

## See xID examples in action:

[www.oclc.org/xisbn/applicationgallery/](http://www.oclc.org/xisbn/applicationgallery/)

[www.oclc.org/xissn/applicationgallery/](http://www.oclc.org/xissn/applicationgallery/)

## Additional OCLC Web Services to consider:

- WorldCat Search API
- WorldCat Basic API
- WorldCat Registry APIs
- OpenURL Gateway (part of WorldCat Registry)
- Terminology Services

## Join the OCLC Developer Network

The **OCLC Developer Network** seeks to create a space where developers and librarians can connect. It is designed as a collaborative, two-way communication group where members directly influence what OCLC Web Services are created and enhanced.

- Join the Developer Network by joining the WC-DEVNET-L listserv at <https://www3.oclc.org/app/listserv/>
- Read the Developer Network blog at <http://www.worldcat.org/devnet/blog/>
- Follow our tweet stream at <http://twitter.com/oclcdevnet>

# Identifier Services (xID)

**What it is:** Machine-to-machine Web Services to take book and journal identifiers and relate them.

**What it does:** Gives you related identifier information about other editions, serials or FRBR groupings/work set data, based on existing standard identifiers.

- **xISBN:** Retrieve a list of International Standard Book Numbers (ISBNs) associated with a submitted ISBN, allowing end users to review other editions of that item.
- **xISSN:** Get information about serials, including predecessor and successor and alternate ISSN and titles.
- **xOCLCnum:** Retrieve a list of related OCLC numbers and selected metadata associated with a submitted OCLC or LCCN. (Part of the xISBN service.)

## What you get:

- The ability to identify a book from an online bookseller to determine if the book is available at your library.
- Confirm that no alternative versions of a work are available before your library sends an interlibrary loan request.
- Use a single search to check holdings of all editions of a work before making a selection for acquisition.
- Find alternate versions of serial publications

**Who can use it:** Anyone for noncommercial use.  
Contact [xisbn-support@oclc.org](mailto:xisbn-support@oclc.org) to inquire about other usage.

## Usage limits:

- xISBN: 1,000 requests/day free for noncommercial use.\*
- xISSN: 1,000 requests/day free for noncommercial use.\*

\*Subscription access is available for higher requests. OCLC member libraries who maintain a current cataloging subscription have a 10,000 requests/day threshold.

**Query Protocols:** REST-based requests, OPenURL, unAPI protocols

**Receive Formats:** XML, XHTML, Python, JSON, or Ruby formats

## Where to access:

- xISBN - <http://www.oclc.org/developer/services/xisbn>
- xISSN - <http://www.oclc.org/developer/services/xissn>
- xOCLCnum - <http://www.oclc.org/developer/services/xoclcnum>

**Documentation:** <http://www.oclc.org/developer/documentation/xisbn/using-api>  
<http://www.oclc.org/developer/documentation/xissn/using-api>

**Why you love it:** Help end users find alternate versions of a source book or journal.

## How to use xISBN

### Access

You'll need a WorldCat Affiliate account in order to access both xISBN (including xOCLCNUM) and xISSN.

The xISBN Web service supplies ISBNs and other information associated with an individual intellectual work that is represented in WorldCat. Submit an ISBN to this service, and it returns a list of related ISBNs and selected metadata. The service is based on WorldCat, the world's largest network of library content and services. As of Nov 2009, the xISBN database covers more than 21 million ISBNs.

xISBN also supports other books-related identifiers mapping, such as xOCLCNUM.

### How xISBN works

ISBNs are related to each other using librarian-catalogued bibliographic records in WorldCat with an algorithm developed by OCLC Research. The algorithm restructures WorldCat bibliographic records to conform to the FRBR conceptual model for information objects. For instance, rather than requiring an end user to traverse multiple records that represent many different manifestations of a book—including printings, hardback or paperback editions or even filmed versions—"FRBRized" WorldCat information allows that user to review a core record that lists all manifestations.

### Using the xISBN Web service

To use the service, you submit a single, known ISBN value embedded in a URL to the xISBN server, and the server returns a list of associated ISBNs and relevant metadata. The ISBNs are sorted by the number of times each represented item is held by a WorldCat library, highest to lowest. Therefore, the first returned ISBN represents the most-held item in WorldCat among all associated items.

### Subscription

Subscription-based use is available in three types:

**1. Access by cumulative total**

Enables a specific number of queries (e.g. 100,000 accesses) that have no time limits or expiration date.

**2. Daily access limit**

Allows a specific number of queries (e.g. 1,000 accesses) per day.

### Applications using xISBN

- Koha
- LibX
- See more and a demo for xISBN at <http://xisbn.worldcat.org/xisbndemo/>

### Developer Tools for xISBN

- Ruby Library, Java Library, and Python Module
- See more at <http://xisbn.worldcat.org/xisbndadmin/doc/tools.htm>

## How to use xISSN

### Access

The xISSN Web service supplies ISSNs and other information associated with serial publications represented in WorldCat. Submit an ISSN to this service, and it returns a list of related ISSNs and selected metadata. The service is based on WorldCat, the world's largest network of library content and services. As of Nov 2009, the xISSN database covers more than 740,000 ISSNs.

Ideal for Web-enabled search applications such as library catalogs and OpenURL Resolvers, xISSN connects an end-user to information about alternate versions of serial publications.

### How xISSN works

ISSNs are associated with each other using librarian-catalogued bibliographic records in WorldCat. ISSNs are related in two different ways:

- Different editions of same serial (such as print and online editions)
- Historical relationships (ISSN changes that result from title changes, mergers, splits, etc.)

### Using the xISSN Web service

To use the service, you submit an ISSN embedded in a URL to the xISSN server, and the server returns a list of associated ISSNs and relevant metadata. ISSNs for different editions of the same serial are grouped together. An ISSN group may also have historical relationships with other groups.

### Subscription

Subscription-based or commercial use for xISSN is available as a customized quotation.

### Demonstration for xISSN

- Human-readable via the Title History tool: <http://worldcat.org/xissn/titlehistory>
- Machine-returned results: <http://xissn.worldcat.org/xissndemo/>

### Implementations for xID

Sites and services that use xISBN and xISSN include:

- Search for Similar Titles (xISBN) <http://katalog.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/>
- WorldCat Python Module (xISBN, xISSN) <http://matienzo.org/project/worldcat>
- Peer Reviewed Journals and Writers for Henrik Ibsen (xISSN) [http://depts.washington.edu/scand/isa/view\\_all\\_journals.php](http://depts.washington.edu/scand/isa/view_all_journals.php)
- Serials Solutions E-Journal List/360 link (xISSN) <http://www.librarywebchic.net/wordpress/2009/11/06/virtual-contribution-to-the-seattle-mashathon/>