

UK LOCKSS Alliance Roundup

Today's scholarly content, secured for tomorrow

This is the latest periodic news bulletin reporting developments in UK LOCKSS Alliance functionality and content. In this bulletin we report on new functionality that has been released recently or is currently being tested in beta version, and on the costs and benefits of UKLA membership.

New functionality

The developments reported here are part of an ongoing endeavour by the LOCKSS development team to ensure that the LOCKSS software can integrate easily with library infrastructure.

Released Functionality

The following two features help UKLA members use LOCKSS in their local library environment.

- Link resolver integration: Access, via the library catalogue, to content preserved in a LOCKSS box can be provided by integrating LOCKSS with link resolver systems.

 Documentation is available online at http://www.lockss.org/support/use-a-lockss-box/view-your-preserved-content/. The LOCKSS software can be integrated with Ex Libris' SFX, Serials Solutions 360Link, and Innovative Interfaces WebBridge. Development is nearing completion for EBSCOHost LinkSource and OCLC WorldCat.
- Title list: This feature displays the status of content that is available for preservation or is preserved in your LOCKSS box. You can use this feature to generate three kinds of KBART-compliant reports: (1) a report of titles and volumes that are 'available' for preservation in your LOCKSS box; (2) a report of the titles and volumes that you have configured for preservation in your LOCKSS box so that they may be ingested when they are available; and (3) a report of the titles and volumes that you have 'collected' in your LOCKSS box and that are now available for end users to access.

Experimental Functionality

Three new 'experimental' functions are now available and are being tested by the LOCKSS membership. If you wish to participate in beta testing of these functions, please contact edina@ed.ac.uk.

- Subscription Manager: To reduce collection management requirements, system administrators will use the Subscription Manager to register institutional 'holdings' for each title so that when new volumes are released, these are configured automatically for collection by the institution's LOCKSS box.
- Display Content Status: To assist with collection management the Display Content Status function shows you what content is configured for collection and, within that, what has been collected successfully and where problems have arisen.
- COUNTER reports: To assist with reporting on the value of investment, LOCKSS can now generate reports compliant with the latest COUNTER Code of practice for e-resources (Release 4; http://www.projectcounter.org/code_practice. html). It is possible to generate COUNTER reports for journals (reports 1 and 5) and books (reports 1 and 2). Each report appears in two versions, one of them with the postfix "L" (for "L"OCKSS).

- » Reports with the "L" postfix include all the usage requested through the LOCKSS box. By default, when content is requested through a LOCKSS box the request is forwarded to the publisher. If the publisher's content is different or newer than that preserved by the LOCKSS box, the publisher's version is served. The "L" report includes these usages.
- » The reports without the "L" postfix include only usage where the LOCKSS box could not involve the publisher (which is rare) to avoid double-counting the hits. The underlying assumption is that the publisher will include, in its own COUNTER report, the hits of which it is aware.

The 'Subscription Manager', 'Display Contents Status' and 'COUNTER Reports' are disabled by default. Enabling these features requires only that you add short strings of text to ExpertConfig and restart LOCKSS. For details see the blog post at http://www.lockssalliance.ac.uk/2013/10/28/new-experimental-features-in-lockss/.

Case studies

In Spring 2013, UKLA published three case studies documenting the experience of three UKLA members. The studies describe: the benefits and value derived by institutions including through use of some of the newer functions; the work involved in using LOCKSS; and further developments that these institutions would like to see.

Benefits cited by members include that 'the reliability of LOCKSS as a source of content to address short-term outages instills confidence in its reliability as a long-term preservation solution', that 'it's reassuring for users to see the content in the box as evidence that it is safely preserved and can be accessed', and that 'the LOCKSS box is held locally and thus is under the control of the library. The library decides what to archive.'

The case studies are published on the blog at http://www.lockssalliance.ac.uk/participating-institutions/case-studies/

Costs of participating in UKLA

The UKLA Finance Working Group recently calculated the cost of participation, including membership fee, staff time and hardware, for institutions of different sizes (based on JISC bands). Costs vary depending on the volume of content preserved but a typical institution can expect to spend approximately £4K p.a. on staff and hardware while membership fees range from £1.8K to £5K p.a. (see the Jisc Collections web pages for details: http://www.jisc-collections.ac.uk/Catalogue/FullDescription/index/1557).

Institutions wishing to join UKLA will find information about membership and details of how to join at http://www.jisc-collections.ac.uk/Catalogue/Agreements/YearlyAgreements/1557.





