

Ex Libris History, 1978-2005 Last updated, 7-Oct-2021

Red = 23-Mar-2017 update Green = new since 23-Apr-2017 update Orange = 17-Sep-2017 update Blue = 15-Mar-2018 update Purple 7-Oct-2021

In general, the site is organized chronologically. The **bolded** entries are of especial interest.

Click here for a somewhat more [mobile-friendly version of this page](#).

1. [Timeline of Ex Libris history \(1978-2005\)](#)
2. [Judy Levi answers questions about early ALEPH history](#)
3. [Oren, Yohanan, and Jerry's discussion of ALEPH/Ex Libris history](#)
4. Avner Navin: [My part in the history of Ex Libris \(1978-1999\)](#)
5. [1980 Control Data \(Israel\) Application Report on ALEPH](#) (-- largely written by Judy Levi) (with photos)
6. Elhanan Adler's Powerpoint (in English): ["An introduction to information technology in libraries ... in Israel and the world"](#), covering 1972-83; [the preceding in its original Hebrew](#)
7. [1980 Hebrew University ALEPH Guide \(in Hebrew\)](#), courtesy of Joan Kolarik
8. Prof.(Em.) Michel Bercovier:
 - a. [My personal story of Aleph-Yissum \(Ex Libris\) \(1983-1996\)](#)
 - b. Bercovier [Aleph-Yissum / Hebrew U / Ex Libris documents](#)
9. [Udi Arad's History of Ex Libris, in three chapters \(1986-2002\)](#)
10. [Jerry's \(audio\) interview of Oren Beit-Arie](#)
11. Judy Levi's 1989 article ["Library Automation in the University Libraries of Israel"](#) + [another version of same](#) (courtesy of Oren Maurer)
12. [1980's Hebrew University ALEPH Documents \(from Yoel Kortick's "Ex Libris Historical Documents" collection--\)](#)
13. [First contract \(1991\) between Aleph and Ex Libris](#) (in Hebrew) (courtesy of Matti and Adiya R.)
14. May 1991 [letter from Technical University of Budapest to Azriel Morag](#) (courtesy of Yoel K.)
15. [Weizmann Instructions for ALEPH](#) (1991)
16. [Jerry's \(audio\) interview of Judy Levi and Randy Menakes](#)
17. Transcript of [Jerry's interview of Barbara Rad-El](#) (covering 1991-2005)
18. [Ex Libris photos from early 1990's](#) (courtesy of Barbara)
19. Four 1992 issues of *EX LIBRIS Reports: A Newsletter for the International Association of ALEPH Users* (courtesy of Yoel K.)....
 - [Jan 1992, Vol. II, No. 1](#)
 - [Apr 1992, Vol. II, No. 2](#)
 - [Jul 1992, Vol. II, No. 3](#)
 - [Oct 1992, Vol. II, No. 4](#)
 - I would note especially Azriel's **"Developing a System"** article on pp. 3-5 of the **July 1992 issue** (199207) and, pp. 3-4 of the **Oct 1992 issue** (199210). The first is a simple but eloquent statement of what Ex Libris is about (and I believe presages Ex Libris' success in the library-automation/information marketplace); the second discusses the important role of customers in the creation of the Aleph programs.
21. [Three 1993 issues of EX LIBRIS Reports](#)
22. [1996 Ex Libris business plan](#), courtesy of Ron Biran
23. [Aleph 500 / SFX at Ghent \(1997- \)](#) [Photos from Ghent](#) (-- including Ex Libris staff).
24. [1997 Library Technology Reports issue on Ex Libris Limited](#)
25. [Notre Dame chooses Ex Libris \(1997-8\)](#) (with photos)
26. Jerry's North American Kickoff presentation ([Ex Libris Comes to the U.S. -1998](#)) (with photos)
27. [List of ICAU conference sites and dates](#), with nice photos for 1999-2005

28. [A year 2000 EL staff photo](#) (courtesy of Omri) -- with a numbered key to identify each person.
Click on photo ==>



- 29.
30. [Ori Miller's "museum"](#) (photo of physical artifacts -- Use the magnifying glass!)
31. SFX
- [SFX timeline](#)
 - [SFX photos](#) (courtesy of Albert Oller and Lieve Rottiers)
 - [Screenshots of how SFX looked in 1999](#) (zip file of 10 screens)
 - [Albert Oller's SFX questionnaire response](#)
 - [Customer SFX questionnaire responses](#)
32. **[Matti Shem Tov's "Ex Libris – Strategies and Concepts", from 2003, addressed to the CEO selection committee](#)**
33. [ITALE Newsletter, Sept 2003](#) (courtesy of Yoel K.)
34. [Four at the Kos System Seminar + a Floridian at Kos \(2005\)](#) {photos taken by Gary Johnson (SDLN/CCLA)}
35. [librarytechnology.org list of Aleph and SFX libraries](#)
36. Ex Libris staff responses
- [Aharon Rivlin](#) (notes on early ALEPH history)
 - [Andrea Hell](#) (early years in Germany)
 - [Barbara Rad-El](#) (“Thirty years of Ex Libris – Personal recollections” – blog, with comments)
 - [Daniele Nottegar](#) (early years in Italy)
 - [Jo Richardson](#) (questionnaire response; great details on early years in U.K.)
 - [Katherine Heavey](#) (questionnaire response)
 - [Laura Pierson](#) (questionnaire response)
 - [Michael Kaplan](#) (questionnaire response)
 - [Natan Lev](#) (on early ALEPH Version numbers and history)
 - [Oren Beit-Arie](#) (questionnaire response)
 - [Tami Ezra](#) (questionnaire response)
 - [Tania Gutman](#) (questionnaire response)
37. Ex Libris customer responses
- [Anne Beavan \(University of Aberdeen\)](#) (questionnaire response)
 - [Bettina Kaldenberg](#) (Germany/Israel/ALEPH in the early 1980's)

- [Bill Slauenwhite](#) (NOVANET) (questionnaire response)
- [Charles Simpson](#) (SUNY – Stony Brook) (questionnaire response)
- [Debbie Becker](#) (Cape Peninsula University of Cape Town) (questionnaire response)
- [Donna Hirst](#) (University of Iowa) (questionnaire response)
- [Fang Peng](#) (Stony Brook University) (questionnaire response)
- [Jan Jourdain](#) (Five Colleges) (questionnaire response)
- [Jirka Kende](#) (Freie Universität Berlin) (questionnaire response)
- [Katherine Ward](#) (Notre Dame, 1998-) (questionnaire response)
- [Maureen Zajkowski](#) (ALEPH at SUNY 1999-) (questionnaire response) [Photos](#)
- [Naomi Steinberger](#) (ALEPH at the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1990)
- [Naomi Steinberger](#) (JTS) (questionnaire response)
- [Patrick Hochstenbach](#) (Aleph 500/SFX at Ghent 1997- ; [Photos](#))
- [Ron Johnston](#) (McGill University) (questionnaire response)
- [Theo Engelman](#) (Aleph 500/SFX at Utrecht 1999-)
- [Yosef Branse](#) (University of Haifa, 1991-) (questionnaire response)