirements, regardless of any links to corresponding records in the Network Zone. Changes to the Network Zone, such as adding new bibliographic records, are independent of each institution’s record management and OCLC processing.

Alma provides support for automatically synchronizing the following with the information available for your institution in the OCLC WorldCat catalog:

- Bibliographic records with embedded holdings information or holdings information only
- Electronic holdings

Bibliographic records whose associated holdings records have been deleted are published as deleted records.

In order to initiate OCLC synchronization through Alma, each institution will need to contact OCLC and configure their profile. The Task Force will create documentation that will assist with this process. Further setup will be necessary in each institutions Alma instance and the Task Force will assist with that, as well.

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