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The use of the SWD in the Swiss National Library (NB) and in Swiss research libraries

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Outline

1. Quick look at the past
2. SWD in NB / Swiss libraries
3. SWD Clearingstelle Schweiz
4. MACS
5. Future perspectives
6. Concluding remarks



1. Quick look at the past (1996)

- « Subject cataloguing in Switzerland: from multiple subject systems to an eventual transparent multilingual subject access? (presentation at the Österreichischer Bibliothekartag, Congress Innsbruck 3.-7.9 1996



Situation in 1996

6 different systems / networks in Switzerland

- RERO (Réseau des bibliothèques romandes et tessinoises) +80 libraries; SIBIL library software; RERO indexing
- Deutschschweizer Verbund (DSV) : Bern & Basel libraries (+80 libraries): SIBIL library software; many indexing systems
- ETHICS (ETHZ and EPFL); ETH library software; UDC



Situation in 1996 (2)

- ETHICS (Zentralbibliothek Zurich + 10 other libraries)
- Verbund Universität Zurich & Hochschule St. Gallen, +40 libraries, DOBIS/LIBIS software, many indexing systems
- Swiss National Library, VTLS, UDC indexing



Perspectives in 1996

- Too many library softwares – no interoperability potential
- Not much collaboration between networks
- No indexing language predominantly used – SWD used only at St.Gallen

But.....

New perspectives

- Plans to migrate to commercial library software (VTLS, ALEPH.. in late 1990s)



Situation since 1999

- IDS (Informationsverbund Deutschschweiz) :
6 member networks (Basel/Bern, Luzern, St. Gallen, Zurich Zentralbibliothek, NEBIS): 400 libraries, all use ALEPH system
- RERO (Réseau des bibliothèques romandes et tessinoises) +80 libraries; VTLS
- Swiss National Library (VTLS)
- SwissBib: Swiss metacatalogue
(<http://www.swissbib.ch/TouchPoint/start.do>)



2. SWD in NB

1998: Introduction of the Schlagwortnormdatei (SWD) and the Regeln für den Schlagwortkatalog (RSWK) at NB

Decision influenced by a combination of factors

- Effect of the growing globalization of library standards
- Reorganisation / modernization process of library services
- Revised national & international role of NB



The implementation process

- Communication format: Using the German indexing language in a North-American developed format: MARC 21
- Display of SWD / RSWK in the Helveticat database: the case of pre-coordination (and permutations)
- Indexing policy & goals: 60-65% of NB documents indexed (17'000 documents indexed annually)



Cooperation and new opportunities

- SWD Kooperationspartners – SWD editors
 - new SWD heading proposals and discussion on the development of standards
- Konsortium DDC Deutsch
 - developing a German language DDC version
- MACS
 - shared vision of multilingual subject access



Toward new opportunities in Switzerland

SWD- Verbund Schweiz

- New role of the NB – SWD- Clearingstelle Schweiz (NB as an intermediary between Swiss libraries and the DNB)
- Information centre for the dissemination of information in the area of subject indexing in Switzerland



SWD in Swiss libraries (1)

- UB Bern,
- Sankt Gallen Vadiana
- IDS St. Gallen,
- Zentralbibliothek Solothurn
- IDS Luzern
- Bibliothek Kunsthaus Zürich
- Aargauische Kantonsbibliothek
- IDS Zürich Universität
- Bibliotheksverbund Graubünden
- Kantonsbibliothek Thurgau



SWD in Switzerland (2)

2011/2012:

UB Basel

Zentralbibliothek Zürich



3. SWD Clearingstelle Schweiz

- Created in 2005 – to process new SWD headings proposals for DNB
- 6774 proposals processed since then; 887 SWD headings modified
- 10 members + NB
- „Redaktion“ team at BN: 5 members, expert in one or two types of headings



4. MACS

- Project: to develop a linking strategy by creating equivalences between three Subject Heading Languages: SWD, RAMEAU and LCSH
- Members: Deutsche Nationalbibliothek (DNB), Bibliothèque nationale de France (BNF), British Library (BL) and Swiss national Library (NB) ; support from the Library of Congress (LOC)



Milestones

- Proposal & Feasibility study (1997-1999)
- Prototype development (2000-2001)
- Testing & Link Management (LMI) upgrade to production database (2002-April 2004)
- New Link Management Interface production database accepted by partners (2005)
- New Project Proposal: June 2005 (revised August 2006)



Milestones (2)

- Move to production: adding SWD headings to RAMEAU-LCSH links (2007) (NB and DNB)
- Major linking project DNB: April-December 2009
- Integration in The European Library : tests in 2007, initial search interface development in August 2008



Milestones (3)

- Re-indexing of library catalogues in TEL and new search interface development in 2009 – 2011
- Report of the CENL WG on the integration of MACS into The European Library – September 2011



Results

Links production

- 63'100 links with SWD headings
- 99'435 links with LCSH headings
- 134'500 links with RAMEAU headings

Use and re-use: STITCH Project (2008),
TelPlus project (2008/09)

Search Interface: The European Library Portal
(prototype)



5. Future perspective (1): SWD in NB

- Project to integrate GND in NB by May 2012 (includes new authority database)
- Moving from pre-coordination to post coordination (deconstruction of subject headings / Schlagwortfolgen)
- Reorganisation of cataloguing and subject indexing services in a new administrative unit



Future perspectives (2): SWD Clearingstelle Schweiz

- Insufficient resources to meet the growth of SWD proposals (new SWD users)
- Proposal for a SWD « Redaktion » position in IDS (2011-2012?)
- New responsibilities for NB: « Redaktion » for NB and non-research Swiss libraries
- New cooperation model with IDS needed



Future perspectives (3): MACS

Decision in December 2011 regarding the integration in TEL

- Sustaining the links created so far
- Move the Search prototype to TEL portal
- Integrate new subject heading languages in the MACS links database
- Investigate automatic alignment system
- Investigate legal aspects of open access to MACS linked data



Concluding remarks

How much progress have Swiss libraries made in ensuring a seamless subject access since 1996?

- Trends toward the use of standard SHLS (SWD for Swiss German libraries, RAMEAU, for Swiss French libraries)
- Creation of SwissBib
- Interoperability between library systems
- Multilingual solution: MACS



6. Concluding remarks

But:

- Difficulties in using SWD in MARC21 based library system (updating problems in subject headings / Schlagwortfolgen)
- OPAC /Online display still a problem