

## **1.2 Please provide the State with a brief description of your past experience providing similar services/supplies.**

For 52 years, OCLC has been on the forefront of using technology to extend library cooperation. At OCLC's inception, Ohio libraries proposed a major paradigm shift in library operations. The goal was to launch a computer platform and network to collaboratively build shared services and resources that lower costs while simultaneously increasing efficiency in library management. This first cooperative cataloging service would be an unparalleled effort guided by libraries to share data and workflows that they had never shared before.

Cooperative advances have expanded to help libraries better manage cataloging processes, resource sharing, and digital materials. OCLC solutions for groups and consortia increase opportunities for groups to support their members with research, training, and services that streamline the technical challenges of collaboration.

### **Cataloging**

OCLC began with a simple idea of helping libraries catalog more efficiently, by setting up systems for them to cooperate and share their efforts. The clearest validation of this vision is the continued growth of WorldCat, the world's most comprehensive database of information about library collections. WorldCat is the manifestation of the creativity and innovation of the staff of OCLC and thousands of librarians. Unique in scale and unparalleled in data quality, WorldCat makes library collections findable and accessible around the world.

OCLC's team of expert catalogers and data quality specialists continually enrich WorldCat records with new and corrected information to ensure that WorldCat contains the highest quality records possible. Library staff members also enhance records through their participation in shared cataloging, via the OCLC Cataloging and Metadata Subscription, making WorldCat records the industry standard for quality.

By enabling libraries to share high-quality library metadata and bibliographic records with each other, WorldCat has helped librarians dramatically reduce the time they spend on original cataloging.

The WorldCat shared cataloging service is among the largest and busiest in the world, currently providing access to more than 461 million items. Our Metadata Quality team members are dedicated to improving the WorldCat bibliographic catalog, knowledge base and registry. These cataloging experts collectively have more than 265 years of experience with OCLC. They create and enhance WorldCat records, both by hand and through automated systems.

Since 1971, the holdings in WorldCat have always been set through the bibliographic database, either online or via batchload/data sync. When changes are made to WorldCat records that a library has set their holdings on, they can receive MARC record updates automatically at no additional charge, thus improving the discoverability of their collections.

We also look to maximize relationships with other vendors, not limit them. For example, OCLC is content-neutral, as we are not a publisher, nor do we own content. As a result, we are one of the only organizations that can ensure search results are matched to search terms without preference.

We also are stewards of our members' contributions. As a nonprofit organization, our goal is not to make money for investors or owners. We instead work to make a difference for our members, as we work to make knowledge more accessible to all.

### **WorldShare ILL**

In 1979, OCLC introduced our first Interlibrary Loan (ILL) system, helping OCLC members share resources more efficiently. WorldShare Interlibrary Loan (ILL) automates your interlibrary borrowing and lending processes through the largest resource sharing network in the world to save your staff time and to ensure timely delivery of items to the people who need them. WorldShare ILL connects you to thousands of libraries whose entire collections can be viewed at a glance in WorldCat. Together, these libraries have created a shared, global library collection for all library users.

## **CONTENTdm**

Since 2002, OCLC has provided libraries, cultural heritage organizations, museums, and other non-profit organizations with an intuitive method for organizing and making more visible their digital collections through CONTENTdm.

## **WorldCat Discovery**

In 1991, OCLC introduced FirstSearch as the first end-user interface for library reference services. The development of WorldCat Discovery began in 2012 and the first libraries went live with it in April 2014.