

Two weeks after the fact, here's what I remember from the Systems Roundtable discussion at NAAUG 2003. To whoever runs this session next year: ask someone to take notes before we get started.

To begin with, the room was quite full, people were even standing in the back. As opposed to last year, where only 6 or 8 people showed up for either the enhancement discussion or the roundtable, which were separate events.

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We talked about the enhancement process, what our role as system administrators should be. Chris Meyer, and perhaps other Steering Committee members who were present, would take our thoughts back to Steering Committee.

--Were there other "big issues" to cover in future years, or had we caught them all this year?

We thought that other big issues might be identified in coming years, especially as we really concentrated on "systems" issues this first year.

Note that we still don't know how Ex Libris is going to handle these larger development requests.

--Do we need to be able to submit regular enhancements as well as the big issues?

Yes, we do have regular, small enhancement issues like everyone else. Even though they don't tend to get many votes.

--Should there be a "systems analyst" on each of the other functional groups, to help communicate which Aleph tables or Z tables might be involved, and just to help with general understanding of the issues?

We thought this was a good idea, and at least one person in the room volunteered to be on each of the other groups. (At a later session, the new enhancement group chairs were told that we offered to do this.)

We still want to keep a system administration enhancement group in addition to this.

Did we actually brainstorm any ideas for next year? I didn't take any notes on that.

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Outcomes of the Ad hoc Reporting group from last year.

I don't think this group discussed this much, as more of an update was given at another session. But here are some notes.

Some progress was stalled due to the departure of Carl Grant.

There is a new table Z00-R which breaks down the Z00 (document record) into individual fields. This is available with version 15. I believe it was noted later that this table takes about the same amount of space as the regular Z00.

Ex Libris is looking at various options for supporting a 3<sup>rd</sup> party reporting tool.

Normalization of the database will not happen with the Aleph 500 architecture. It would require a total overhaul of the system. This would be something for Ex Libris to consider when they go to Aleph 600 or whatever the future holds.

Did somebody say there is finally a Data Dictionary in progress?

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We did an informal poll of what version of Aleph different sites are running.

A couple of sites are on 12.4.

Most are on various patches of 14.2.

Some newer customers are live on 15.2 or 15.3.

One is upgrading now to version 16, available to the rest of us next year.

I don't think any brand new version 16 sites were present.

Upgrade plans:

Some sites are going to version 15 this Summer.

At least 2 plan to make the move from 14.2 to 16 next Summer.

No-frames OPAC:

Version 15 sites have only no-frames as an option.

Several sites are working on their no-frames customization with 14.2.5 or higher.

(MIT may be the first 14.2 site in production with no-frames. June 11.)

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Someone asked about Oracle versions, in particular when will version 9i be supported? 8i goes off Oracle support at the end of the year.

Ex Libris had already said they would answer this at the Q & A session. See the answer there.