Prospector Annual Report 2013

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The Prospector union catalog has entered its fourteenth year of operation and continues as a key service for supporting over forty Colorado libraries (and the University of Wyoming) to share print, audio, media and electronic resources. As the predominant resource sharing system for libraries in the Rocky Mountain region, the system offers fast patron-initiated borrowing, which uses the existing courier system managed by the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC). In addition to its role as a system for borrowing physical items, the system also acts as a portal to millions of electronic resources including ebooks, ejournals, government reports, and other materials.

As the premier resource sharing system in the region Prospector now is a portal to over 12.6 million unique titles representing over 32 million items. Approximately one third of the unique content in Prospector is for electronic resources (e.g. ebooks, ejournals, audio). In most cases users must have a library card to access the e-resources from their local library although several packages do allow resource sharing (e.g. Springer ebooks). Even with the growing body of e-resources within Prospector the system fulfilled almost 600,000 requests for books, DVDs and CDs during the last twelve months.

Prospector Everywhere

Libraries are making growing use of discovery interfaces such as Summon (Serials Solutions), EDS (EBSCO Discovery Service) and Primo (Ex Libris) to provide access to journal literature, monographs, government documents and other resources. Although not all libraries have such discovery interfaces they are the preferred introductory portal for many libraries and are featured on the top of many library home pages.   The Alliance accomplished a complete export of the Prospector bibliographic database to share with these vendors so that when a user starts at a third party discovery service, Prospector items appear in the main result set. If a user wants to borrow an item they typically click on the title of the resource (or a "request it" button in EDS) and the user is returned to the native Prospector Encore interface to complete authentication and place the request. Prospector then takes over for its normal load balancing and request fulfillment in a seamless manner.

The new service is called "Prospector Everywhere" since users can find Prospector content in any of its native interfaces (Prospector Classic, Prospector Encore or Prospector Mobile) or the user may find Prospector content in one of these external services. Prospector will still continue to support its three interfaces since two-thirds of the Prospector libraries do not have third party discovery interfaces. In addition, the native Prospector interfaces are updated in real time with

additions, modifications and deletions of bibliographic records as well as real-time circulation information. The bibliographic records in the third party interfaces are updated much less frequently and also contain no current circulation information.

Libraries that want to use Prospector in one of these external discovery layers must select Prospector as a title list in that service. Please work with the appropriate discovery vendor to activate this new body of content. Issues with the display and use of these records in the external service fall within the domain of that service and are not controlled by the Alliance or Innovative Interfaces.

MOBIUS and Peer to Peer

For a number of years Innovative Interfaces Inc. has offered a software service for INN-Reach called Peer to Peer. This software allows INN-Reach systems to connect with each other and place requests in the other system while still completing all functions within the existing circulation module of a local integrated library system. Basically, if implemented, there would be an additional button at the top of each INN-Reach system and when selected the user would have their search automatically transferred to the other system. If a Prospector patron found something in the other system, a request could be placed and the item would be delivered back to your local library as if it were requested in the Prospector system. The bibliographic records from the other INN-Reach would not be directly loaded into Prospector but patrons would have an easy way to link to the other network and place a request if an item is not found in the Prospector regional catalog.

Although it would theoretically be possible to link Prospector with any INN-Reach system in the world, it makes most sense to connect with a system which is geographically closer and for which existing courier services could be employed. In the case of Prospector, the closest INN-Reach system is called MOBIUS, which is a shared union catalog for the state of Missouri.

MOBIUS (http://mobiusconsortium.org/) is a non-profit 501c3 consortium in Missouri which is similar in mission and scope to the Prospector system. Their system includes 70 members which include 61 academic libraries, 4 public libraries, 2 special libraries, the Missouri State Library, and 2 Associate Members, serving a total of 143 physical branches. MOBIUS manages INN-Reach, a union catalog and resource sharing tool from Innovative Interfaces as well as their Sierra platform, a local integrated library system for member libraries. The consortium's purpose is to share library materials, information, and services using accessible, cost effective methods. Today, the MOBIUS Union Catalog has expanded to include 70 libraries with a new growth sector with public libraries. Their system serves over 1.5 million people from the higher education community and the state of Missouri, a very similar metric to Prospector. A courier service delivers library materials to member libraries once per day, 5 days per week.

The cost for implementing Peer to Peer with MOBIUS has been substantially lowered by Innovative Interfaces and is now affordable and the subscription fee has been added to the Prospector budget. The challenge is not technology since this has been in use for several years in Ohio to link two INN-Reach systems - OhioLink (academic libraries) and Search Ohio (public libraries).

Before implementing a Peer to Peer connection with Missouri some of the key areas to address will include:

- **How will items be delivered from Colorado to Missouri**? Existing courier systems need to be leveraged and it will be necessary to work closely with CLiC and other parties to make sure that existing services can be employed without too much extra effort.
- **Will it take longer for items to be delivered from Missouri?** Yes, it will take a bit longer but the delivery will still be much faster than traditional interlibrary loan and because it is patron initiated there will be minimal impact from current procedures
- **What about circulation policies**? Policies regarding loan periods, overdues, lost item fees and other issues need to be examined to either come to consensus or agree to let differences exist for items transferred between the systems. These types of policies have long been supported in traditional interlibrary loan but it will be necessary to determine what is most pragmatic in this case
- **Will they drain our resources**? A typical concern is whether MOBIUS will put too much of a draw on Colorado resources. The reality is that MOBIUS is a larger network than Prospector and the concern may be greater in the other direction! The vast majority of lending will take place within existing INN-Reach systems and a modest number will cross between the networks. In the end, the only way to determine the volume and net flow of materials is to try it for a period of time to determine value. Having access to a larger body of content which can easily be requested by patrons will improve fulfillment rates and reduce the need for other external ILL services such as OCLC

Reports from Selected Prospector Libraries

Marmot Library Network – Update from Marmot Director Jimmy Thomas

The Marmot Library Network (http://www.marmot.org/) added 15 libraries to Prospector in 2011. Colorado Mesa University had been in Prospector for over 9 years; and Salida Regional Library joined as Marmot Prospector #17 in 2012. As a whole, Marmot has added over 1.3 million titles to the system making them collectively the sixth largest entity in Prospector. Marmot primarily reflects Western Slope and mountain libraries plus one Front Range library, Colorado Christian University.

Six Marmot institutions are not in Prospector: Englewood Public Library, Rampart Library District, and 4 school districts. Recent changes in Prospector pricing may enable libraries like EPL and RLD to join Prospector sooner.

Marmot is scheduled to upgrade from Millennium to Sierra Nov 13. When Marmot evaluated ILS RFP responses in 2011, and again in 2013, mandatory requirements included compatibility with Prospector, compatibility with VuFind, open database, and competitive functionality--at a good price.

Marmot is particularly proud of VuFind development fulfilling many of the ReadersFirst.org principles. Taking advantage of APIs developed by OverDrive, Marmot was the first to put these into production (October 11, 2013). Marmot looks forward to Innovative fulfilling a Sierra promise of APIs optimized for discovery layers like VuFind.

Denver Public Library

This Fall Denver Public Library has started borrowing and lending again through Prospector on a limited basis. At the time of this report, there are a couple of outstanding technical issues. When items are returned and checked in, they still show up on the paging lists as a new request. Polaris is working hard to fix this issue. In the next release of Millennium, there will also be a fix for a problem with retaining the pick up location that a patron selects upon making a request.

While these technical issues aren't trivial, they are manageable and we've made great progress this year in integrating DPL back into Prospector. With over 800,000 items of which fifty eight percent are unique, DPL makes a substantial contribution to Prospector. We are confident that within the next few months DPL will be fully operational in Prospector.

Longmont Public Library – Report from Director Judith Anderson

We are excited to be a part of the Prospector Family. Longmont patrons LOVE Prospector and our staff love to provide this expansive service to our patrons.

As a Sirsi/Dynix Horizon library, launching Prospector was a unique experience. Nothing was routine or simple. The Colorado Alliance announced that we were "live" on April, 16, 2013 and due to complications beyond our control we were only "live" for about an hour. A week later we implemented Prospector again with more success. Our staff began to use Prospector to place ILL requests and we received hundreds of requests from other libraries. Because of two significant system failures we could not allow patrons to access Prospector independently until June. We haven't looked back since.

In the four months we were fully "live" (June – September) we lent 7,000 items and borrowed 4,600. Prospector is now fully integrated into our daily routine and staff spends 50 hours a week processing Prospector items. Prospector enables us to increase ILL items processed from 7,000 items a year using SWIFT and WorldCat to over 30,000 items a year. Our patrons sum it up best: "ILL rocks," and my personal favorite "Prospector is like Amazon only it saves you $7,000 a year." Installation of Prospector was complex; however Longmont Public Library would do it again due to the great results we are now experiencing.

Who is participating in Prospector?

Prospector has 42 academic, public and special libraries with over 100 pick-up locations (branches). It is the most widely used union catalog in the state representing virtually all of the major academic libraries (excluding community colleges and for-profits) and many public libraries.

**Prospector Map Showing Geographic Distribution of Libraries**
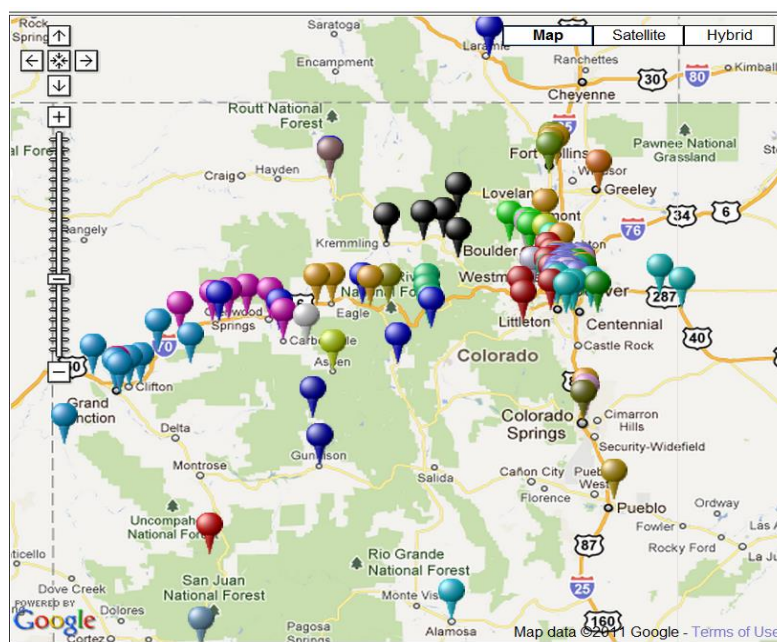
Prospector Libraries	
	Garfield County Public Library District (Marmot)
Adams State College (Marmot)	Grand County Library District (Marmot)
Arapahoe Library District	Gunnison County Public Libraries (Marmot)
Auraria Library	Jefferson County Public Library
Aurora Public Library	Longmont Public Library
Basalt Regional Library District (Marmot)	Louisville Public Library
Broomfield Public Library	Mesa County Libraries (Marmot)
Boulder Public Library	Pitkin County Library (Marmot)
Bud Werner Memorial Library (Marmot)	Regis University
Center for Research Libraries (lending only)	Salida Regional Library (Marmot)
Colorado Christian University (Marmot)	Summit County Library (Marmot)
Colorado College	Town of Vail Public Library (Marmot)
Colorado Mesa University (Marmot)	University of Colorado at Boulder

Colorado Mountain College (Marmot)	University of Colorado - Colorado Springs
Colorado School of Mines	University of Colorado - Health Sciences Center
Colorado State Publications	University of Colorado - Law Library
Colorado State University	University of Denver
Colorado State University-Pueblo	University of Denver Law Library
Denver Public Library	University of Northern Colorado
Eagle Valley Library District (Marmot)	University of Wyoming
Fort Collins Public Library	Western State College Library (Marmot)
Fort Lewis College	Wilkinson Public Library (Marmot)

Prospector by the Numbers

Prospector fulfillments for 2013 are slightly less than 2012. We anticipate that this number will increase in 2014 when DPL is fully operational in Prospector. DPL historically represents about 10% of all Prospector traffic.
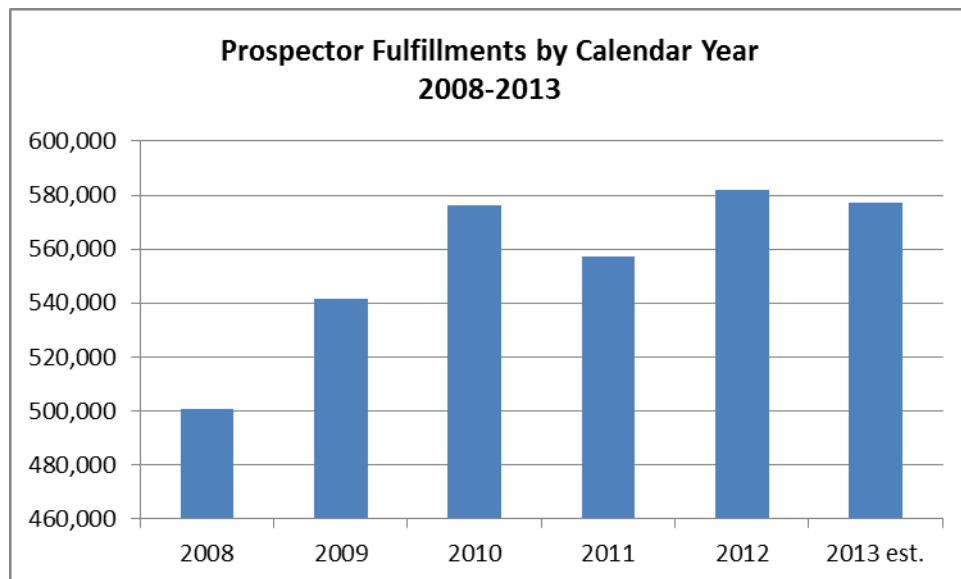
Google Analytics Dashboard Overview of Prospector
11/1/2012 through 10/29/2013
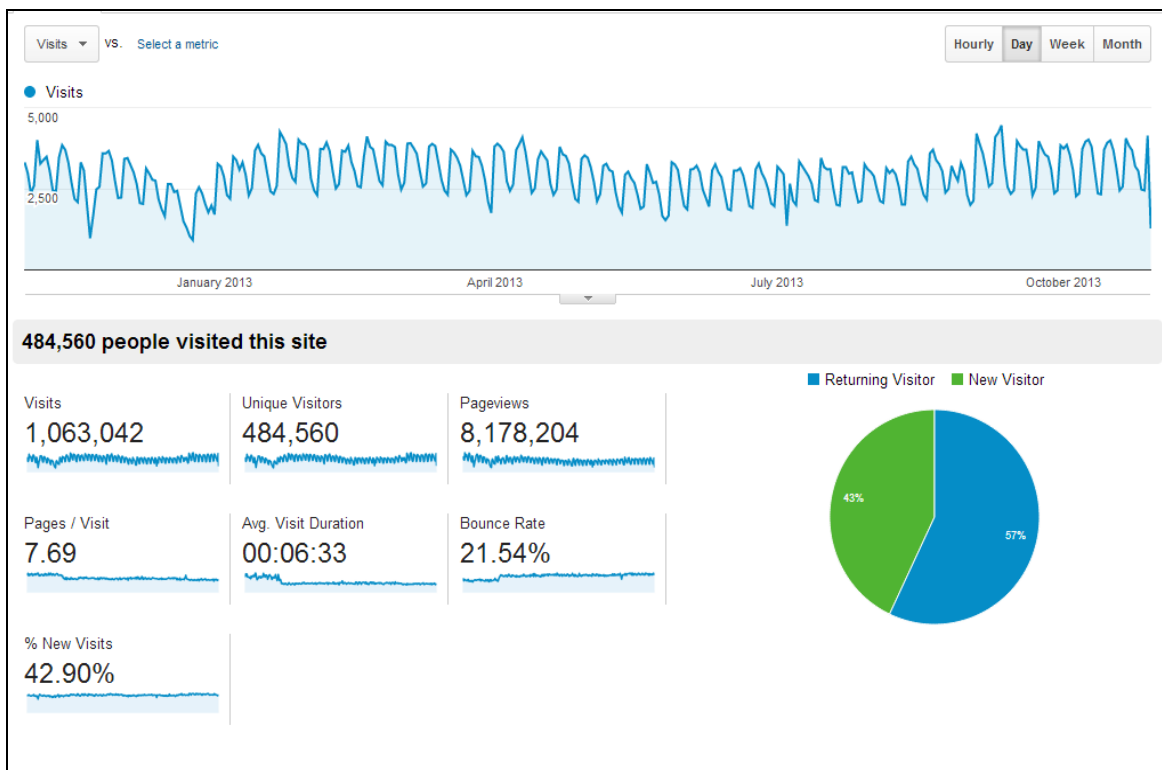
Google Analytics has been added to Prospector Encore, Prospector Classic and Prospector Mobile to look at overall system use. This table represents the combined use statistics for all three interfaces.

- 1,063, 042 visits to Prospector (of which 484,560 were unique visitors)
- 8,178,204 page views
- 7.69 page views per patron visit(Pages/Visits)
- 6.33 minutes is the average time spent on the site
- 83% of searches are referred from your local catalogs or other systems

Prospector Fulfillments by Library
November 1, 2012-October 29, 2013

Owning (Lending) Site	Ratio L/B	Lends	Borrows
ADAMS STATE	2.76	4184	1517
ALD	0.76	72451	95307
AUR	0.63	10998	17485
Aurora	0.64	28002	43873
BASALT	1.16	1433	1232
BPL	1	33991	33970
BUD WERNER	2.06	7331	3559
CC	1.03	6333	6134
CCU	2.94	4722	1605
CMU	1.01	3565	3547
COL MOUNTAIN	1.82	2806	1543
CSM	0.4	818	2026
CSU	0.59	13710	23074
CSU-Pueblo	1.11	2418	2188
CU-L	2.63	1395	530
CUB	2.96	54727	18464
Colorado Publications	0.51	149	291
DU	0.84	16339	19352
EAGLE VALLEY	1.89	3747	1985
FTL	0.74	3635	4903
GARFIELD CO	1.55	11845	7643
GRAND CO	1.85	6611	3573
GUNNISON	1.35	1902	1414
JCPL	0.98	80217	81721
LSV	1.04	11574	11115
Longmont PL	1.4	8244	5893
MDE	1.29	14034	10901
MESA CO	0.64	12994	20156
PITKIN CO	3.97	6932	1748
PRPLD	0.56	51297	91116
Regis	0.66	4685	7140
Salida Regional Library	1.85	4370	2368
Summit County Library	2.38	4357	1830

UCCS	0.89	9260	10369
UCHSC	1.03	3020	2944
UNC	1.62	11597	7146
UWY	2.83	34531	12201
VAIL PUBLIC	5.75	2724	474
WESTERN ST	2.14	2128	996
WILKINSON	5.85	9412	1608
crl	N/A	301	N/A

**Lend only to CRL member libraries (CSU, UC-Boulder, DU and Colorado College)

Prospector Database Statistics
October 2013

SITE	SITE CODE	TOTAL BIB RECS LOADED FROM SITE	UNIQUE TITLES HELD BY THIS LIBRARY	% SOLELY HELD OF OWN RECORDS	% SOLELY HELD OF UNIQUE	BIB RECS WITH HOLDINGS	ITEM RECORDS
UC BOULDER	9cubp	4,531,700	1,387,019	30.61%	18.27%	4,323,554	5,915,690
WYOMING	9uwyp	4,027,117	1,558,481	38.70%	20.53%	1,476,658	2,271,875
U DENVER*	9dupp	3,233,638	615,296	19.03%	8.10%	3,229,104	4,265,870
CSU	9csup	2,147,096	584,737	27.23%	7.70%	2,105,300	2,810,257
CRL	cr0zz	1,479,065	1,408,905	95.26%	18.56%	1,410,219	2,856,414
MARMOT	9mscp	1,353,168	338,743	25.03%	4.46%	1,308,943	2,539,977
AURARIA	9aurp	1,140,333	230,421	20.21%	3.03%	1,139,631	1,273,274
UNC	9uncp	921,381	148,475	16.11%	1.96%	920,394	1,142,194
COLO COLLEGE	9cocp	914,527	96,686	10.57%	1.27%	913,976	1,003,301
DENVER PUBLIC	codpl	761,112	394,773	51.87%	5.20%	747,906	2,288,947
BOULDER PUBLIC	9bblp	548,733	155,036	28.25%	2.04%	347,156	556,694
UC COLO SPRINGS	9uccp	515,078	62,656	12.16%	0.83%	514,670	560,010
CSM	9csmp	469,909	98,439	20.95%	1.30%	462,244	675,309
BOULDER LAW	9culp	469,402	68,223	14.53%	0.90%	469,384	713,711
REGIS	9rgsp	456,407	46,147	10.11%	0.61%	430,061	455,896
JEFF PUBLIC	9jcpp	431,612	111,721	25.88%	1.47%	407,966	1,052,019
ARAPAHOE	9arap	235,730	69,137	29.33%	0.91%	235,579	613,561
LONGMONT	9lgmt	231,251	58,399	25.25%	0.77%	215,172	258,269
AURORA	9arrp	198,272	44,038	22.21%	0.58%	169,985	258,627
FORT COLLINS	9fcpp	191,524	28,674	14.97%	0.38%	188,646	402796
FORT LEWIS	9ftlp	187,843	33,725	17.95%	0.44%	167,132	192,207
HEALTH SCI	9hscp	123,154	51,633	41.93%	0.68%	121,179	290,976
CO PUBLICATIONS	9cspu	35,885	1,112	3.10%	0.01%	35,882	117,600
DENVER PUBLIC	9dplp	422	83	19.67%	0.00%	408	3,016
TOTAL		**24,604,445**	**7,592,645**	**60.09%**	**100.00%**	**21,341,149**	**32,518,490**

TOTAL DE-DUPED BIBS -- 12,635,184

*DU and DU Law are merged.