



## **OCLC and Orbis Cascade Alliance to develop new consortial borrowing solution**

DUBLIN, Ohio & EUGENE, Oregon, April 14, 2008—The Orbis Cascade Alliance and OCLC are working together to migrate the Alliance's Summit union catalog to a consortial borrowing solution based on the integration of WorldCat.org, VDX, WorldCat Resource Sharing and a new circulation gateway in time for the beginning of the 2008-2009 academic school year.

The Orbis Cascade Alliance will implement a WorldCat Group Catalog with an interface based on WorldCat.org. This union catalog will present the 28-million-volume collections of the 35 Alliance member institutions at the top of results sets, followed by results from the rest of WorldCat, the world's largest online database for discovery of items in libraries.

"We are excited to be working with OCLC to develop a next generation technical platform for Summit," said John F. Helmer, Executive Director, Orbis Cascade Alliance. "OCLC's vision for the future is an ideal fit with the Orbis Cascade Alliance's strategic agenda, which calls for implementation of a next generation discovery and delivery platform and a commitment to standards-based cross-platform functionality. Alliance libraries are very clear in their user-centered approach to service and we view OCLC as an ideal partner for the long haul—a partner that shares our values and excitement about the development of first-rate services to students and faculty."

The migration of Summit to OCLC's consortial borrowing solution will include an immediate initiative to increase the accuracy and comprehensiveness of member library holdings in WorldCat and the implementation of a resource sharing system that combines the best of ILL and circulation capabilities and workflows.

Alliance member libraries also will have the option to implement WorldCat Local, a new service that combines the cooperative power of OCLC member libraries worldwide with the ability to customize WorldCat.org as a solution for local discovery and delivery services.

"OCLC and the Orbis Cascade Alliance share a commitment to move library services to the network level," said Jay Jordan, OCLC President and CEO. "This new consortial borrowing solution will offer proven services to facilitate resource sharing on a platform based on WorldCat.org, the most dynamic library discovery resource in the world. We look forward to continuing our work with the Orbis Cascade Alliance in developing a consortial borrowing solution that will serve as a model for library groups worldwide."

“This initiative will offer our users a better discovery experience and allow them to move seamlessly from our collections to the even larger collections available in WorldCat through Inter Library Loan services,” said Lee Lyttle, Chair, Orbis Cascade Alliance. “We also look forward to a better discovery experience with enhanced searching and social networking functionality. All of this is an important strategic direction of the Alliance moving our members closer towards becoming part of a more global library. These are exciting developments that we know will benefit all faculty, students and staff of our member institutions.”

“We are thrilled to have this opportunity to help write the next chapter in the evolution of OCLC and its collaborative efforts to assist individual libraries and library consortia in exciting new ways,” said Deborah Dancik, Alliance Chair-elect. “Together we will improve the efficiency and productivity of our students and faculty through their more effective use of the universe of information resources.”

### **About the Orbis Cascade Alliance**

The Orbis Cascade Alliance is a consortium of academic libraries in Oregon and Washington. The Alliance supports the popular Summit union catalog that allows students, faculty, and staff to easily search and request library materials owned by member libraries. Through its resource sharing, courier, electronic resource, and archives programs the Alliance serves approximately 250 libraries in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska, and Hawaii. For more information, visit [www.orbiscascade.org](http://www.orbiscascade.org).

### **About OCLC**

Founded in 1967 and headquartered in Dublin, Ohio, OCLC is a nonprofit library service and research organization that has provided computer-based cataloging, reference, resource sharing, eContent, preservation, library management and Web services to 60,000 libraries in 112 countries and territories. OCLC and its member libraries worldwide have created and maintain WorldCat, the world’s richest online resource for finding library materials. WorldCat.org is a Web destination with search and social networking features that allow information seekers to discover, localize and personalize content from a library’s collections and those of 10,000-plus WorldCat libraries globally. For more information, visit [www.oclc.org](http://www.oclc.org).

---

More information

John F. Helmer  
Executive Director  
Orbis Cascade Alliance  
541.346-1835  
[jhelmer@uoregon.edu](mailto:jhelmer@uoregon.edu)

Lee Lyttle  
Council Chair  
Library Director, The Evergreen State College  
360.867.6678  
[lyttlel@evergreen.edu](mailto:lyttlel@evergreen.edu)