



# **Rethinking Resource Sharing Initiative**

## **A Report from the Fourth Forum Worldwide Resource Sharing Looking to the Future**

**OCLC Members Council  
May 17, 2009  
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Chair, Rethinking Resource Sharing Steering Committee**



# Outline

- The Past
  - Background on why rethink
- The Present
  - Goals of the initiative
  - Key projects of the RRS Initiative
- The Future
  - Report of the RRS Forum IV
  - How to make a change



# What is the Rethinking Resource Sharing Initiative?

an ad hoc group  
that advocates  
for a complete rethink  
of the way libraries  
conduct resource sharing



# A White Paper

## *“It’s Time Again to Think about Resource Sharing”*

- published February 2005
- By Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Eric Jung, Gail Wanner, Dan Iddings, Clare MacKeigan, Mark Needleman, Ted Koppel, Candy Zemon



# What's different?

- Internet has changed user expectations
- More people work outside the library context
- Everyone manages information differently
- More use of mobile devices
- The publishing world is changing



# Mission

- ✓ Rethinking Resource Sharing
- ✓ Inspiring libraries
- ✓ Empowering people



# Strategies

- Focus on user needs
- Eliminate jargon
- Offer services outside the library
- Look for useful models outside the library
- Measure user satisfaction
- Remain vendor neutral



# Policies Committee

- Purpose
- Manifesto for Rethinking Resource Sharing
  - 7 principles
  - Remove barriers
  - Reduce cost
  - Offer users options





# Manifesto

- Fewer restrictions
  - Imposed only as necessary
  - Lowest possible barriers to fulfillment presented



# Manifesto

- Users can choose from options
  - delivery format
  - method of delivery
  - fulfillment type
    - loan, copy, digital copy, and purchase



# Manifesto

- Global access
  - Use both formal and informal networking agreements
  - Goal is lowest barrier to fulfillment



# Manifesto

- Share resources from all types of cultural institutions
  - Libraries
  - Archives
  - Museums
  - Expertise of all types utilized



# Manifesto

- Reference service facilitates sharing
  - Use reference expertise to aid fulfillment
  - No findable object should be totally unattainable



# Manifesto

- Offer service for a fee rather than refusing service
  - Strive to achieve services that are not more expensive than commercial services



# Manifesto

- Everyone a library user
  - Registration should be as easy as signing up for commercial web services



# Manifesto for Rethinking Resource Sharing

- Endorsed by:
  - ALA/RUSA/STARS Exec. Committee, January 2007
  - ALA/RUSA/STARS Rethinking Resource Sharing Policies Committee, January 2007
  - Rethinking Resource Sharing Steering Committee, February 2007
  - IFLA Document Delivery and Resource Sharing Standing Committee, May 2007
  - MAILL (Maryland Interlibrary Loan), October 18, 2007
  - DELNET (Developing Library Network-India) January 2009





# Policies – Next Steps

- Endorsement of the *Manifesto* by state/country library associations and state library agencies

“.... by affirming the Manifesto, [state or other organization] libraries agree to uphold the principles by doing these things.... 1. 2. 3. .... “



# Next Steps

- Collect examples for each of the 7 points in the Manifesto for Rethinking Resource Sharing
- Facilitators Guide
  - Posted online (RRS website)
  - Use to inform a local discussion



# RRS Innovation Awards

- Recognizes and honors an individual or institution for changes they made to improve users' access to information through resource sharing in their library, consortium or state or country.



# RRS Innovation Awards

\$1,000 Cash Awards (up to three)

We are grateful to the  
*Alliance of Library Service Networks*  
for funding the awards in  
2008 and 2009



# RRS Innovation Awards

- Factors considered in selection of award winners
  - Impact on users
  - Scalability
  - Sustainability
  - Ability for other libraries/consortia to replicate the idea
  - Initiative and risk taking



# Interoperability Committee

- Identify technical challenges in resource sharing
- Identify communities who are interested in building solutions
- Outreach to these communities (include systems vendors) to understand interoperability issues
- Promote fledgling solutions to libraries to gather feedback and make the solutions more effective



# Interoperability Committee

- GoGetter (GetIt) plug-in Project
  - Open-source
  - Vendor neutral
  - Offers options to get information



# Status of GoGetter

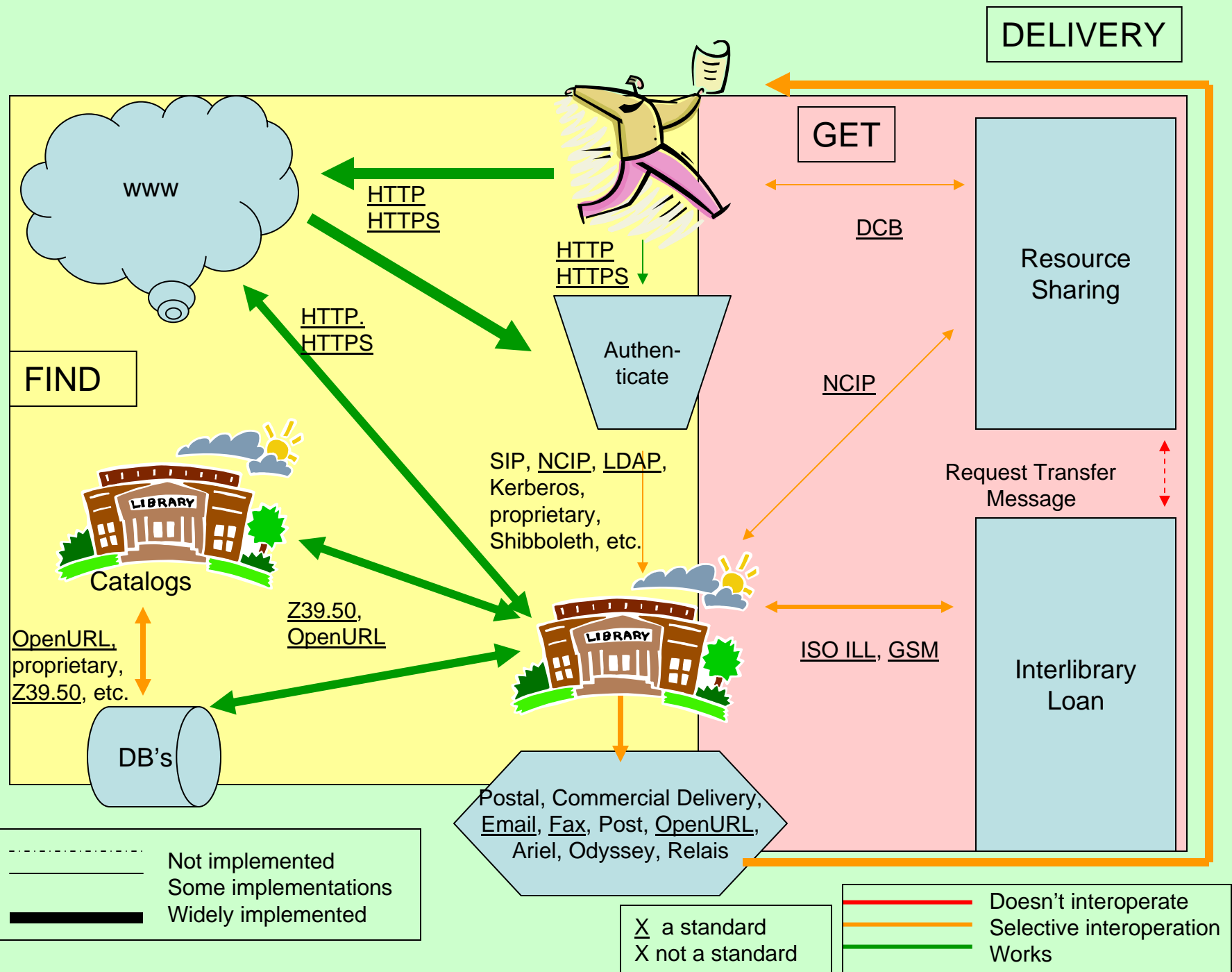
- Interoperability Committee
  - Completed the GoGetter prototype
  - Updated the functional specs
  - Worked with RRS Marketing Committee for name/branding
  - Developed base-level documentation
  - Awaits resolution of legal issues with the open source licensing



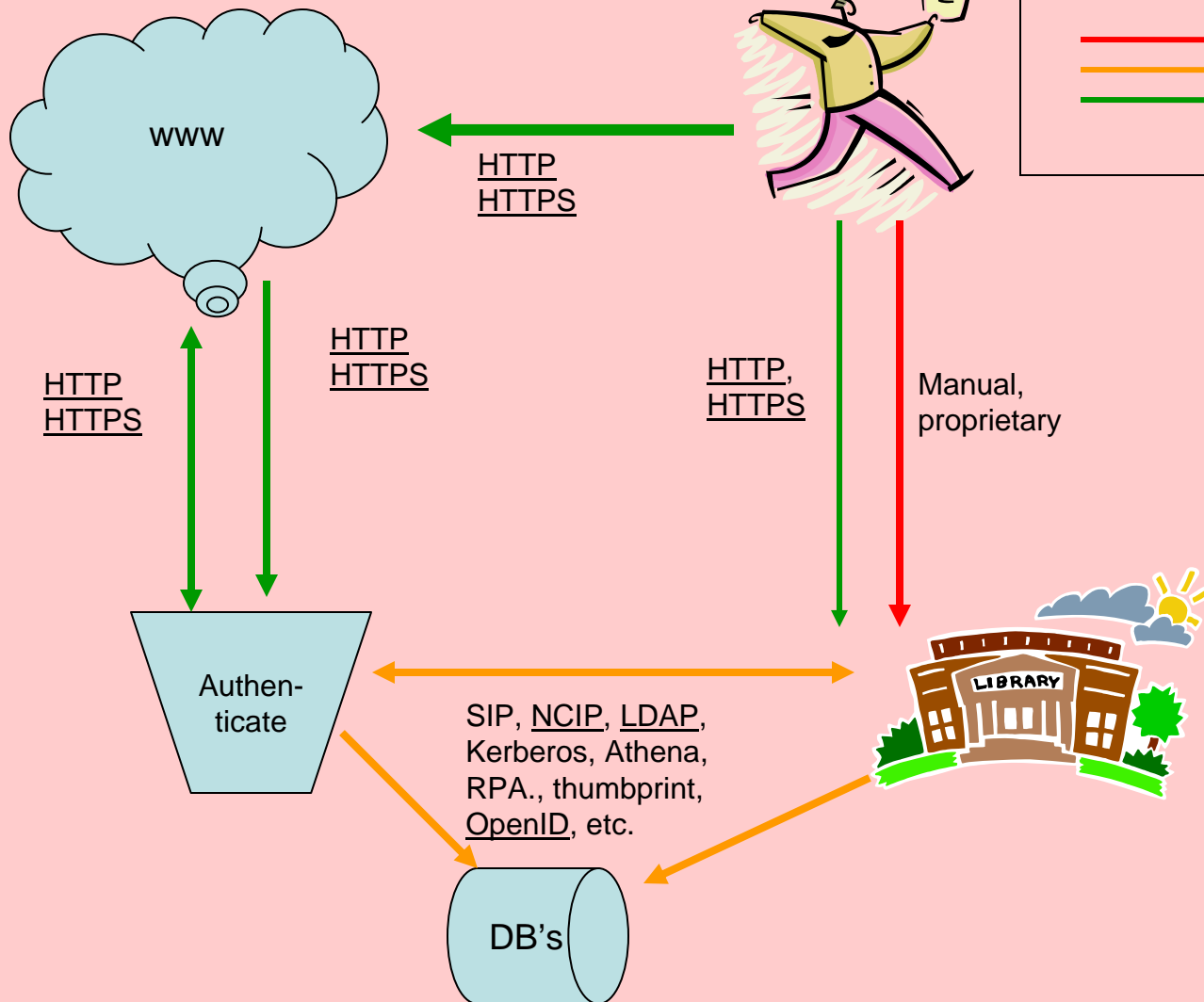


# Landscape

- Visual “landscape” of current interoperability for resource sharing
  - Assessment of usage for standard and proprietary methods of interoperation
  - Create scenarios of fulfillment
  - Identify gaps that need attention from standards bodies
  - Thanks to Gail Wanner, SirsiDynix for the following diagrams!



## Pre-FIND: AUTHENTICATE

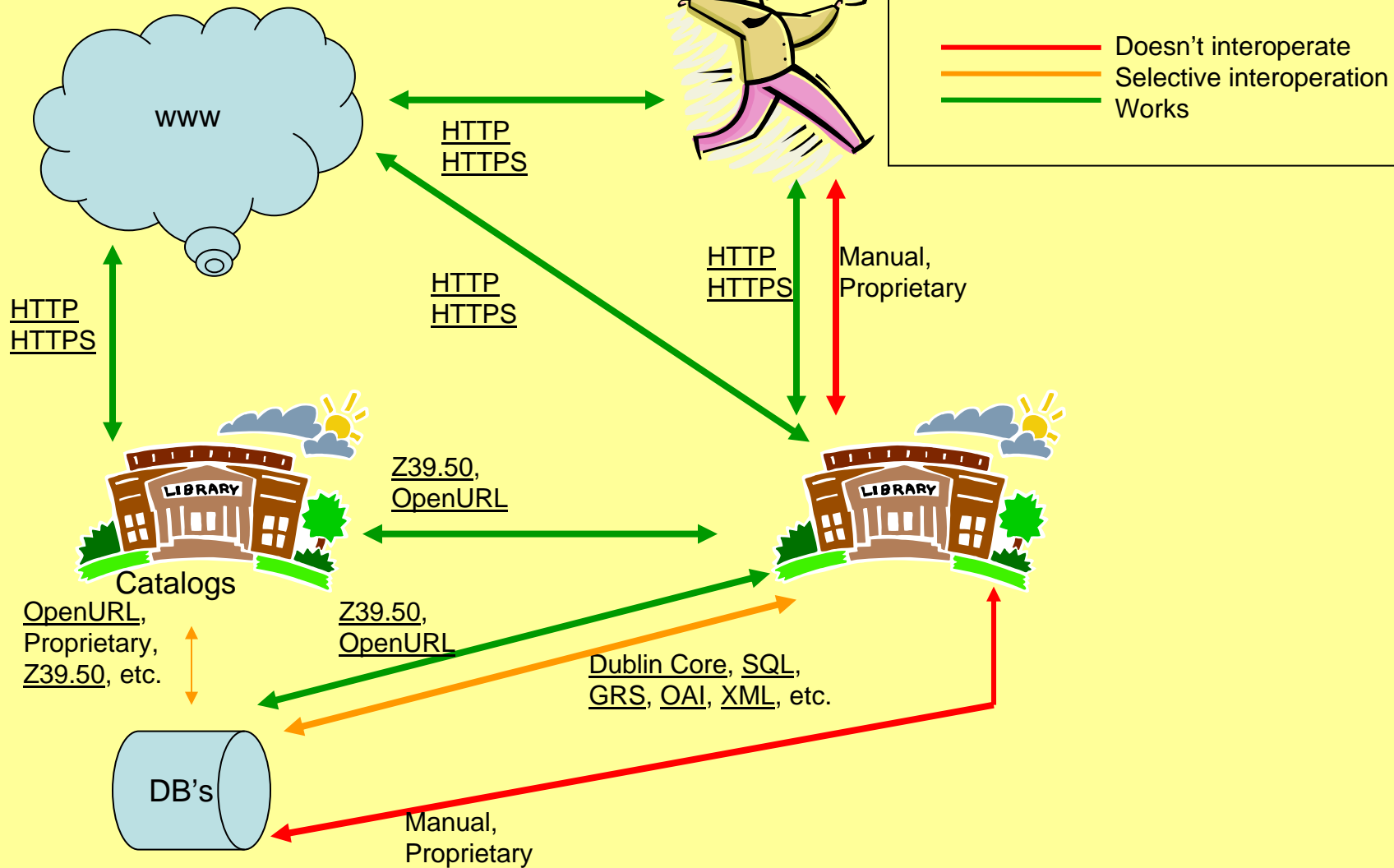


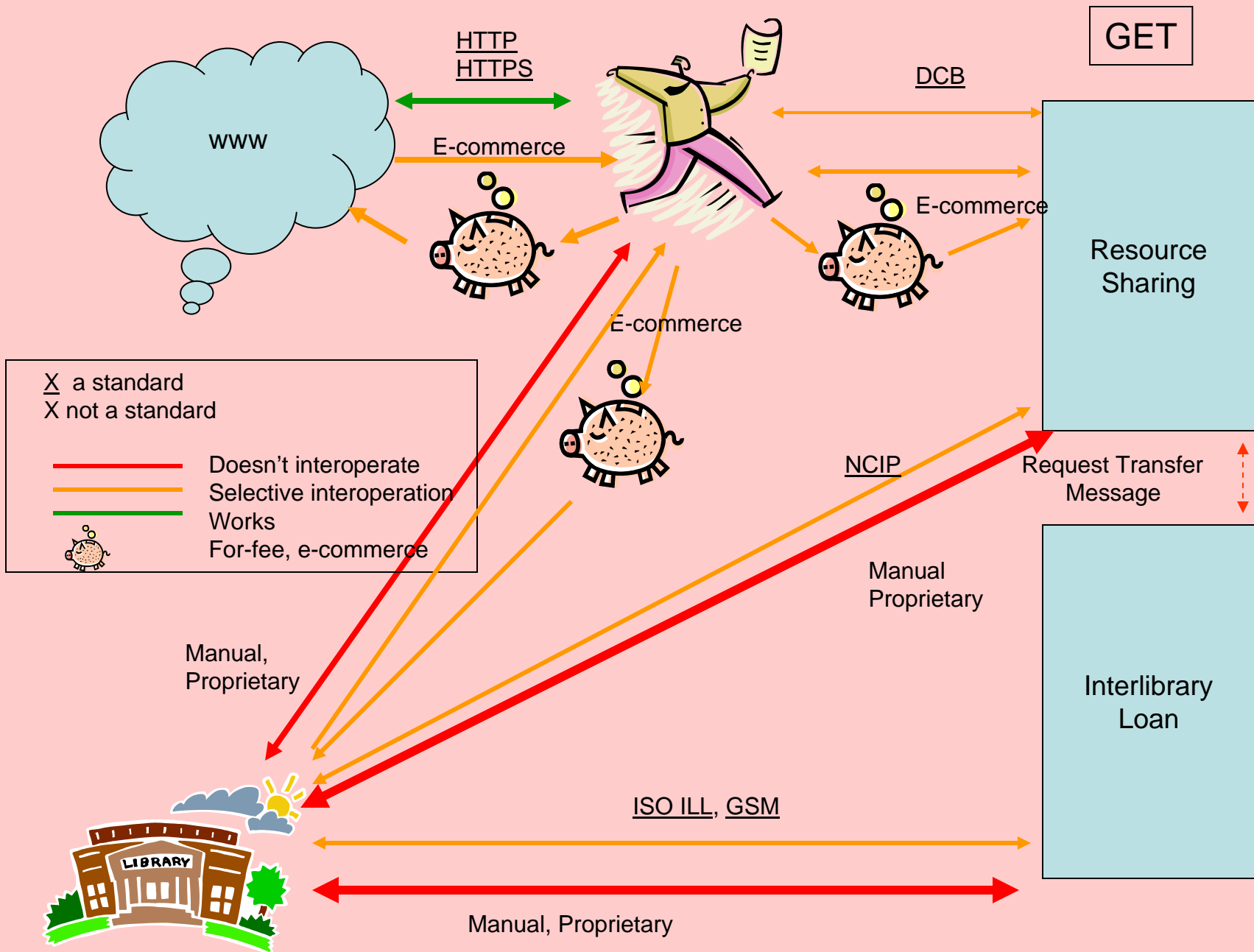
X a standard

X not a standard

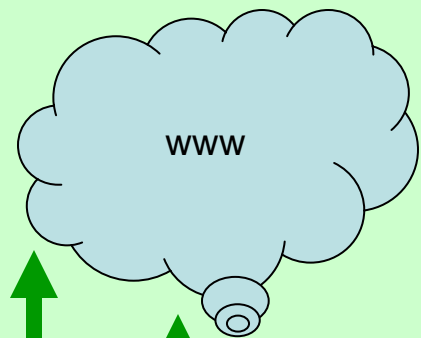
- Doesn't interoperate
- Selective interoperation
- Works

FIND





DELIVERY



DCB

HTTP  
HTTPS

HTTP  
HTTPS

Manual

Resource  
Sharing

HTTP  
HTTPS

Manual

Postal, Commercial Delivery,  
Email, Fax, Post, OpenURL,  
Ariel, Odyssey, Relais

Manual

Manual

Request Transfer  
Message



Catalogs

Z39.50

OpenURL

HTTP  
HTTPS



ISO ILL, GSM

Manual

Interlibrary  
Loan

X a standard  
X not a standard

NCIP

-----	Not implemented
_____	Some implementations
—————	Widely implemented

—————	Doesn't interoperate
—————	Selective interoperation
—————	Works



# Conclusions

- Overlapping standards exist
  - Gap between ISO ILL and NCIP
- Focus is on physical items
- No clear preferred paths; still a maze
  - Many non-standard links exist
  - Proprietary solutions common
- Interoperability is possible but not always easy



# Next Steps

- Adding more scenarios
  - Develop paths through the landscape
  - Identify barriers to success
- Adding overlay of future, desired landscape
  - True interoperability
  - Physical and electronic
  - Patron-focused
  - Standards-based





# Marketing Committee

- Branding of the GetIt Prototype = GoGetter
- Created RRS logo design
- Designed stickers for distribution
- Tracked
  - Articles
  - Presentations
  - <http://www.rethinkingresourcesharing.org/index.html>



# User Needs Committee

- Gain insight into the needs of the common user inside and outside the library environment
- New co-committee chairs
- User Survey
  - Testing instrument
  - Will develop a tool kit for all types of libraries



# Delivery Committee

- Physical and virtual delivery of materials is important
- Current possible projects
  - Home delivery clearinghouse
  - International branding of home delivery
  - Investigating digitization
  - Participate in NISO Physical Delivery Task Force



# RRS Steering Committee

- Revised vision
- Rewrote the charter
- Working on a three year strategic plan



# Partner Organizations





# Meetings

- 2007 Rethinking Resource Sharing Forum, Chicago, April 2007
- ALA RUSA STARS Preconference, Anaheim CA, June 2008
- The 2009 Rethinking Resource Sharing Forum, Dublin, OH, May 2009.



# What we learned

- Take-aways from the RRS Forum IV



# Become involved with RRS

- Join the RRS listserve

<http://www.rethinkingresourcesharing.org/involve.html>

- Change things in your library/consortium
- Volunteer to be on a working group
- Find a way to share with libraries internationally





# Next Steps

- Start a discussion – Today!
- Take action - Start a revolution
- Create a pandemic change  
inspiring libraries to meet user  
expectations through innovative  
resource sharing service



# More information

Rethinking Resource Sharing

<http://www.rethinkingresourcesharing.org>