



VDDOT

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Repurposing Content From Library Automation Systems

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Virginia Transportation Research Council

- Established in 1946.
- The research division of VDOT.
- Today staffed by about 60 full-time researchers.
- Publishes 45-65 reports a year.
- Library: Est. 1954
- Media Team: Est. 1960s
- Web Page: Est. 1996
- Public Affairs: Est. 2004

VTRC Library

- Established in 1954.
- Served VTRC (150) not all of VDOT (9,500)
- Staffed by a solo paraprofessional.
- Cataloged in local “card catalog” using BPR.
- No automation.
- No OCLC participation.
- No data to share no system to share it.

OCLC and an Online Catalog

- 2002: RFP for library system...InMagic selected.
- 2002: First library professional hired.
- 2003: Automation software and hardware.
- 2003: Second library professional hired.
- 2003: VDOT holdings in OCLC WorldCat.
- 2004: VDOT holdings in OCLC TLCAT.
- 2005: VDOT ILL in OCLC.
- 2006: Expand holdings/cataloging backlog.
- 2007: Scanning project and virtual content.

The Internet Sands Were Shifting...

- 1996: VTRC Web Sites Est. <http://pratt.vtrc.virginia.edu/index.html>
- 1998: Domain Name 2... <http://vdot.state.va.us/vtrc>
- 2002: Web Site Redesign
- 2003: VTRC Library Establishes InMagic Catalog
- 2004: Library Offers Data to Power VTRC Web Site
- 2005: Domain Name 3... <http://www.virginiadot.org/vtrc>
- 2006: Web Site Redesign...Pulls from InMagic System
- 2006: Domain Name 4... <http://vtrc.virginiadot.org/>
- 2006: VDOT Server Architecture Overhaul
- 2006: Gov. Mandates Another Web Site Redesign
- 2007: Library Deploys New EOS System
- 2007: Web Site Redesigns...Pulls from EOS System
- 2007-2008: New Web Functionality, Scanning Project

That's...

- 4 Domain name changes.
- 4 Web site overhauls.
- 1 Server arch. overhaul.
- 2 Library automation system.

During This Time...

- 1997: 0 Reports
- 2001: 85 Reports
- 2002: 110 Reports
- 2003: 135 Reports (VTRC Reports)
- 2004: 160 Reports (VTRC & Contract Reports)
- 2005: 215 Reports
- 2006: 275 Reports
- 2007: 375 Reports Online (**Scanning Starts**)
- 2008: 1,500 Reports Online?

Library Standards

- Library Automation Systems (standardized tool).
- MARC Record format (true standard).
- OCLC participation (de facto library standard).
- PDF (de facto file format standard).

Library Automation System 1

- InMagic DB/Textworks, DB Text for Libraries, DB Text for Web, all mounted to local server
- Purpose 1: To manage the library's holdings.
- Purpose 2: To manage the library function.
- Purpose 3: To enhance access to holdings.

Pros: Flexibility

- Something is better than nothing.
- Managed some library functions adequately.
- GREAT for creating and managing other types of databases that can help a library be effective.
- ODBC driver did allow us to access, reuse library data outside standard library catalog container.

Cons: Problems From the Start

- Not MARC based, extra work to “translate” out of MARC, can not easily translate back...
- Required some customization & compromise.
- Married us to one vendor...that’s a fragile model.
- Did not let us share, even with other InMagic libraries.

Library Automation System 2

- EOS
- Purpose 1: To manage the library's holdings.
- Purpose 2: To manage the library function.
- Purpose 3: To enhance access to holdings.

Pros: Managed Library Functions Better

- Hosted by outside vendor...publicly accessible.
- Manages library functions well, some very well.
- Allows us to create “non-catalog” databases...we still use InMagic.
- “Web Services” module allows us to access, reuse data outside the Library Catalog “Container.”

Cons: Problems From the Start

- Required some customization, but not much.
- Search function had to be tweaked.
- Required migration of data from InMagic proprietary format to MARC standardized format...not small feat.
- Help OCLC!

Library Catalog Records: The Content

- What kind of content do we want here?
- Where we get most of it...OCLC!
- How will we maintain it, how often modify it.
- Can we make it available to others, internal and external.

Must Have Elements...

- Must help us effectively run the library.
- Must be MARC compliant.
- Search and Discovery... **AND** Cataloging, Acquisitions, Circulation, Patron Functions...
- Must let us pull data from and push it to other VDOT systems (not just library holdings).

Library Approached by Leadership

- Did the library catalog have data on VTRC reports we could “export” to populate the tables of a database-driven Web page?
- Yes...depending on what data you need.
- Let’s take it further: Create a process so new reports automatically appear on VTRC site!

P.A.: Web Developers and Designers

- How it looks and how it works. The user's experience.

Media: Writing/Editing/Publishing

- Dissemination...getting reports into the hands of people who need them.

Library & Information Services

- Accurate, consistent data. Making sure it “won't get lost.”

Public Affairs...

- Understands “the power of perception”
- Creative and imaginative.
- Can help organizations adopt new trends and communicate with consumers.

Media or Publications Unit...

- Internal/external print distribution lists.
- Good at managing files for reprints.
- Printing, binding, packing, posting and shipping.

Library and Information Professionals...

- Organizing large amounts of info.
- Search and discovery.
- Networking **AND** sharing with other libraries (local, national and intl.) OCLC!
- Long-term access and preservation.
- Scanning and copyright issues.

1st Gen. Static Web Page: 1997-2002

- Basically an online business card.
- Evolved to have key contact info.

2nd Gen. Static Web Page: 2002-2006

- General “About Us” Info.
- Details about teams and VTRC structure.
- Long lists of “recent reports.”

[DEMO](#)

Internet

Person
Searching



**File
Server**

3rd Gen. "Dynamic" Web Page: 2006-

- Ability to Search reports (library data)
- “Featured Reports” and “Browse All”
- Additional sorting options.
- Increase from 375 to 2,500 online reports.
- Improved data? (abstracts)
- Beta testing: Alerts.

DEMO

Worked with Both InMagic and EOS

- InMagic: Used Asp.net and ODBC Driver
- EOS: Used Asp.net and “Web Services”

Library Catalog Search

- Ability to search VTRC reports...and about 25,000 other holdings.
- Sorting, saving and exporting options.
- Web 2.0: Create lists, RSS, check account, request help...

Where This Query is True...

**VTRC is
Corporate
Author**

((Corporate_Author LIKE '*Virginia Transportation Research Council*') OR (Corporate_Author LIKE '*Virginia Highway & Transportation Research Council*') OR (Corporate_Author LIKE '*Virginia Highway Research Council*') OR (Corporate_Author LIKE '*Virginia Council of Highway Investigation and Research*'))

**VTRC
Report**

AND ((Series LIKE '*VTRC*') OR (Series LIKE '*VHTRC*') OR (Series LIKE '*Historic Roads of Virginia*') OR (Series LIKE '*VHRC*') OR (Series LIKE '*VCHIR*'))

**Full Text
Link!**

AND (URL IS NOT NULL)

Pull This Data...

- ID,
- TitleSubTitle,
- Author,
- Pub_Date,
- Series,
- Abstract,
- Report_Number,
- URL,
- Record_Created,
- Date_Modified,
-

And Make These Minor Modifications...

- Add or remove punctuation
- Reverse author names
- Remove brackets (around dates, etc.)

Internet

Person Searching



Final
Web
Page

VDOT

FIREWALL

DMZ

VTRC
Asp.net

Web Site C#

XML
to
HTML

VDOT

FIREWALL

VDOT Internal Network

VTRC Web Service
Asp.net



Data Stored:
Microsoft SQL
Server 2000



MS Data
Transformation
Services (DTS)
Job

InMagic
Library
Catalog



And Display So That...

- Stylistically: It looks any way you want.
(Public Affairs, Marketing, Publishing)
- Functionally: It behaves any way you want.
(Programmers, Developers)
- Technically: Data is Accurate and Consistent.
(Library & Info. Pros)

Where This Query is True...

VTRC in
"Series"
Field

Search Series field for:
("VTRC" or "VHTRC" or "VHRC:" or "VCHIR")
MARC 490 and 830

Full Text
Link!

AND ("*" in URL)
856 subfield u

Pull This Data...

MARC 830: Publication number

MARC 245ab: Title, Subtitle

MARC 260c: Date

MARC 520a: Abstract

MARC 100a: Author

MARC 700a: Author

MARC 856u: URL

MARC 690a: Alert Terms

Internet

Person Searching



Final Web Page

VDOT

FIREWALL

DMZ

VTRC Asp.net

Web Site C#

XML to HTML

VDOT

FIREWALL

VDOT Internal Network

VTRC Web Service Asp.net

Data Stored: Microsoft SQL Server 2000

EOS Web Services C# .exe file

XML

XML

EOS Library Catalog

3 Options for Repurposing Library Data

- One-time data export.

Pro: Save time, ensure accuracy, leverage content.

Con: Works...but only for one moment in time.

- Periodic export (monthly, weekly, quarterly)

Pro: Time, accuracy, leverage content.

Con: What about new reports and “updates”?

- Automated export

Pro: Run daily and let your pages build themselves.

Con: 3C-Commitment, Communication, Compromise

Requirements for Success

- Commitment to the Process.
- Willingness to Communicate.
- Ability to Compromise.
- Int. to adv. programmer close at hand.
- An objective team leader with no “territory” or “agendas.”

*It's harder to get people to cooperate
and communicate than to get
machines to cooperate
and communicate.*



Questions/Comments?

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