

# *The Open Platform Strategy: What It Means for Library Developers*

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26 February 2009

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code{4}lib  
CONFERENCE 2009

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- [Operating systems \(Computers\) \(317\)](#)
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 Next » [1757]

 **Proceedings of the ... Annual Linux Showcase and Conference.** Add to favorites



**ALS**  
by Linux Showcase and Conference  
Published 2000

 **Serial**  **Available Online**


| Location                                | Status                     | Call Number / Description |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Electronic Resources                    | Full text                  | 2000- Online version:     |
| HathiTrust Digital Library              | Search only (no full text) |                           |
| Art Architecture & Engineering Basement | On shelf                   | QA 76.76 .D49 L56         |

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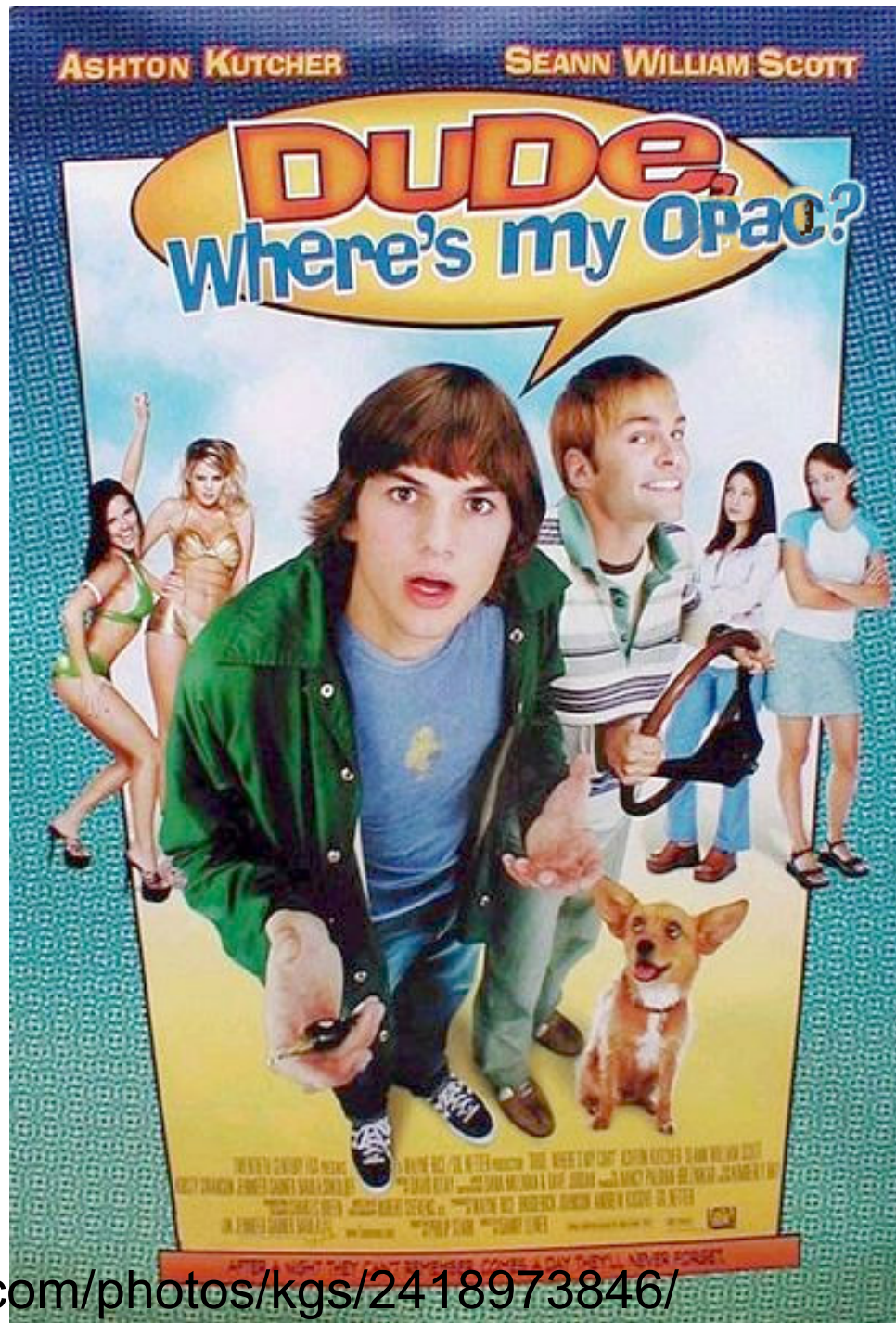
 **The official Damn Small Linux book : the tiny adaptable Linux that runs on anything / Robert Shingledecker, John Andrews, Christopher Negus.** Add to favorites

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# MACGYVER

All he needed was a ball-point pen and a paper clip.



# VuFind!

- The **one stop shop** for all library resources
- Completely **customizable** interface
- Allow for **easy integration** into your library website template
- Connect your ILS for **live status** information
- and **Open Source!**

# Open APIs/Web Services

- ◆ The term Open API is not new (at least 1993)
- ◆ Definition of Open varies
- ◆ Basically it means that the API is open to third parties to program against
- ◆ Web Services
  - ◆ “a software system designed to support interoperable, machine-to-interaction over a network” (WC3)
  - ◆ A type of networked based API
- APIs allow diverse systems to interact

# Library APIs

- ◆ Open Library
- ◆ Talis Platform
- ◆ Hathi Trust
- ◆ Scopus
- ◆ LibraryThing
- ◆ OCLC
- ◆ Ex Libris's Open Platform





# State of Libraries and the Internet

- ◆ The Library is no longer the only place to search for books

- ◆ Google, Yahoo, Amazon



- ◆ Mass digitization projects

- ◆ However, libraries still offer content and valuable services



- ◆ Books (physical, E-books, ILL, etc.)

- ◆ Journals (physical and paid access)

- ◆ Space

- ◆ Reference assistance



# Library Software Environment

- ◆ Proprietary Software still dominates for mission critical applications
- ◆ Open Source is used by many if not most libraries
- ◆ Both are here to stay
- ◆ TOC (Total Cost of Ownership) is roughly equal to proprietary commercial model (Breeding)
  - ◆ A recent analysis by a major ARL found that implementing an open source discovery tool, instead of Primo, was 35% **more** expensive (based on years 1-4). (Grant)
  - ◆ Georgia PINES apparently found different



# Dis-integrated Library System

alpha list of  
databases

- Licensing Files
- ILL Files
- Collection Management Files
- Helpdesk Files
- Statistical Files



subject list of  
databases

web  
subject  
guides



e-journal  
finder

Serials  
Solutions

SFX

TDNet

institutional  
repository



alert  
services

- websites (856)
- e-books
- e-journals
- databases





# No One Can Do It All

- ◆ Vendors can not be all things to all customers
  - ◆ Different customers have different needs
- ◆ Libraries want to:
  - ◆ Customize for local environment
  - ◆ Emphasis on institutional mission and values
  - ◆ Management may not make the commitment necessary to go completely Open Source



# Ex Libris Open Platform Strategy

- ◆ Provide robust solutions that are “Open”
- ◆ Support and encourage customers who wish to extend Ex Libris products with their own code
- ◆ Facilitate collaboration and sharing of ideas



# Ex Libris Open Interfaces

- ◆ API: Web services and X-services
- ◆ Deep links, persistent URLs
- ◆ Plug-ins (e.g., enrichment in Primo)
- ◆ Adapters (e.g., real-time availability in Primo)





# Ex Libris Open Platform Program

- ◆ Internally—development efforts
  - ◆ Formalized the process by which Ex Libris designs, implements, documents and publishes its open interfaces
- ◆ Externally—working with the community
  - ◆ Publish documentation for open interfaces
  - ◆ Host community code
  - ◆ Provide tools for collaboration
  - ◆ Conduct face-to-face meetings with customer developers

# Benefits for Libraries

- ◆ Don't have to develop whole solutions
- ◆ Can focus on the “last mile”
- ◆ Endless customizations
- ◆ Adding or adjusting functionality
- ◆ Easier (and better) integration your services with other systems
- ◆ Enables collaboration between libraries

 Search

Most recent Wiki updates

|       |                      |                   |  |
|-------|----------------------|-------------------|--|
| watch | <b>Aleph</b>         | 1/15/09 10:46 PM  | Martin Knott, <a href="#">Systems, ARC, and Reporting 2009</a> |
| watch | <b>Voyager</b>       | 1/15/09 12:04 AM  | Brenda Kerwin, <a href="#">Tomcat WebVoyage Sites</a>          |
| watch | <b>SFX</b>           | 9/18/08 12:05 AM  | yoni meidan, <a href="#">User documentation</a>                |
| watch | <b>MetaLib</b>       | 12/16/08 11:37 AM | Sharon Adams, <a href="#">yoni</a>                             |
| watch | <b>Verde</b>         | 1/16/09 6:26 PM   | Heather Tunender, <a href="#">Implementation Status</a>        |
| watch | <b>Primo</b>         | 1/7/09 6:36 PM    | Hanan Jacob, <a href="#">How to create a Custom Tile</a>       |
| watch | <b>DigiTool</b>      | 9/18/08 12:21 AM  | yoni meidan, <a href="#">How Tos</a>                           |
| watch | <b>Rosetta</b>       | 1/12/09 11:13 AM  | Hani Iluz, <a href="#">Webload_test</a>                        |
| watch | <b>Cross Product</b> | 9/18/08 12:46 AM  | yoni meidan, <a href="#">How to</a>                            |

Developer Zone

Recently Updated Code

MetaLib Automatic Monthly Statistics Gathering Script  
Creator: Ere Maijala; Updated by Ere Maijala 21 Jan

A script for creating a report of invalid subfields  
Creator: Ere Maijala; Updated by Ere Maijala 20 Jan

A script for creating a report of suspicious nonfiling indicators  
Creator: Ere Maijala; Updated by Ere Maijala 20 Jan

Extract data for VuFind  
Creator: Roy Zimmer; Updated by Roy Zimmer 08 Jan

Browse Code

Tags

- %space% **00api00**
- 00apishome00 00code00
- 00developersion00 00metalib00
- 00section00 accessibility
- accessible adaptor advanced aleph



# EL Commons

- ◆ Wiki
  - ◆ Managed by user groups (ELUNA and IGeLU)
  - ◆ Focus on existing functionality: Tips, shortcuts, how-tos
- ◆ Developer Zone
  - ◆ Managed but not controlled by Ex Libris
  - ◆ A place for Code that extends the products functionality



| Name   | Type          | Summary   |
|--|---------------|---|
| <a href="#">Brief Search</a>   | X-Service     | The search/brief request performs a search request.   |
| <a href="#">Primo X-Services and Web Services guidelines</a>             | Documentation | Primo X/web services guidelines   |
| <a href="#">searchRequest</a>  | Web Service   | Performs a search request   |
| <a href="#">RTA Adapter</a>  | Adapter       | Allows end users to get the availability statuses for physical items in "real time" from the source system. For each source system, Primo requires an RTA plug-in to analyze the records from the data source and to update the availability statuses of the requested items.   |
| <a href="#">Enrich Indexing plug-in</a>                                  | Plug-In       | The Enrich indexing plug-in enables loading of content from external sources (such as tables of content and abstracts) that can be used to enrich Primo's indexes. The content is used to enrich the indexing and will not be displayed.  |
| <a href="#">Deep Search Adapter</a>                                      | Adapter       | Deep Search (previously called Third Node) is a Primo plug-in that enables customers to replace or enhance the standard Primo search engine with their own search engine functionality using the standard Primo services and view. This plug-in allows sites to extend Primo search capabilities beyond Primo local search and remote search via MetaLib. |
| <a href="#">Enrichment Plug-in</a>                                       | Plug-In       |   |
| <a href="#">PushTo Plug-In (export records to social bookmark sites)</a> | Plug-In       | The PushTo Plug-In allows customers to indicate which social bookmark services (Connotea, Delicious, RefWorks, etc...) display in the FE, and enables customers to add new social bookmark sites to that list. This plug-in provides several options in order to customize how the required information exports to various social bookmark sites.         |
| <a href="#">Add Folder to E-Shelf</a>                                    | X-Service     | The eshelf add Folder request adds a specific folder to the e-Shelf.  |
| <a href="#">Brief Search (Deep Link)</a>                                 | Deep Link     | The dlSearch.do request performs a search request.  |
| <a href="#">Full View (Deep Link)</a>                                    | Deep Link     | The dlDisplay.do request displays the full view of the requested item.  |
| <a href="#">Get E-Shelf (Deep Link)</a>                                  | Deep Link     | The dlBasketGet.do request returns the content of a specific user's e-Shelf.  |
| <a href="#">getReviewsRequest</a>  | Web Service   | Provides the reviews of a specific item   |
| <a href="#">removeUserTagsRequest</a>                                    | Web Service   | Removes all the tags of a specific user   |

Your rating is: ☆☆☆☆☆ Average score: ★★★★★ (2 ratings)



ExLibris Aleph

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[Home](#) > [Aleph](#) > [Query MetaLib X-server from ALEPH OPAC](#)

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## Query MetaLib X-server from ALEPH OPAC

**Tags:** [00code00](#), [php](#), [metalib](#), [opac](#), [x-server](#), [prototype](#), [ajax](#), [federated](#), [search](#), [javascript](#)

**Last Updated:** Sep 16, 2008 10:58

**Author:** [Daniel Forsman](#)

**Institution:** [H?gskolan i J?nk?ping](#)

**Year:** 2008

**License:** BSD style

**Short description:** Use, modification and distribution of the code are permitted provided the copyright notice, list of conditions and disclaimer appear in all related material.

**Link to terms:** [Detailed license terms](#)

**Skill required for using this code:**

intermediate/advanced

- [Description](#)
- [State](#)
- [Screen captures](#)
- [Author\(s\) homepage](#)
- [Download](#)
- [Working example](#)
- [Using the following Ex Libris API](#)
- [Known issues](#)
- [Installation instructions](#)
- [Comments](#)

### Description

## Description

When a search is done in the local OPAC the query is passed to MetaLib X-server and search results are displayed in the OPAC. This is a way to give the users a small federated search from within the OPAC. Putting the local search in a broader context.

## State

Stable

## Screen captures

Databases Books Journals Newspapers Articles Encyclopedias Theses Publications

See also

- ▶ Svenska
- ▶ JULIA Help
- ▶ Register for a library card
- ▶ Journals at Jönköping University Library
- ▶ New books
- ▶ e-JULIA
- ▶ LIBRIS
- ▶ Google Book Search

Metasearch

Searching  
Academic Search Elite  
Google Scholar  
Science Direct.  
The search may take up to **30 seconds**.

LIBRIS Results  
*National union catalog*

1. [PHP essentials](#) Meloni, Julie C.
2. [Beginning PHP4](#)
3. [PHP 4 programming](#) Ek, Jesper
4. [Core PHP programming](#) Atkinson, Leon

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### JULIA - Results

**Hint!**  
There are more e-books on PHP in the database Books 24x7!

*Free text= php*

Showing 1 - 20 of 155

Go to

Sort by:  
[Author](#) | [Title](#) | [Year](#)

- #1  [Oracle database AJAX & PHP web application development /](#)  
cop. 2008. Barney, Lee  
**BOOK**
- #2  [PHP and MySQL for dynamic web sites New ed.](#)  
2008.. Ullman, Larry E.  
**E-PUBLICATION**

## Author(s) homepage

<http://www.bibl.hj.se>

## Download

See attachments.

## Working example

[http://julia.hj.se/F/?func=find-b&request=php&find\\_code=WRD&adjacent=N&x=0&y=0&CON\\_LNG=ENG](http://julia.hj.se/F/?func=find-b&request=php&find_code=WRD&adjacent=N&x=0&y=0&CON_LNG=ENG)

## Using the following Ex Libris API

MetaLib X-Server : Find\_request

## Known issues

MetaLib response time

## Installation instructions

**Requirements:** You will need PHP5 installed on your Aleph OPAC webserver.

1. Download the javascript framework Prototype
2. Make Prototype available in your OPAC. We include it in meta-tags.

```
<script type="text/javascript" src="path_to_where_you_put_it/prototype.js" ></script>
```

3. Create a id where you want to include the results of the search. We use a "invisible" span that is included on all pages on the head-1-XXX pages like this in head-1-bor-XXX01.

```
<span id="metasearch"></span>
```

On a side-note if you have a html template for navigation etc a good tip is not to repeat that on every page but instead create a include-file for head-1-bor, head-1-nobor etc.

4. Include the metalib.js javascript that catches the searchterm and sends of the query via AJAX to the PHP backend script. The script parses the URL for the function=find-b variable. If it is there it tries to catch the search terms and pass them on. If there is no find-b the script does nothing. So you can include it in the same



# Developer Meets Developer



- ◆ Ex Libris:
  - ◆ First meeting—November 2008 (Brought together 13 developers representing 10 institutions and 5 countries (Aleph, Primo, MetaLib, SFX))
  - ◆ Next meeting—March 2009 (at the Voyager R&D center in Chicago)

- ◆ OCLC
  - ◆ NYPL
  - ◆ Code4Lib Preconference



# OCLC Grid Services

- WorldCat Search API
- Registry Services
- Identifier Services
- WorldCat Identities
- Terminology Services
- Metadata Crosswalk Services




Main Page – WorldCat Developers' Network

http://worldcat.org/devnet/wiki/Main\_Page

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Log in / create account



## WorldCat Developer's Network

The WorldCat Developer's Network is a community of developers collaborating in a "sandbox" environment in order to propose, discuss and test [WorldCat Grid Services](#). This open source, code-sharing infrastructure improves the value of OCLC data for all users by encouraging new Grid Service uses.

The WorldCat Grid Developer's Network is a group of developers who will:

- help shape the future of WorldCat Grid Services;
- engage in discussion and focus groups relative to current and proposed services;
- share software code with other network members and the community-at-large in an open source environment; and,
- provide feedback points for the library community to engage with.

### How do I participate in the Network?

- You missed the first [WorldCat Hackathon](#), November 7-8 at the New York Public Library, but don't worry, we'll probably do it again. Plus, you can at least download the presentations and [see some pictures](#).
- Membership in the network is open to any developer in the library services industry, and to any other informed, interested user of library services.
- There is no charge to be a member of the network.
- OCLC hosts this wiki space and [a blog](#) for members to use for communication and code posting.
- OCLC hosts the Developer's Network Listserv. To subscribe, visit [this](#) page and look for WC-DEVNET-L at the bottom. Participation in mailing lists is open to anyone, as is access to any information on the Developer's Network web site.

### Learn more about OCLC Grid Services

Including... WorldCat API, xID services, Registry services

[Learn about EZproxy: http://www.oclc.org/ezproxy/](http://www.oclc.org/ezproxy/)

This page was last modified on 24 January 2009, at 00:59. This page has been accessed 8,034 times. © 2009 OCLC Privacy policy About WorldCat Developers' Network

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Done

*The Open Platform Strategy: What It  
Means for Library Developers*

***Thank You!***

**Edward M. Corrado**

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<http://ecorrado.us>

IRC, Twitter, Identi.ca: **ecorrado**



code{4}lib  
CONFERENCE 2009

# Further Reading about Ex Libris

- ◆ The Exlibrian newsletter, July 2008 issue  
(<http://www.exlibrisgroup.com>)
- ◆ The IGeLU newsletter, November 2008 issue  
(<http://igelu.org>)
- ◆ The Exlibrian newsletter, July 2008 issue  
(<http://www.exlibrisgroup.com>)
- ◆ Presentation at IGeLU in Docportal  
(customers only)