
Library Board

Monday, March 15, 2021

Regular Meeting

Item F1

Powerpoint - RFP for Integrated Library System Replacement

Staff Contact:

GIPL Integrated Library System Review

March 2021



Grand Island
Public Library

Overview

ILS History



- ▶ Pre-2011
 - ▶ GIPL utilized SirsiDynix Horizon
 - ▶ Continually increasing prices on contract from SirsiDynix
- ▶ 2010
 - ▶ Libraries begin discussion of forming an ILS consortium
 - ▶ Pioneer is formed
 - ▶ 5 original members Lincoln City Libraries, Grand Island, Gretna, Holdrege, St. Paul
 - ▶ Fall of 2010 PTFS/LibLime KOHA of Bethesda, MD chosen as Pioneer ILS Vendor

ILS History

► Early 2011

- LCL goes live
- May - GIPL goes live
- Summer - Holdrege & St. Paul go live
 - No mention of Gretna - must have withdrawn from consortium before migrating

► 2012-2014

- Additional member libraries joined
 - Atkinson, Arapahoe, Axtell, Beatrice, Bennington, Blue Hill, Central City, Dundy County, Franklin, Grant County, Hildreth, Hoesch-Alma, Hruska-David City, McCook, South Sioux City, Stromsburg, Sump-Papillion, Superior, Valparaiso, Valley, WNCC

ILS History

- ▶ February 2015
 - ▶ Dissatisfaction with KOHA and consortium causes LCL withdraws from Pioneer
- ▶ Late 2016/Early 2017
 - ▶ Sump-Papillion withdraws
- ▶ 2020
 - ▶ Brunswick joins (began process in late 2019) & withdraws (before April 2020)
 - ▶ Stromsburg withdraws
- ▶ April/May 2020
 - ▶ PTFS/LibLime “upgrades” ILS from open source KOHA to proprietary Bibliovation system
- ▶ March 2021
 - ▶ Beatrice & Central City both withdraw

 **Bibliovation**™

Issues with Bibliovation

- ▶ Many issues with Bibliovation & Pioneer since upgrading in May
 - ▶ Technical Committee
 - ▶ Supposed to have a member from *EACH* library on it
 - ▶ Provide the technical management and support for the system
 - ▶ Pre-2015, LCL took on bulk of this work
 - ▶ 2015-2016, Sump-Papillion, Beatrice, Grand Island, SSCPL, Holdrege took over
 - ▶ 2016-2017, Sump (Becky Sims), SSCPL (Dave Mixdorf), and Beatrice (Shaun Klee) only three members left on committee
 - ▶ 2017 Sump withdrew and Dave retired leaving Shaun as sole member of technical committee (July 2017 Shaun moved to GI from Beatrice)
 - ▶ July 2017–December 2020 - Shaun sole member of Technical Committee, no other libraries would fill their positions on the committee
 - ▶ December 2020 - Shaun resigned from Technical committee, which is now currently completely vacant

Issues with Bibliovation

- ▶ User control - consortium allows too many “superadmin” users
- ▶ Accounting
- ▶ Acquisitions Module
- ▶ Cataloging & Authority Control
- ▶ Circulation & Notices
- ▶ Reports
- ▶ OPAC/Public Interface

- ▶ Consortium-wide issues

Moving Forward

Evaluating other ILS products

ILS Review Committee

- ▶ After the Nov. 2020 Patron Database delete, GIPL decided it was time to move forward with evaluating alternate ILS products
 - ▶ City Finance directs that every 5-7 years software be re-evaluated. Overdue as the last evaluation would have been in 2010 at formation of Pioneer
 - ▶ Determined our data is not secure in the consortium-environment, and no guidance or assurances from PTFS on how to prevent a major delete/disruption from happening again

ILS Review Committee

- ▶ Celine Swan, Library Director
- ▶ Shaun Klee, Adult & Technical Services Librarian
- ▶ Jeanne Simons, Library Assistant II (Cataloging & Acquisitions)
- ▶ Lori Medlin, Library Assistant II (Circulation & Children's programming)
- ▶ Lindsay Wassinger, Library Assistant I (Serials & Interlibrary Loan)
- ▶ Nicci Roundy, Library Assistant I (Children's)

ILS Review Process

- ▶ Looked at what other libraries in the area are using
 - ▶ Also looked at other similarly-sized libraries in US
- ▶ Researched ILS companies
- ▶ Reached out to Hastings Public Library as they just recently upgraded
 - ▶ Received a rubric from HPL, which was modified for our search/needs
- ▶ Contacted potential ILS vendors for information/vendors

ILS Review Process

► Vendors Contacted

- SirsiDynix
- Innovative Interfaces, Inc.
- The Library Corporation
- Biblionix
- OCLC
 - OCLC sent a short video overview of their WISE product, but didn't show any other interest in working with GIPL
 - Shaun asked some members of a continuing ed. class about their experience with WISE and it was not recommended by any of them, so it was not pursued any further
- Pioneer is looking into Bywater Solutions KOHA for remaining members
 - Demo TBD
 - Expense—more expensive
 - Same open-source foundation as Biblioovation; demo site doesn't work well
- Shaun/Celine took initial calls with vendors to answer introductory questions and then setup demonstrations of products

SirsiDynix; Lehi, UT



SirsiDynix®

- ▶ Symphony ILS
- ▶ Pros:
 - ▶ Considered by many in the industry to be THE best ILS product on the market
 - ▶ Largest share of the ILS market, many libraries worldwide use the product
 - ▶ Robust system with many great and unique features like signature capture, grouping functions on records, fully-integrated acquisitions system
- ▶ Cons:
 - ▶ Price - THE Best but also by far the most expensive of the products
 - ▶ Complexity - would require a lot of training for staff to learn the ins-and-outs of the system

Innovative Interfaces Inc.; Emeryville, CA



- ▶ Polaris LEAP ILS

- ▶ Pros:

- ▶ Web-based
- ▶ Easier-to-use staff interface
- ▶ Also unique features to system, like very-well developed outreach module

- ▶ Cons:

- ▶ Public OPAC features - staff disliked and felt to similar to the Biblionation public-interface, which patrons already dislike
- ▶ Not fully integrated - Cataloging, Serials, and Acquisitions are currently accessed separately on a RDP connection and are quite antiquated
 - ▶ Still uses a Windows '95-style interface
 - ▶ Will be upgraded fully to LEAP by 2022, however
- ▶ Costs - Licensing based on number of machines that have would access rather than by library data size (as with other companies)

The Library Corporation; Inwood, WV

Library•Solution®

▶ Library=Solution/LS2 ILS

▶ Pros

- ▶ Cost - least expensive of three major products
 - ▶ Potential additional discounts/publicity for library - would be first public library in Nebraska to utilize this system
- ▶ Ease-of-use - staff felt this would be the easiest of the three major products to use
- ▶ Powerful Cataloging & Authority Control features
 - ▶ Complimentary RDA Upgrade of all MARC records at migration
- ▶ Text messaging & other necessary features included in system
- ▶ Fully mobile-responsive catalog + a true children's version of the catalog
 - ▶ No app required for catalog for mobile devices

▶ Cons

- ▶ Would be only public library in NE, so no local "support" for questions or issues
- ▶ OSA acquisitions is separate product not fully integrated into LS2

Biblionix; Austin, TX



▶ Apollo ILS

▶ Pros

- ▶ Company only works with Public Libraries so product is exclusively designed for Public Libraries
- ▶ Cost - least expensive of the four
- ▶ VERSA Card setting - potential to share resources between local Apollo libraries (Hastings, Aurora, Central City)

▶ Cons

- ▶ Site is clunky and outdated HTML design
- ▶ Does not appear to support 14-digit numbering system for barcodes (truncates the first 8 digits on items)
- ▶ Missing many Cataloging features (like Z39.50 with OCLC, no batch export/edit, etc.)
- ▶ Site not intuitive - staff disliked and said was difficult to use
 - ▶ Was told by staff if the choice was between Apollo and Biblionix, preference would be to stick with Biblionix

Staff Review

- ▶ After demos and questions staff reviewed all that were demoed
- ▶ Staff identified two preferred products
- ▶ RFP written & in process
 - ▶ Submissions reviewed in accordance with City guidelines