

Progress Report

Author's Information

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Report

1. Mission statement

The Swiss National Library is responsible for collecting and making available to the public, now and in the future, Helvetica i.e. documents (in all formats, printed or digital) published in Switzerland or produced elsewhere by Swiss authors or concerning Switzerland / Swiss people.

2. Computer Networks and Internet connectivity

Please tell your colleagues about your network type, protocols used, services provider, telecommunication equipment used, etc. below

a. In general HW, SW:

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b. New HW, SW; connectivity upgrades:

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Progress Report

3. Library automation

Please tell your colleagues below what library automated system you use, what hardware you use to run it and which unusual modules do you use or develop

a. In general HW, SW:

Hardware: IBM/AIX/RS6000 Software: VIRTUA : the SNL migrated the Helveticat database to VIRTUA in Summer 2002 (<http://www.helveticat.ch/>)

b. New HW, SW, other:

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4. Union catalogue

If you run a Union Catalogue, please specify which software you use and which interesting features are linked to your UC

a. Software used:

The Union Catalogue of Swiss Posters runs on VTLS Virtua (<http://www.snl.ch/posters>).

In 2002, the SNL and Trialog AG carried out a study into the future of the Union List of serials (full report - in German -at the <http://www.trialog.ch/> site).

The study showed that the current database, its organisation, infrastructure and interaction with partner libraries no longer met the expectations of users nor participants: many institutions were unable to send automatic updates with the result that data had to be keyed in manually, leading to duplication of effort and outdated information in the database. The SNL decided to freeze the database from summer 2002 onwards. This database will be migrated to Virtua in Spring 2003 and will remain online until the new solution is up and running. In the long term, the goal is to cooperate with the German union list Zeitschriftendatenbank (ZDB) but this is unlikely to be possible before 2005. In the meantime, with the agreement of the Commission of University Libraries, the SNL has opted for an interim solution: a portal giving access to serials held in Swiss libraries will be set up in cooperation with the Karlsruher Virtueller Katalog (KVK).

The new Index of Archival Collections held in Swiss Libraries and Archives is now available on line at <http://www.snl.ch/reperto/alsrep.htm> .

It is a union catalogue of over 7000 short descriptions of manuscripts collections and fonds kept in 260 institutions in Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

Progress Report

It is integrated into a database in which the SNL manages the addresses and contact information of Swiss libraries with which it cooperates. Migrated from an ancient system specifically developed in the 1980s, the Index has still a format of its own but has now an authority file. In addition to the database and its web access, the Index will be accessible via Z39.50 and linked to the MALVINE server. Participating institutions can add data via HTML forms sending XML-coded records, which the SNL uploads after authority control.

b. New features:

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5. Digital library

If you run a Digital Library, please tell us more in following list items

a. Based on your own production of digital documents:

SNL has continued outsourcing microfilming, digitisation and short title cataloguing of posters in 2002 bring the total in the database to 11'000 outsourced the microfilming and digitisation of around 6'000 posters in 2001.

b. If so, what is new in your digitalization programmes:

More posters will be digitised in 2003.

In December 2002, 300 paintings by Friedrich Durrenmatt, held in the Centre Durrenmatt Neuchatel were microfilmed and digitised. They will be catalogued and available for searching during 2003. It is planned to use EAD as the structure for the descriptions.

The eHelvetica project (online and offline digital documents produced in Switzerland) continues <http://www.e-helvetica.ch/>.

Within the offline-Helvetica segment of the project, disks threatened with being demagnetized are being transferred to a hard disk storage system (under Swiss copy right law, one copy of a work may be made to protect and maintain that work for archival purposes).

For this, the SNL works partly in conjunction with Die Deutsche Bibliothek. Since October 2002 the DOS and Apple disks are being copied to hard disk for long-term archiving. For special formats (Atari, Amiga, C64 and others) the SNL can benefit from DDB know-how using their image files containing Helvetica. Disks in the above-mentioned special

Progress Report

formats, that only exist in the SNL archives and for which there are no image files available in DDB are also processed for the SNL by colleagues from the DDB. In exchange the E-Helvetica project team processes the DDB Apple disks.

Within the online-Helvetica segment, online publications from the Biblioteca universitaria di Lugano and the University of Saint Gall are being copied, catalogued, and archived in a test system under a cooperative agreement with the universities. The providers supply the publications and the relative metadata with a form for reporting online university publications (password required) developed by Die Deutsche Bibliothek. The form is used in the SNL in a slightly modified and adapted form. In the course of 2003, the SNL will integrate the online dissertations from all Swiss universities in their archives.

In order to coordinate the various plans for long-time archiving of electronic documents within the Federal Department of Home Affairs, the GS-FDHA (Federal Department of Home Affairs General Secretariat) initiated the project SIPELDA (FDHA strategic IT planning for long-term storage of digital data and files). The Swiss National library has played an active role in this project since summer 2002. The objective of the GS-FDHA is to avoid redundancy of effort, use synergies between institutions such as the SNL and the Swiss Federal Archives and to take interfaces between the systems into account. Although the SFA archiving objectives and strategies differ from those of the SNL, there are common factors in the technical sector. SNL and SFA will determine whether a common WTO tender should be conducted for the "Storage" sub-sector of a future archiving system (according to the OAIS model).

c. Based on external sources:

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d. Important commercial web services accessible to your users:

Springer-link journals; Historical Abstracts; Dissertations Abstracts; MLA; Ulrich's web; Global Books in Print; Atla Religion Database; Oxford English Dictionary; WISO; PCI; Francis; FIAF; Publicus

6. New in-house database

Any interesting databases?

See above, union catalogue

Progress Report

7. Special web services

Something nobody else has? Or much better than any other place?

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8. Electronic document delivery

Do you have or plan EDD? How do you fight EU Copyright Directive?

Registered users of the SNL can have complete works reproduced which are no longer under copyright, i.e. if the author has been dead for at least 70 years. A charge is levied for this service. The work is scanned, printed and then bound. The copy is delivered about 10 days later. We can also provide electronic versions on CD-ROM if required. In a few months' time our users will be offered the possibility to order copies of articles in electronic format. The documents will be sent by e-mail in pdf-format to the client. Users can order an electronic copy via our OPAC or by e-mail, fax, letter or interlibrary loan form.

9. Research and technology development projects

Any other interesting R&D projects?

SNL is project leader for the MACS project linking Subject Heading Languages in French, German and English. See: infolab.kub.nl/prj/macs/ for access to the MACS prototype and reports on the project. A new version of the system will be available in Spring 2003. SNL continues working in the EU funded project LEAF (<http://www.leaf-eu.org/>) and the accompanying measure TEL, The European Library (<http://www.europeanlibrary.org/>).

10. Other important projects

Anything else you wish others to know about your library?

It is estimated that the SNL stock from 1850 to 1985 is in danger as a result of acid paper, meaning that deacidification is a very high priority for 60% of the collection. Deacidification for these documents only makes sense if it is carried out within the next 5 - 10 years. Around 25% of the endangered collection has been deacidified by the beginning of February 2003: 100 tonnes of SNL documents dating from 1895 onwards

Progress Report

have been deacidified. This is the equivalent of 275'00 documents or 3,5 km of shelves. 1'500 tonnes remain to be treated. The documents (books, brochures and boxes of papers) are sent each week to the Nitrochemie company in Wimmis where the federal government has installed a deacidification plant. It takes 6 weeks for documents to be treated at the plant.

Treatment of 100 tonnes of books has increased their overall weight by 2 tonnes: the magnesium carbonate added to the books neutralises the acid and supplies an alkaline reserve for the future.

It costs an average of 10CH FR to deacidify a document.

The deacidification treatment has helped to increase information in the SNL catalogue. Over 100'000 documents have been added during a parallel inventory carried out to prepare the shipments. Most of these are parts of multi-volume works not indicated in the old card catalogue that was converted in the nineties, but 5'000 documents have been 'rediscovered' and catalogued.

Deacidification does not reinforce paper, so other research is required to strengthen fragile paper. Newspapers are being microfilmed as part of the SNL standard procedures for this medium.

A special MARC field 583 is used to indicate if a document has been deacidified.

The UDC subject card catalogue (1891-1991) was scanned and integrated into a web application in 2001 (<http://www.coris.ch/newbns/Allemand/menu.asp>). From 1991 until 1998 when subject indexing with SWD/RSWK was adopted, indexers continued to index using the old scheme but this time online. This means that users carrying out subject searches must carry out 3 searches: in the web application, in the UDC headings in Helveticat and using SWD. In order to bring together all the UDC indexed records a project has begun to add the UDC authorities from Helveticat and the 150'000 UDC indexed records to the scanned card catalogue application. Work is also being carried out on the user interface to this application and to improve hierarchical searching. The new site will be available in April 2003. Searches may be carried out in German, French or according to UDC.

The SNL scanned 7 children's books to contribute to the International Children's Digital Library <http://www.icdlbooks.org/>

SNL has acquired the QuestionPoint (<http://www.questionpoint.org/>) software and staff are currently being trained with a view to taking part in the Global Reference Network from Spring 2003. SNL will be the third national library (after Library of Congress and the British Library) to join.

At the beginning of 2003, the Conference of Swiss University Libraries decided to group together the library card schemes practised in the BibliOpass network and IDS (Informationsverbund Deutschschweiz) thus giving users access to nearly 600 Swiss libraries, including the Swiss National Library providing they are a member of one of the partner libraries. The reader card of any one of the libraries is recognised by all others: users are allowed to join any of the other partner libraries without having to sign up for another card. Lending practices are not unified: the rules pertaining to each institution

Progress Report

are applied. The BibliOpass logo enables users to see which institutions are part of this network. See <http://www.bibliopass.ch/> for more information. A centralised, updated list of banned or problem users ensures that a reader may not sign up in different libraries if there is an outstanding problem in any other institutions (fines, lost items etc.).