

NEOS Mini-Conference: Update from UAL

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Symphony system

- After sixteen years, the system has reached a mature state, with considerable stability and dependability.
- SirsiDynix rollout of BLUEcloud functionality--slower than envisioned.
- System updates--continually more modest, less disruptive than historically. Take much less time.
- Last upgrade included the circulation map consolidation functionality--we went from 1630 lines to 366 lines by grouping libraries, item types and user profiles.



Symphony upgrades

- Remember--WorkFlows client--updates can happen independently of the server upgrade, so before or after. No new functionality will be available in the WorkFlows client until you upgrade, but you don't have to tie the workstation client upgrade to the exact same timing as the server upgrade.
- 2019 upgrade plan--had been to upgrade the last Sunday of April. However, we had a data corruption issue in one field of one reserve room record that brought the system down two days before the planned upgrade. Taking a cautious approach, we opted to postpone the upgrade.

Next upgrade

- Sunday, June 23rd, early morning. Downtime is likely to be about half a day and should not affect any library's open hours
- We don't anticipate a need to re-index the database until the next December break



BLUEcloud Analytics

- Continues to be a great success.
 - Since January, the team in ITS has continued with once a month phone calls out to staff in NEOS libraries who write reports and/or work with them, with strong participation.
 - All monthly statistical reports have been created in BCA. With the upcoming fiscal year-ends, all annual statistical reports will also be available in BCA.
 - The team in ITS continues to learn new ways of writing reports and working with the data.
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Library changes in the system

- Alberta Health Services closed another branch library.
- NorQuest College is in the process of closing its west campus library.



Data uploads

- Data extracts for OCLC have settled down and are working more smoothly
- WorldCat Local members have more information on the accuracy of the new matching process based on the degree to which they track their cataloguing changes
- We are now able to report holdings to Ebsco for EDS and to both the UAL and NEOS discovery services the same night as changes to records. In the past, this had been a next day process.



Two projects still waiting to proceed

- Symphony web client--SirsiDynix has still not advanced the functionality sufficiently to make it worthwhile to test.
 - SMS text messaging of notices. Difficult to pilot. Directors favour direct implementation into production. Work to be done within ITS on the technical side and within the Access Services Committee regarding processes. Background work has begun.
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Questions?