

Ex Libris Customer SFX/MetaLib (2000-5) Questionnaire – Richard McCart

1...What is your name and the name of the institution(s) where you worked with SFX, MetaLib, or other Ex Libris products?

Richard McCart, RMIT University Library, worked with SFX, MetaLib, Voyager, Verde, Primo and Alma.

2...When did your site install Ex Libris software and when did you start working with it?

*SFX/MetaLib 2003, Voyager 2006, Verde 2008, Primo 2011, Alma 2013
SFX/MetaLib training Oct. 2003 with the AARLIN consortium, July 2004 MetaLib on RMIT server.*

3...What was your job title, or, more generally, what did you do? Were there particular projects you were involved in?

RMIT AARLIN coordinator, Information Systems Librarian. Implementation, configuration and testing of SFX, MetaLib, Verde, Voyager Cataloguing and Serials functions.

Thinking especially of the 2000-2005 time period....

4...Who were Ex Libris' main competitors?

Dynix, Geac, Advance GeoWeb, Endeavour

5...Why were SFX and MetaLib as successful as they were? Why did customers go with them rather than similar products?

SFX made good use of the OpenURL specification, MetaLib organized databases and provided searching, Verde helped with licences and renewals. They provided the best available functionality.

6...Comments on the role of SMUG users group?

SMUG users group provided comments on updates to software when user groups were a novelty.

7...Were there particularly interesting/valuable Ex Libris staff that you remember?

We had most of our training and implementation from the Adelaide office. Staff I can remember are Glenda Rousseau and Jo-Ann Rivers. Also Meg Bate who was the Project Manager for the AARLIN implementation.

8...Are there particular interesting, fun, or odd things that you remember?

Finding names for the public implementations of SFX and MetaLib. Finally decided on "Search It" and "Find It". Getting the right sized GIF for SFX to add to vendors websites. Trying to get Verde and Voyager to talk to each other.