

Natan Lev on early ALEPH Version numbers and history

My recollection of early version history as follows:

Aleph 100 was never a production version, the name probably only used for the pilot version with data from the Kaplan library on the cdc in 1981? The first production version on the cdc was aleph 2.x.? To my recollection version number was always an expression of functionality and not of platform. So the first vms version number was equal or close to the production cdc. Similarly the first aleph 300 which was written on unix/oracle was converted to vms with the same 300 version number. Same principle though this time in the opposite direction.

I recall a trip to Spain (1988?) where the Aleph 2.x was still running on CDC at csic in Madrid. It had been sold by Amdox (pre ex-Libris) after vms was already production. I set up vms and upgraded including conversion to lower-case (the cdc was 6-bit technology) That was the end of Aleph Cdc. It had probably been installed 86 though vms was up and running a couple of years by then. The same trip I recall installing vms in 5 or 6 places throughout Spain and returning to Madrid every couple of days to see how the conversion/upload was cooking. Took about 2 weeks.

Natan, Does this sound correct:

- *The original Aleph was referred to as "Aleph" (and, as you note, later, as "ALEPH 100", a bit), then*
- *"Aleph 2" or "ALEPH 200", which were used interchangeably(?), then*
- *Aleph 300 and Aleph 500*

aleph 2, aleph 300(unix and VMS), aleph 500.

(no-one used the name aleph 200 - only retroactively in the context of 300 etc.)

But regarding Aleph 1 (and in contradiction with what I said earlier) There were production versions of Aleph 1 (I recall 1.7?) on the Cdc but the upgrades on the CDC ran through 2.1, 2.2 etc. as well as them being the functional basis for the first VMS Aleph 2 products.