



CrossRef Member Update

Ed Pentz, Executive Director
December 17, 2001

Members, Affiliates and Agents

Members: 93

Affiliates: Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA), Dialog, EBSCO Publishing, Fiz-Karlsruhe, IFIS Publishing (International Food Information Service), iGROUP (Asia Pacific), Korea Info-Net Service, Inc. (KINS), Information Express (Reviews.Com), Maruzen, National Center for Post Traumatic Stress Disorders, Openly Informatics, SwetsBlackwell

Agents: Allen Press, BioOne, American Institute of Physics, ingenta/CatchWord, HighWire and Metapress

Library Affiliates: Boston College Library, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis Libraries, KAIST (Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology), Lund University Libraries, Max Planck Institute Library, Toshiba Corporate Library, University of Chicago Libraries, University of Nevada - Reno Libraries, University of Rochester – Rush Rhees Libraries

Special Member Meeting, December 4th, 2001

65 people attended the meeting on December 4th in London. The presentations from the meeting are available in the member's area of the website. A written summary of the presentations will be available the first week in January.

Executive Director's Report

2001 has been a year of rapid growth for CrossRef. The slides from the Executive Director's Report are available on the website. To just summarize a few of the major points - members need to deposit AND to link references! This is your organization so your participation and feedback are important. Members need to use the system but CrossRef needs to focus on key areas to make this happen. In 2002 CrossRef will focus on –

- better deposit and validation
- better querying and matching
- better reports and billing
- better technical documentation and support

The implementation of the new system will be important and the 2002 budget has an extra staff position for member technical support.

Financial Update

2001 Budget:

- Revenue - \$1.8 million
- Expenses - \$2.1 million
- \$250,000 net assets (operating deficit)

2001 LE:

- Revenue - \$1.1 million
- Expenses - \$1.5 million
- \$400,000 (approx) net assets (operating deficit)
- Current Loans – \$1.7 million

Pieter Bolman, CrossRef's treasurer provided an update on CrossRef financials at the members meeting. From 2000-2001 CrossRef has seen rapid growth, but revenue growth was lower than expected. The main reasons for this are that the CrossRef fees and usage projections were based on estimates (there was no data or experience to base projections on), retrievals by members have been slow to start and retrievals by non-members are extremely low. In addition, many secondaries get DOIs directly from publishers and don't need to get them from CrossRef. On the other hand, deposits are doing very well and we will soon be at 4 million records.

However, there is unused system capacity and CrossRef only gets fees if system is used. On a positive note, revenue increased from \$400,000 to over \$1 million from 2000 to 2001 and 2001 expenses were lower than budgeted – the System Rewrite got started later and was less than planned.

There are some important long-term issues for CrossRef finances. \$2.1 million in loans needs to be repaid in 2004-2006. CrossRef needs to protect against further operating deficits: is PILA's system (capacity) and infrastructure in balance with publisher's expectations? If so, PILA needs to bill out its full costs either by increased usage or increased fees.

Detailed cash flow and balance sheet projections for 2003-2006 are being discussed. A number of measures are being considered to enable CrossRef to pay back its startup loans and build cash reserves. CrossRef will most likely move to a monthly billing cycle, rather than a quarterly one, and will look at members pre-paying fees. As planned last year there will be another round of loans to total \$500,000. Fees may need to be increased as early as June 2002 and a new annual DOI maintenance fee may be added. Further information will be provided before any changes are made. The annual DOI maintenance fee would be very small but would cover the growing fixed costs of storing so many DOIs. By the end of 2002 we may have 6 million or more articles registered and by adding other content types we could easily be at 10 million articles within 18 months.

Two Member Questionnaires – Preliminary results from the two questionnaires sent to members were reported at the member meeting. There is still time for some last minute

responses if you haven't already done so. Please fill in the questionnaires and return by email (abrand@crossref.org) or fax (+1-781-221-8456).

Localized Linking Prototype

CrossRef is in the process of finalizing an agreement with Ex Libris to allow Reverse Metadata Lookup (RMDLU). There is a lot of interest from libraries in using SFX, a localized linking product from Ex Libris. CrossRef will work with any company providing localized linking services to libraries. SFX is just the first of many applications in this area. To see a demo of SFX and CrossRef go to <http://www.sfxit.com/demos/crossrefdemo2.html>. General SFX information is available at <http://www.sfxit.com/>.

The next step will be to update the Library Affiliate agreement to cover RMDLU. Any library signing a CrossRef Library Affiliate agreement would be able to send a DOI to CrossRef and retrieve basic metadata to enable their local localized linking server to create appropriate links for users. Ex Libris and other companies could only do RMDLU for libraries that were CrossRef Affiliates.

The standard agreement on RMDLU and localized linking will require that there always be a link to the publisher's site with appropriate branding, that a publisher can opt out so their links aren't redirected and that there are mechanisms for dealing with copyright infringement.

CrossSearch

There was a presentation and discussion of CrossSearch at the member meeting. Some members expressed concern that such a service would compete with and harm secondary database providers. Also, there was concern that CrossSearch would divert attention and resources from CrossRef's core reference linking functions. If CrossSearch were to move ahead it would be done in a way that would not affect CrossRef's reference linking service or CrossRef's finances.

A recent NFAIS newsletter had an update about CrossSearch and the exact same material was used in an article in the Scholarly Communications Report. While both articles appear to quote CrossRef, we have not made any information on CrossSearch publicly available or approved the publication of any articles.

CrossRef Marketing

Marketing materials and journal ads. This is a reminder to take advantage of the new space ads and website banner ads now available at http://www.crossref.org/members_only/branding.htm. By putting these ads in your journals, you will help us educate end-users about how CrossRef linking facilitates on the online research process. PDF color and black-and-white ads (6x9 and 7.25x10) targeting the research community are posted at the members-only section of our website- http://www.crossref.org/members_only/branding.htm. Quark files for the same ads for available upon request (abrand@crossref.org), in case you would like to customize the ad copy. Website banner ads (small and large) are also available.

Website - Reminder for the members' area of website: username: cr_member password: ref-linking

Go Live Table - http://www.crossref.org/members_only/golive.html

Status Report - http://www.crossref.org/members_only/status.html

CrossRef System

Timeliness of Deposits/DOI Error Page – when a DOI doesn't resolve because it hasn't been deposited in the system, an error page is generated by the DOI system. In the past this was a very cryptic page but now a new page has been put in place with an email address to provide feedback. For example, try <http://dx.doi.org/10.1006/wrong>. CNRI, who run the system on behalf of the IDF, forwards any messages about CrossRef DOIs to CrossRef and we follow up with publishers.

We have seen some DOIs that don't resolve because they have not been registered with CrossRef. It is critical that DOIs be deposited in CrossRef to coincide with electronic publication – holding back DOIs to wait for print publication or only depositing every few months, violates the CrossRef Membership Agreement and defeats the whole point of using DOIs to get to content.

New Content Types – We have been receiving feedback on the new XML schema for journals, books, and conference proceedings and incorporating changes. Version 2.0.1 was released November 19th. The new schema will be finalized in January and testing of deposits for books and conference proceedings will begin in February. Detailed documentation will be available with the new schema and implementation information will be provided. An important part of the new schema work has been to review ONIX (see below).

System Rewrite – the project is on schedule. Major parts of the system will be delivered to CrossRef for testing in January. Scheduled completion is April 2002.

Parameter Passing – a draft white paper on Parameter Passing has been circulated to the parameter passing email list. The parameter-passing group is meeting early in January to discuss any final changes and develop a schedule for implementation.

DOI Transfers – as we are nearing year-end a number of journals are changing ownership. When this happens, control of the DOIs from affected journals needs to be transferred to the acquiring publisher. A procedure has been put in place to enable the transfer of DOIs and documentation of the procedures will be completed in the next couple of weeks. The basic process is that the publisher acquiring the journals notifies CrossRef of the change of ownership, the change and the DOIs to be transferred is confirmed with the current publisher and then ownership and control of the DOIs is transferred to the acquiring publisher. The acquiring publisher then updates the records with new URLs. The DOIs do not change.

Query API – a revised version describing the query process (CrossRef Query API and Interface Guide) and how to build queries is available -

http://www.crossref.org/docs/CrossRef_query_spec.pdf. Comments and questions are encouraged.

System Stats (as of December 17, 2001)

3,840,953 (3,725,038 in November) records in database

Members: 92 (83 in October)

Depositor Reports - <http://mddb1.crossref.org/crossref/reports/>. (cr_member /ref-linking to login)

Reference Linking

Those publishers creating reference links (if you aren't on the list but are creating links, let me know):

American Physical Society
Acoustical Society of America
ALPSP
American Association of Physicists in Medicine
American Association of Physics Teachers
American College of Medical Physics
American Society of Civil Engineers
American Vacuum Society
ASME
Biomedical Engineering Society
Blackwell Science
Chemical Abstracts Service
Electrochemical Society
Elsevier Science
Harcourt (Academic Press, Mosby, Saunders)
Institute of Physics Publishing
International Centre for Diffraction Data
International Union of Crystallography
Mary Ann Liebert
MAIK/Nauka Interperiodica
Nature
Pion
The Royal Society
Science
Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG)
Society of Rheology
SPIE
Springer Verlag
Taylor and Francis
Turpion
John Wiley and Sons

DOI Resolutions

October and November seem to have returned to the norm after an unusual September. There has been a slight drop in November but there are double the resolutions there were a year ago.

May 2000 -	87,509
June 2000 -	128,984 (+47%)
July 2000 -	187,738 (+45%)
August 2000 -	209,684 (+12%)
September 2000 -	226,060 (+8%)
October 2000 -	294,316 (+30%)
November 2000 -	304,071 (+3.5%)
December 2000 -	250,666 (-18%)
January 2001 -	336,290 (+34%)
February 2001 -	356,772 (+6%)
March 2001 -	388,581 (+9%)
April 2001 -	383,546 (-3%)
May 2001 -	430,701 (+12%)
June 2001 -	364,977 (-15%)
July 2001 -	968,576 (+265%)
August 2001 -	818,510 (-18%)
September 2001-	8,420,977
October 2001 -	801,562
November 2001 -	765,188

International DOI Foundation (IDF) Update

Norman Paskin, the Director of the IDF, provided an update for CrossRef members on December 4th and provided a briefing on the IDF for CrossRef members – both are available on the CrossRef Members website.

XML Kernel Metadata – The IDF has released a draft set of “Kernel” metadata. From very early on, the IDF decided that certain basic information on each DOI should be publicly available. Other information collected by Registrations Agencies would not necessarily be available. A summary and recommendations about Kernel metadata is available and was sent to the CrossRef TWG for comments. Please let me know if you would like to see a copy or have any comments.

Working Groups – the IDF has reorganized some of its working groups. For more details see http://www.doi.org/working_groups.html. The Services group (SDI - service definition interface) group is now the Technical Working Group (TWG). The DOI-EB scope and purpose have also changed. The Registration Agencies Working Group (RAWG) remains unchanged. From the IDF Report: “The RAWG and the TWG serve as the primary policy and technical 'clearinghouses' with the TWG as the place to discuss technical issues and try out experiments and prototypes as needed. These form a foundation layer on which application-specific WGs can build.” CrossRef is an active participant in both working groups.

Also from the IDF Report:

Revision of the ISBN standard

ISO TC46 has released a work proposal (ISO Project proposal 2108) for the revision of the 1992 edition of ISO 2108 ISBN standard, the purpose of which is:

- “1. To increase the numbering capacity of the ISBN system; electronic publishing and the resulting proliferation of editions and formats is consuming the existing capacity of the ISBN system at a faster rate than originally anticipated when it was designed for numbering printed books in the late 1960’s.
2. To specify the metadata to be associated with ISBN assignments and the method of its association;
3. To decide whether and how the ISBN is assigned to certain types of monographic publications (e.g. digital files; print-on-demand materials; discrete parts of monographic publications);
4. To specify the authority to assign ISBN and the administration of the ISBN system”

The first meeting of the Working Group, subject to approval, will be on 7/8 February. Michael Healy of Whitaker, the UK ISBN Agency, an IDF member, has been invited to chair the Working Group and Brian Green (who chairs the BSI identifier committee as well as managing ONIX) has been nominated as a representative of BSI’s committee. I have also nominated myself to this group (IDF has liaison status with the ISO TC46 group, which will permit this). One possible informative annex, which is to be considered for the new standard, would be “how to incorporate an ISBN into a DOI”.

Mellon Foundation E-journal Archiving Projects

The DLF website has information on a number of Mellon funded projects - <http://www.diglib.org/preserve/ejp.htm>. Harvard University is working with University of Chicago Press, John Wiley and Sons and Blackwell Publishing. Yale is working with Elsevier and the University of Pennsylvania is working with Oxford University Press and Cambridge University Press. Project Harvest at Cornell University is looking at a subject-based archive in the agricultural area.

The Harvard project is looking at a standard archival format for data from publishers and an interesting report comparing publishers’ SGML DTDs is available.

CrossRef could play a useful role in providing updates on these projects to its members and in future could be involved in disseminating any standards, or proposed standards, to its members. This could be especially useful for smaller publishers unable to participate in the projects themselves. CrossRef has no plans to get actively involved in any of these projects.

ONIX

Discussions between ONIX and CrossRef are continuing. A mapping between ONIX and the new CrossRef schema has been completed and comments provided to ONIX on updates that are needed to accommodate CrossRef needs. Documentation will be provided in future on using ONIX for CrossRef submissions but ONIX for Serials is still in the development stages. Publishers interested in prototyping ONIX for Serials can contact EDItEUR (<http://www.editeur.org/>). ONIX for Serials data is at <http://www.editeur.org/onixserials.html>.

[SFX for Librarians](#) | [SFX for Information Providers](#) | [FAQ](#)
Overview
[News & Events](#)
[Publications](#)
[OpenURL](#)
[Try SFX](#)
[Contact Us](#)
SFX Awarded Best New Product!

SFX has been given The Charleston Advisor's "Best New Product" Award for Electronic Service to Libraries, as nominated by Users. For more information, visit the [TCA Website](#).

[List of SFX-enabled Resources](#)

SFX is a unique and revolutionary tool for navigation and discovery, delivering powerful linking services in the scholarly information environment. With SFX, libraries can define rules that allow SFX to dynamically create links that fully integrate their information resources regardless of who hosts them -- the library itself or external information providers. The user is presented with context-sensitive links that are dynamically configured on the basis of the institution's e-collections. Such resources could include:

- full-text repositories;
- abstracting, indexing, and citation databases;
- online library catalogs; and
- citations appearing in research articles, e-print systems, and other Web resources.

SFX permits context-sensitive linking between these web-based resources; whereby the target of a link depends on the digital library collection of the institution to which the user who requested the link is affiliated. No more "dead" links whereby the user clicks on a link to navigate to a new information space but finds that they do not have rights of access to the resource to which they have linked and are therefore blocked from access.

SFX allows the librarian to define the library's electronic collection, including both licensed and freely available resources; and to determine the manner in which the component resources can be linked to best suit the library's users.

Many information providers have already enabled SFX linking for their resources whether these are hosted by the provider themselves or locally by the institution. The number of adopters is growing rapidly. [See a list of these](#). SFX linking uses an emerging protocol for interoperability between information resources and service components that allows for localization in an open linking framework -- the OpenURL. SFX complements existing important linking initiatives such as CrossRef.

[Try SFX](#) to see how SFX can meet the research needs of your users.

QuickLinks

News: [Gale Adopts SFX OpenURL Standard](#)

31 October, 2001 - Farmington Hills, MI

News: [OCLC offers OpenURL option for libraries](#) - 25 October, 2001 - Dublin, OH

News: [Ex Libris \(USA\), Inc. Announces Multiple SFX Sales](#), June 16, 2001 - Chicago, IL

Articles: [Generalizing the OpenURL Framework beyond References to Scholarly Works: The Bison-Futé Model](#), D-Lib Magazine, July/August 2001

Presentations: [SFX @ IFLA](#): Oren Beit-Arie's presentation at the 67th IFLA Council and General Conference of Libraries and Librarians: Making a Difference in the Knowledge Age, Boston, MA USA August 2001.

Upcoming Events: Visit us at the [Online Information 2001 Conference](#) in London England 4-6 December, 2001. We will be located in Stand Number 405: Ground Floor, Olympia Grand Hall, London.

This page last updated on: 29 November, 2001