



Transportation Library Pooled Fund Study

Jointly prepared by: Christi Powers
christiapowers@mchsi.com
and
Maggie Sacco
maggie.sacco@ctcandassociates.com

Transportation Library Connectivity

Pooled Fund Study - TPF-5(105) Special Teleconference – March 2, 1:15 to 2:30 p.m. CST

Participants: Janet Bix, Ohio DOT (OhDOT); John Cherney, Wisconsin DOT (WisDOT); Ruth Letson (TDOT); Marie Manthe, Kansas DOT (KDOT); Ann Pahnke, WisDOT; Laura Wilt, Oregon DOT (ODOT); Andy Bush, Online Computer Library Catalogue (OCLC); Christi Powers, Marketing services; Maggie Sacco, Technical services

Overview of OCLC contracts and services

Andy Bush, OCLC, participated in a teleconference with Library Connectivity Pooled Fund Study Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members to review and discuss a detailed [spreadsheet](#) of subscription and cataloging services. Prepared by Maggie Sacco, the spreadsheet combines cataloging costs, credits, resource-sharing and access fees based on regional contracts negotiated individually by each state. Significant time was spent in researching and contacting the regional providers to obtain copies and determine the scope of each contract. Costs were distributed over a FY 06-07 and FY 07-08 timetable. FedLink charges will be updated and/or corrected by Andy Bush.

He outlined the main areas reflected on the spreadsheet:

Cataloging – based on actual activity and/or usage. Credits are issued when an original bibliographic entry is made by a library member through WorldCat and added to the database.

Resource sharing – based on anticipated interlibrary loan (ILL) activity and/or usage reports which delineate “lends” and “borrows” that are tracked and recorded.

Access – OCLC has in the past, bundled the Access, or connection fee with the cataloging fees. It is not a new fee, only broken out separately at this time.

Unlimited WorldCat & TLCat – in order to have access to TLCat, member libraries must have a subscription to Unlimited WorldCat. FirstSearch is part of this subscription, as it is the platform WorldCat runs on. There are various contracts currently in place with each regional provider. Unlimited WorldCat fees for the FY 06-07 year are set at \$2,242.24 for six members (KDOT, TDOT, PennDOT, WsDOT, WisDOT and ODOT); whereas TLCat subscriptions run \$772.05 per each library pooled fund member state.

Cataloging and resource sharing costs have been calculated by looking at the three most current years’ usage by library. It was explained that if activity either increases or decreases by 50 percent in any given year, then OCLC reserves the right to adjust its fees. Accordingly, the query was raised as to whether member states could receive a flat or negotiated OCLC subscription fee. This isn’t possible because of the differing usage rates.

Ruth Letson raised several questions on TDOTs unlimited cataloging capability. Since OCLC doesn’t specifically track individual arrangements with regional library networks, contracts and fees differ widely. Maggie indicated that she is establishing go-to contacts with each network to get more specific information or have questions answered. Andy indicated that he would provide Maggie with a list of people to contact regionally.

Marie Manthe mentioned that KDOT is the only “independent” that doesn’t contract services through a regional library network. This might account for why KDOT’s annual cataloging costs are higher and also due to the fact that if original records aren’t added to WorldCat, then no credits are received. Additionally regional library networks vary in their surcharges thereby adding to the range of fees delineated on the spreadsheet. In KDOTs case Marie indicated their access fees would increase about \$800 so it was better to contract independently.

Janet Bix indicated that OhDOTs transportation library doesn’t incur direct ILL costs since this is covered through their state library; at least these charges aren’t recognized separately from the main system. She questioned where the access and unlimited resource-sharing charges arose from as reflected on the spreadsheet. Andy explained that about a year ago, access and resource-sharing costs were broken out from overall fees into separate charges. He acknowledged that the \$310 in cataloging and \$1588 in access fees may not, in fact, apply in Ohio’s case. He was going to check into this and get back to Maggie and Janet for clarification.

Some odd and sundry questions that arose during the discussion:

- Is there an additional charge to join TLCat beyond the \$772.05 per member fee? Answer = no
- Can OCLC send one invoice for those collective TLCat fees in lieu of billing each member separately? Answer = yes
- When do ILL subscriptions come due? Answer = most will end by June 30, 2006
- Could a “subset” view of TLCat be provided to library pooled fund members Answer = yes

OCLC has issued a grace period through March 17th for current Transportation Library Catalog (TLCat) subscriptions that were previously subsidized by the National Transportation Library. A decision needs to be made about whether the \$21,500 that is currently allotted to offset subscription costs should be directly applied toward TLCat fees on or before March 17, 2006. Members are asked to provide Maggie Sacco with their needs and expectations for subsidies from the pooled fund study. Once those results are compiled, Maggie will make recommendations on how to proceed.

MnDOT and WisDOT have both agreed to incur their own subscription costs thereby reducing the FY 06-07 sum from \$41,170.88 to \$30,704.84. Currently there is approximately \$21,500 allotted toward these costs with the possibility of \$4,000 of unused travel funds from the Knowledge & Library Connectivity conference in Kansas City last October, 2005.