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COMPREHENSIVE NOTIFICATION SERVICE (CNS)

Now that the library's backfile processing has been completed, you're feeling really good about the status of your catalog. Headings have been brought up to date, perhaps (if chosen) data has been brought up to RDA compliance, records have been enriched with Tables of Contents, Summaries, and Reading Notes, filing indicators and content designation have been corrected, and the inconsistencies that affect access have been rectified. ✓ Check!

But your catalog is an ever-changing, non-static organism. New records are added daily. Most are good, but many more inconsistencies quickly creep in, especially with the loading of large vendor files for electronic resources. Headings rapidly go out of date, authors die and new ones with the same name are introduced, and more ambiguity becomes rampant. New rules in cataloging practice emerge, and even new MARC fields appear. In what seems like no time at all, all that data scrubbing appears to be largely gone.

What about new records?

Following the initial project, we'll give you the instructions for the sending of new bibliographic records through **Overnight Authorities Service**. Files sent before 2pm CST are processed and output the next business day. There's no timeframe to commit to—records can be sent to us daily, weekly, monthly—whatever suits your workflow. And there's never a minimum order. ✓ Check!

What can be done to maintain the high quality of your database?

One way is to let your integrated system or library services platform do the work of internally using current Library of Congress and other thesauri authority files to correct bibliographic headings. But as many libraries have noticed, this is a largely imperfect process. These systems do a fair job of updating the main headings, but when a long string does not fully match an authority record, the heading either is left untouched, or is incorrectly or incompletely updated. And when the matching authority record lacks a 4XX with the former heading, an upgrade is not always achieved. In addition, all the benefits of a sophisticated processing of bibliographic remediation apart from the basic match and replace function (corrected of filing indicators, changing of \$x to \$v, and re-tagging of incorrect fields come to mind) are not available as a part of typical library system authority control mechanism.

A very inefficient way (yet economical—or is it, really?) is to manually update headings and correct errors, or create a myriad of programs to perform global updates. The staff hours spent in performing these functions do add up. With shrinking staffs available to perform the minimal of bibliographic maintenance, this method is impractical to the point of being futile.

If we have performed your backfile project, we can maintain the database through our **Comprehensive Notification Service**. We retain both your bibliographic records and if elected, authority records. The bib records are refreshed at a period of your choosing: quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. All the same work done in backfile processing is done again, with changed bib records and new/changed/deleted authority records output.

Why do a refresh? Besides currency, what are other benefits? MARCIVE is doing the authority maintenance for your catalog, instead of relying on the automated system to do it. Plus, you can make changes to your profile options, and have them affect your entire catalog.

Examples:

- changes in how genre access points are handled
- changes to RDA conversion specifications
- new request to examine/create FAST headings
- new request to perform enrichment such as Lexile or addition of URIs

In addition, any programmatic changes that we have done to improve matching are reflected with the reprocessing.

What about deleted bib records? And authority records? Won't my bibs and authority records become out of sync? No, because we offer solutions for different scenarios! On a regular basis, a library should submit the control numbers of both bib and authority records that are no longer in the catalog, and we will delete them from the "history files" on this end. With large weeding projects, or the lack of keeping up with deletes/adds, or due to issues with the ILS or the move to a new ILS with different control numbers, the library may opt to do a database replacement so that we can accurately update the history used for maintenance.

We are not a large academic library, so is CNS right for us? Yes! We have over 40 libraries of all types: large and small academics, large and small publics, government libraries and school libraries. The smallest backfile project had 36,021 bib records, and the largest to date had 5,904,972 initial bib records. And 13 different systems are represented!

So why MARCIVE? Simply put, authority control IS our business. We don't offer an ILS/LSP and our work is devoted to a seamless, highly sophisticated process for data remediation that is continually being revised to reflect changing standards. For example, after our processing has determined a list of potential matches for an incoming name access point, we check the 670 fields in these authority records. If the incoming bib record 245 is a title found in the 670 field of one of these potential matching names, that authorized heading is usually chosen. In addition, libraries can opt to have us search the VIAF (Virtual International Authority File) for potential matching titles pointing to the correct person. We have also developed a proprietary auxiliary database to help with matching. This database has in-house records with misspellings, incorrect punctuation, missing death dates and additional differences that prevent matches. Once these auxiliary records are activated by an incoming heading, a correct match can be made.

Let MARCIVE assist you in maintaining your database in a very efficient and economical manner, leaving time for your cataloging or technical services to do other tasks. You can be assured that your access points are current and relevant, aiding in greater discoverability of your collections. ✓ Check!