

Make your electronic content easier to find, use and manage

WorldCat knowledge base



The WorldCat® knowledge base quickly and easily connects your users to full-text content and helps you better manage the workflows associated with electronic materials. It combines data about your library's electronic materials and features that better enable access. An OCLC® Cataloging subscription delivers this functionality to your library at no additional charge.

Easier, more efficient management of your electronic content

With the integration of knowledge base functionality into WorldCat, you can better manage electronic materials workflows. As the data is not tied to a particular application, you only need to load related data in just one place, and it is then available to all of your library's OCLC services.

Knowledge base functionality is available at no extra charge to libraries that have an OCLC Cataloging subscription. These enhancements will continue to create opportunities for your library to better manage its print and electronic collections together.

One-click access to electronic resources from search results

WorldCat® Local users can link to electronic content such as full-text articles and e-books with a single click. A "View Now" link in brief results connects users directly to full-text articles and open-access objects. This new feature:

- Simplifies access to items available through libraries' database subscriptions and in popular digital collections
- Enables faster access to all of the licensed content that's ready for single-search access
- Improves the user workflow and ultimately drives more traffic to your electronic resources.

This functionality is available at no additional charge for libraries that use WorldCat Local, once data has been loaded into the WorldCat knowledge base.

Share electronic content more easily

WorldCat® Resource Sharing and ILLiad® subscribers benefit from the knowledge base in several ways:

- More efficient article requesting, which identifies lending libraries more accurately and passes the item URL directly to the lending library in the ILL request
- Lending requests from your library's users for items your library already owns generate links to the items.

Once your library loads its data into the WorldCat knowledge base, you also gain:

- Fast and easy delivery of online articles from your collection through WorldCat Resource Sharing and ILLiad
- Easy sharing of electronic resources without having to locate and retrieve them manually
- Reduced loan requests for electronic items your library already owns.

How it works

The WorldCat knowledge base contains linking features and data about electronic journals and electronic content such as e-books that your library owns or subscribes to. It is comprised of:

- **Collection data**—The databases or packages purchased by your library. Content providers regularly add and change metadata for these materials, and the WorldCat knowledge base will be updated to reflect these changes.
- **Title data**—Titles that are part of a collection, including descriptive and identifier metadata.
- **Holdings data**—An inventory of the titles your library or consortium subscribes to. It includes the range of coverage for each title and embargo periods, and is updated by libraries or by OCLC's harvesting program.
- **Linking logic**—Citation data and your institution's affiliation are combined with linking logic defined by the knowledge base to create a full-text link at the article or title level.

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The WorldCat knowledge base uses an associated license management tool to connect to your library's license data. This allows identification of collections that your library may loan to other libraries and instructions on how to do so.

As of September 30, 2011, the WorldCat knowledge base provides access to 7.6 million records for electronic materials from 136 providers. The knowledge base will continue to grow through content provider and member library contributions, delivering a richer resource than any individual library could develop on its own.

Benefits

- Improved workflow management for electronic resources—saving time and duplicative efforts
- A single point from which to provide access to your entire collection—licensed content, print and digital items

Getting started

A full OCLC Cataloging subscription is required to use WorldCat knowledge base functionality, which is included at no additional charge. If you are interested in using the WorldCat knowledge base with WorldCat Resource Sharing or WorldCat Local at your library, please:

1. Complete the request form at:
<https://www3.oclc.org/app/worldcat/wckb/>.
2. Add data about your electronic collections to the knowledge base.
3. Activate the functionality from within the Service Configuration module.

If your library uses an external link resolver, you can update your holdings in WorldCat knowledge base while continuing to manage electronic collections in your existing system.

If you have any questions about the WorldCat knowledge base, please call **1-800-848-5800** (USA) or **1-614-793-8682** or send an e-mail to support@oclc.org.

- WorldCat Resource Sharing and ILLiad subscribers benefit from enhanced sharing of articles
- WorldCat Resource Sharing subscribers can share e-resources with borrowing libraries without having to manually locate and retrieve items, saving staff time and reducing the wait for users
- A better future experience for WorldCat® Local users through direct linking to licensed e-resources like full-text articles and e-books.

Features

- Unlike a traditional knowledge base tied to a particular application, the WorldCat knowledge base platform spans the applications a library uses.
- Knowledge base information is added and maintained in one single place, and the information is made available across a library's services, including those from OCLC, and in the future, from other providers.

Future functionality

WorldCat knowledge base functionality will be extended to more of your library's OCLC services and non-OCLC services:

- WorldCat Local users will see direct links to electronic resources from brief records in search results
- OpenURL resolution will be integrated with WorldCat Local
- OCLC Cataloging subscribers will be able to create knowledge base profiles to automatically set holdings for electronic materials, including eBooks
- OCLC will work with content providers to harvest data directly into the WorldCat knowledge base, saving time and effort for libraries
- A knowledge base API will be developed to provide programmatic access to these services, allowing members to create their own unique solutions. It will also be available for use with external content services.