

RAILS Consortia Survey July 2014

Preliminary Analysis

On behalf of the Overlay Working Group of the RAILS Consortia Committee, RAILS conducted a survey of all RAILS-area ILS consortia in July 2014. Eleven consortia responded, representing all consortia within RAILS except CARLI. This survey had multiple purposes. First, the results provide background information needed for RAILS' investigation of a resource-sharing overlay product. Second, the information collected will assist in moving forward with the next stages of the project. Finally, the results will give RAILS additional information on consortia needs as we begin an investigation of opportunities to provide support for all consortia in our service area.

The survey was sent to all consortium managers via the Consortia Managers listserv, and managers were asked to submit one response for their consortium after consulting with other staff as necessary. Respondents were:

Cooperative Computer Services (CCS)
Library Integrated Network Consortium (LINC)
LINKin Libraries
Multitype Automation Group in Cooperation (MAGIC)
Northern Illinois Cooperative (NIC)
Pinnacle Library Cooperative
PrairieCat
Resource Sharing Alliance NFP (RSA)
RiverShare
Rock River Library Consortium (RRLC)
System Wide Automated Network (SWAN)

This analysis includes:

- General observations about and summaries of survey responses, by section of the survey
- Actual survey responses, with additional analysis where appropriate
- References to existing RAILS documents that have been updated based on responses to this survey

Consortium and Membership Information

32% of RAILS 1,333 member libraries are also members of a shared catalog. 83.6% of these libraries belong to a RAILS LLSAP, and the other 16.4% belong to an independent ILS consortium. All eleven consortia provide similar services, within a wide range depending on consortium size and member library needs.

Consortium Name	Number of RAILS Member Agencies
CCS	24
LINC	9
LINKin Libraries	9
MAGIC	14
NIC	8
Pinnacle	6
PrairieCat	126*
RSA-NFP	149*
RiverShare	8 (plus 12 Iowa libraries)
Rock River Library Consortium	8
SWAN	77
Total	438

*Includes Union List members

Consortia range in size from six to 149 agencies, representing a total of 438 Illinois agencies. Four consortia (CCS, LINC, LINKin, Pinnacle) contain only public libraries. Consortia vary on their openness to different types of libraries, but only Pinnacle is restricted to public libraries. CCS, LINC, MAGIC, PrairieCat, RSA, and SWAN are open to all types of libraries. RiverShare is the only consortium that is not currently open to adding new members. Almost all consortia require OCLC membership.

In addition to the complete survey results, see *Illinois Library Technology Consortia – 2014 Update* and *Consortial Membership Criteria – 2014 Update* documents for further data on consortia membership.

Q: Please briefly describe your governance structures and meeting frequency.

CCS	Governing Board (Directors of all members) meets every other 4th Wednesday. Executive Committee meets almost all 2nd Wednesdays.
LINC	LINC is governed by the Board of Directors which consists of the library administrators from each of the 9 libraries. They meet the 2nd Friday of each month.
LINKin Libraries	LINKin is a collection of nine standalone libraries all with their own governance structures. Each member has a one-on-one relationship with Innovative Interfaces, Inc. and purchase a license to use Inn-Reach which powers the LINKin system. As a member of LINKin libraries agree on a set of loan policies for materials and as a single organizational unit, we do not have a specific governance written that is agreed upon by members. We met bi-annually to discuss concerns with our union catalog and other related topics.
MAGIC	Governing Board, comprised of one representative (in most cases, the Library Director) from each member library agency. Executive Committee comprised of elected officers from Governing Board: President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, At-Large Member. Meetings have been bimonthly (six times per year); beginning FY2015 meetings scheduled five times per year; bylaws require at least quarterly meetings.
NIC	The NIC consortium is comprised of 7 public libraries and one academic library. The consortium meets six times per year with governance of the consortium assumed by the directors of all participating libraries on a rotating basis.
Pinnacle	Affairs of Pinnacle Library Cooperative are managed by its Governing Board. The Governing Board consists of one representative from each member library. The Executive Committee of Pinnacle Library Cooperative consists of: Chair, Vice-Chair / Chair-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. Meeting frequency: Monthly
PrairieCat	ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL - This governing body consists of 11 elected representatives from the Delegates Assembly. The group sets policy, receives and approves recommendations from the Ad Hoc and Standing Committees, and approves recommendations to go to the Delegates Assembly including new members, contracts, the budget and major purchases outside the budget. Meets monthly. DELEGATES ASSEMBLY - This body approves the budget, contracts, new members and other major decisions for PrairieCat. Consists of a representative from each Fully Participating and Basic Online member as well as four Union Listing representatives acting as co-chairs of the Union Listing standing group. Meets quarterly.
RSA-NFP	6 member Board of Directors, Director, and a Users Group which votes on major issues and policies. Board and Users Group meet quarterly
RiverShare	We are governed by a Assembly of the Whole which consists of one representative from each member library. Other committees - Circulation; PAC; Technical Services, ILSAdmin - make recommendations regarding policy and ILS functionality to our Executive Committee which then sends those recommendations to the Assembly of the Whole for final approval. The Assembly of the Whole meets 4-6 times/year as do most committees. The ILS Admin team meets weekly for a conference call with our ILS vendor.
Rock River Library Consortium	Quarterly meetings. All members are on the board and have one vote per governing agency.
SWAN	SWAN is governed by a Board of Directors. The SWAN Board is comprised of seven library directors elected from the Full Member libraries in SWAN. The SWAN Board meets monthly for regular board meetings, typically the 3rd Friday of the month. In addition, Quarterly meetings with the membership are held in March, June, September, and December. Committee of the Whole meetings with membership are also held approximately ten times a year, generally the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Q: How many staff do you have supporting consortium operations?

CCS	9 FT, 4 PT (approx. 1.25 FTE)
LINC	3.5
LINKin Libraries	No paid staff; all work is done by staff of member libraries
MAGIC	3
NIC	1
Pinnacle	1
PrairieCat	11
RSA-NFP	8
RiverShare	No paid staff; all work is done by staff of member libraries
Rock River Library Consortium	8; one from each agency
SWAN	16

Q: For each category of staff, please list the number of FTE you have. Where job functions of individuals overlap or encompass more than one area, please enter your best approximation:

	Administrative Support	Cataloging	Consortium Administration	Customer Support	Database/ILS Management	Networking/General IT	Report
CCS	1.50	1.50	1.00		1.00	4FT, 4 PT	
LINC	0.50	0.25	0.50	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25
LINKin	As we are not a true consortium in the sense of other RAILS consortia like SWAN or MAGIC this question is too difficult to answer.						
MAGIC			1.00	2.00			
	To some degree all MAGIC staff handle aspects of Administrative Support, Cataloging, Database/ILS Management, Networking/General IT, and Reporting, but it is difficult to specify FTE for these functions.						
NIC	A full-time staff member at the Cherry Valley Public Library devotes a small portion of time to consortia tasks. Hardware and complex software issues are handled by an outside consulting firm.						
Pinnacle					1.00		
PrairieCat	0.80	2.00	1.00	3.20	0.50	1.80	1.50
RSA-NFP		2.00	0.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.00
RiverShare	Staff of member libraries perform work for RiverShare as they have time. Committee chairs rotate so that no one person or library ends up as a permanent committee chair. The exception is our ILS Admin team which has more or less permanent members as it's important to retain the knowledge this group has gained working with the ILS.						
Rock River Library Consortium	No one is employed by the consortium. Each member is responsible for each of the individuals listed in a-g						
SWAN	1.00	3.00	3.00	4.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

Platform Information

SirsiDynix and Innovative dominate the platform choices of RAILS consortia:

SirsiDynix Symphony	4
Innovative Sierra	1
Innovative Millennium	2
Innovative Polaris	2
The Library Corporation	1

Not included in the above count is LINKin, which is a group of libraries running standalone Millennium and Sierra systems sharing Inn-Reach, Innovative's resource sharing overlay.

SWAN is beginning a migration from Millennium to Symphony, which will tip the scales over to SirsiDynix for a majority of RAILS consortia. Most other consortia do not currently have plans to migrate. CCS plans to begin an evaluation in 2016, and NIC is currently evaluating their options.

DRAFT

Q: Does your ILS software support NCIP?

Support for NISO Circulation Interchange Protocol (NCIP) varies by platform and consortia implementation. For the majority of consortia, implementing NCIP would involve initial and ongoing costs.

	Yes or No. If yes, do you have NCIP implemented consortium-wide? Please describe.	Costs to purchase	Costs for annual maintenance
CCS	Yes, but no we'd have to license it.	\$16,650.00	\$2,200
LINC	Yes but do not have NCIP implemented consortium-wide.	\$9,920.00	\$1,100.00
LINKin Libraries	Yes, Innovative products support NCIP. Although, our LINKin system does not require use of NCIP for Inn-Reach to function. Members' standalone Innovative systems are linked to the LINKin central server at Arlington Heights Memorial Library.	\$25,531	\$5,000 + 3.5% increase per year
MAGIC	Yes, but no NCIP system set up.	\$10,950.00	\$1,210 + 3.9% increase per year
NIC	No. To support NCIP, the consortium would need to purchase an additional piece of software since the version of Millennium currently in use does not support NCIP. The consortium has no plans at this time to purchase the additional software.		
Pinnacle	Yes. No. Currently we do not have NCIP implemented.	\$2,500 + \$1,000 configuration fee	\$2,500
PrairieCat	Yes. In the process of testing for use with OCLC.	Included in current Sierra installation	Included in current Sierra installation
RSA-NFP	Yes. No, we don't have anything connected to NCIP at this time so we haven't licensed it. Everything we use is SIP2 connected. Purchase pricing listed below is from our 2006 contract addendum. We would need to renegotiate pricing for RSA if we implement.	\$26,250 (all vendors) or \$3,500 for a single vendor	\$4,725 (all vendors) or \$630 for a single vendor
RiverShare	No	Unknown pending quote	Unknown pending quote
Rock River Library Consortium	Yes. Depends on vendor. The Library Corporation would have to work with the other vendor to see if they could become compatible with each other.	\$2,000	\$400
SWAN	Yes but do not have NCIP implemented consortium-wide.	NCIP is included in our SirsiDynix agreement.	NCIP is included in our SirsiDynix agreement.

Database and Circulation Information

	Patrons	Titles	Items	Annual Circ
CCS	650,000	1,100,000	5,500,000	17,000,000
LINC	112,725	750,000	1,187,200	4,350,000
LINKin Libraries	N/A	1,098,645	3,218,711	65,830
MAGIC	126,177	617,337	1,239,442	1,755,300
NIC	74,952		924,508	1,490,717
Pinnacle	223,518	587,089	1,376,700	3,212,549
PrairieCat	369,803	1,010,103	4,041,428	4,843,505
RSA-NFP	360,000	1,089,461	4,849,056	6,308,656
RiverShare	215,127	906,070	1,940,957	2,965,610
Rock River Library Consortium	31,772	176,211	294,080	346,887
SWAN	985,172	1,429,786	7,924,458	13,456,399
Total	3,149,246	8,764,702	32,496,540	55,795,453

Q: Approximately how many bibliographic records do you add per year?

CCS	60,000
LINC	Not available
LINKin Libraries	126,761
MAGIC	45,000
NIC	23,250
Pinnacle	135,600
PrairieCat	40,000
RSA-NFP	47,600
RiverShare	59,627
Rock River Library Consortium	14,000
SWAN	55,000
Total	606,838

Q: What percent of total annual circulation is represented by:

	Interlibrary loan (when an item is sent to another library for checkout by one of their patrons)	Reciprocal borrowing (when an item is checked out at the owning library by a patron from another library)
CCS	4-5%	
LINC	5.42%	3.35%
LINKin Libraries	100%	N/A
MAGIC	5-6%	6-7%
NIC	5%	2%
Pinnacle	0.39% (12,668 items)	1.98% (63,748 circs)
PrairieCat	11%	10%
RSA-NFP	13.30%	11.20%
RiverShare	5%	10%
Rock River Library Consortium		
SWAN	10%	14%

Cataloging

Cataloging practices vary widely across the consortia. Two (SWAN, PrairieCat) provide centralized original cataloging services. Three (CCS, LINC, RSA) provide limited centralized services, such as authority control, database cleanup, and cataloging of e-resources. Two consortia (RiverShare, RRLC) don't provide centralized services, but some of their member libraries provide limited pro bono assistance to fellow members. Four consortia (LINKin, MAGIC, NIC, Pinnacle) provide no cataloging services at all and rely on cataloging expertise at their member libraries.

In six consortia (CCS, LINC, LINKin, MAGIC, NIC, Pinnacle) all members are permitted to load permanent bibliographic records. Five of these consortia have no training requirement for these members, and one (LINC) is working on training and standards. The other five take a more limited approach or are in the process of locking it down, with very few members permitted to load permanent bibliographic members. Of these five consortia, four of them (PrairieCat, RSA, RiverShare, SWAN) require training, certification, or compliance with stated requirements.

Most of the consortia are in the process of adopting RDA, with the exception of NIC. They are at various phases of adoption, with PrairieCat the only consortium to be fully retroactively converted to RDA (using Marcive). SWAN was the earliest adopter, with original cataloging using RDA beginning in 2012.

Consortia needs around cataloging exceed their ability to provide services, particularly in training, best practices and standardization, and original cataloging. Cited needs include:

- Improvements in handling e-resources, including better metadata from e-resource vendors and best practices for working with e-resource records to improve patron access and staff workflow
- Greater consistency in cataloging policies and procedures among the member libraries
- Training for library staff, including how to classify materials and assign a call number, how to match an item in hand to a bibliographic record in the ILS or OCLC
- Better source of quality cataloging records that are also inexpensive
- Authority control
- Improved reporting
- Additional staff to support increased centralized cataloging services
- Assistance with OCLC batchloading and database cleanup
- World languages cataloging, both original and copy cataloging
- Additional opportunities to hone RDA cataloging skills

E-books

All of the consortia have members that participate in one or more e-book consortia. Due to the logistics of INN-Reach, LINKin does not include digital titles. Most of the other consortia include e-book records in their OPACs and many support digital content in various other ways. The most popular e-book consortia are eRead Illinois, My Media Mall, and OMNI.

The following e-book consortia are supported by various RAILS ILS consortia:

- Media on Demand
- MyMediaMall
- OMNI
- eRead Illinois - RAILS
- eMedia Library ADML
- North Suburban Digital Library Consortium
- Pinnacle - Overdrive
- Pinnacle - 3M
- RiverShare - Overdrive

E-book records are handled in various ways in the ILS. Most of the Sirsi Dynix consortia have eResource Central managing access to digital titles. PrairieCat, SWAN, and NIC OPACs include records for e-book titles. Other support for digital content includes records for Gale Virtual Reference Library and Project Gutenberg (RRLC), management of consortium-specific e-book consortia (Pinnacle and RSA), and incorporation of eRead Illinois fees into consortium member fees (MAGIC and RSA).