Soul 2.0 (Software for University Libraries)
Part - I

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Learning Outcomes

1. Be introduced to the various information related to the software
2. Understand modules and its working
Introduction

• Software for University Libraries (SOUL) is an state-of-the-art integrated library management software
• It designed and developed by the INFLIBNET Centre
• It is based on requirements of college and university libraries
• User-friendly software developed to work under client-server environment
• The latest version of the software i.e. SOUL 2.0 was released in January 2009
• The database for new version of SOUL is designed for latest versions of MS-SQL and MySQL (or any other popular RDBMS)
• It is compliant to international standards such as
  • MARC 21 bibliographic format,
  • Unicode based Universal Character Sets for multilingual bibliographic records
  • NCIP 2.0 and SIP 2 based protocols
Major Features and Functionalities

- UNICODE based multilingual support
- Compliant to InMARC21, AACR-2, MARCXM international Standards
- User-friendly interface
- Client-server based architecture
- Compliant to NCIP 2.0 protocol for RFID and other related applications especially for self check-out & check-in
• Supports multi-platform for bibliographic database such as MySQL, MS-SQL or any other RDBMS
• Supports cataloguing of electronic resources
• Supports requirements of digital library and facilitate link to full-text articles and other digital objects
• Provides default templates for data entry of different type of documents
• User-friendly OPAC with advanced search facility
• Provides freedom to users for generating reports of their choice and format along with template and query parameters vigorous maintenance functions, transaction level enhanced security, etc.
• Provides facility to send reports through e-mail, allows users to save the reports in various formats such as Word, PDF, Excel, MARCXML, etc.
• Supports data exchange through ISO-2709 standard
• OPAC users can export their search results in to PDF, MS Excel, and MARCXML format
• Supports authority files of personal name, corporate body, subject headings and series name;
• Provides simple budgeting system and single window operation for all major circulation functions
• Provide region-wise support for maintenance through regional coordinators
• online and offline support by e-mail, chat and through dedicated telephone line during office hours
• Available at an affordable cost with institutional support
Standard Supported by SOUL Software

1. The Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules
2. Common Communication Format (CCF)
3. MARC 21(MAchine Readable Catalogue)
4. ISO 2709
5. NISO Circulation Interchange Protocol
• **Hardware Requirements**
  Processor Type: PIV or Higher
  Processor Speed: 1.6 GHz or Higher
  RAM: Minimum 512 MB (1 GB Recommended)
  Free Hard Disk Space: 400 MB (Minimum)

• **OS Requirements**
Installation

Installation of SOUL 2.0 has been divided into following three parts:

1. Database Installation

2. Application Installation

3. Utility Installation
Modules

The SOUL 2.0 consists of the following modules. Each module has further been divided into sub modules:

1. Acquisition: This module enables library staff to handle all the major functions such as:
   - Suggestions management;
   - Order processing, cancellation and reminders;
   - Receipt, Payment and budgetary control;
   - Master files such as currency, vendors, publishers etc.; and
   - Reports
Catalogue

The strong features of catalogue module are:

• allows cataloguer to create their own templates for data entry of different library resources
• different templates for leaders and fixed fields of MARC21;
• facilitates authority database of person name, corporate body, subject headings and series name;
• supports copy cataloguing in MARC21 format by using ISO-2709 standard;
• master database of publishers
• supports full MARC 21 bibliographic format
Circulation

Major functions of the circulation module:

• Membership
• Transaction;
• Inter-library loan
• Over due charges
• Reminder
• Search status
• Maintenance of the items such as binding, lost, replace, missing, etc.
On-line Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)

Major functions provided in the module are:

• Simple Search;
• Boolean Search;
• Advanced Boolean Search;
• Displaying and downloading of records in MS Excel, PDF or MARCXML; and
• Search support for the items that are in the acquisition process in the library.
Serial Control

The serial control module is developed based on the KARDEX system and has following functions built into it:

• suggestions
• master databases
• subscriptions
• check-in of individual issues of journals
• payment, reminder, binding, and title history
• export / import by using ISO 2709 bibliographic exchange format;
• article indexing of journal/book articles
• cataloguing of electronic journals
These Administration module include following features:

• grouping of users based on the policy
• transactional rights over the systems
• transaction level security to users
• various configuration settings such as labels, e-mail and other parameters related to the
• software use and
• common master databases being used in modules
References

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