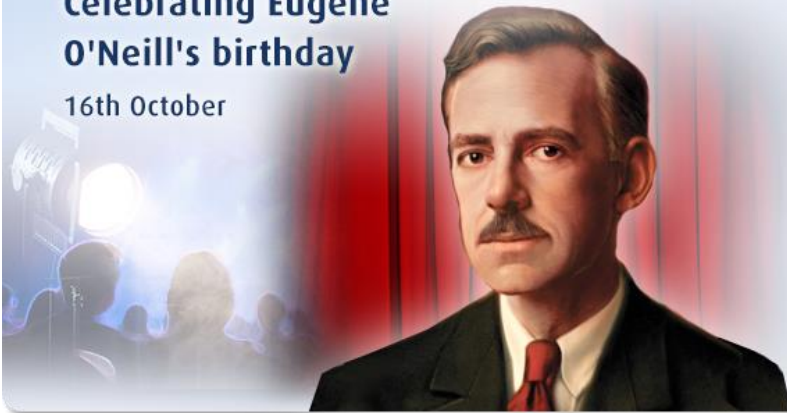


Alma October 2015 Release:
**Celebrating Eugene
O'Neill's birthday**

16th October



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Particular Issues to Note for Upcoming Releases

The following enhancements will become available in an upcoming Alma release:

- As of the December 2015 release, Ex Libris will make changes in the export mechanism that will improve exporting capabilities for larger sized lists. In addition, as of the December release, Ex Libris' standard **Tools > Export** feature will no longer use the Excel 2003 (.xls) format, in accordance with Microsoft's Lifecycle policy (*"... the file format for Excel 2003 (xls) is about to be de-continued with the end of extended support for Office 2003 in April 2014."*). Instead, **Tools > Export** will export using Office Open XML Workbook (.xlsx) file format, which is smaller and delivers an improved export performance.
See: https://blogs.oracle.com/proactivesupportEPM/entry/obiee_predicts_xls_is_dead
- With the January 2016 release, the new management system for digital resources maintained in Alma will be made available to all customers.

Performance Improvements

Performance improvements have been made in the following areas of Alma:

- **Analytics** – The ETL (Extract, Transform, Load, the process that extracts the data from the operational database and builds the analytics data warehouse) time has decreased by 30-40%, resulting in a significant improvement in the availability of refreshed Analytics data. The daily data refresh is now completed before the start of the working day in all regions. In upcoming releases, we plan to make further improvements to the Analytics infrastructure (OBI), which will continue to enhance performance.
- **MD import** – Beginning in October, Alma will gradually roll out a new process for MD import that splits uploaded files into files of 50 records each instead of the current 400 each. There will be no impact to user functionality, but this change will result in improved performance in the overall import process.
- **Handling of bibliographic record relations** – Editing the fields related to record relations in the MD editor no longer removes all record relations--only the relevant ones. The new record relations are built each night, as usual.
- **Google Scholar and Primo Central** – Enhancements to Google Scholar and Primo Central publishing have improved the way in which Alma publishes records to both these repositories.
- **Secured communication between Alma and institutional email servers** – Alma's email servers in all regions now use secure SMTP over TLS (Transport Layer Security) by default to deliver mail securely (if the institutional email server supports TLS). Secure SMTP over TLS includes two key features:
 - Encrypted messages – TLS uses Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) to encrypt messages from mail server to mail server.
 - Authentication – TLS supports the use of digital certificates to authenticate the receiving servers. This process verifies that the receivers (or senders) are legitimate, which helps prevent spoofing.

For more information on TLS support, see the *Technical Requirements for Alma and Primo Implementation* document in the Documentation Center.

Leganto

Leganto, the newest addition to the Ex Libris product suite, is an independent, cloud-based service for creating, maintaining, monitoring, evaluating, using, and sharing course readings.

For more information on Leganto, see <http://www.exlibrisgroup.com/category/Leganto>.

Over the last several months, and continuing into the future, Ex Libris has added, and will continue to add, features to support Leganto functionality in Alma.

A summary of these features include:

- Alma and Leganto share the same database. All titles and citations available in one are immediately available in the other.
- Courses, reading lists, and citations can be managed manually using the Alma user interface, or automatically using Leganto. Reading list sections are managed exclusively using Leganto.
- Alma supports authentication between Leganto and a course management system using a Learning Tools Interoperability (LTI) integration profile. After entering the required information to set up the integration profile, Alma supplies you with the credentials your course management system requires to operate with Leganto.
- Alma supports the Instructor role, a special role for users that manages reading lists and citations in Leganto.
- Courses relevant to an Instructor are assigned in Alma or pulled from the course management system and are then made available to the Instructor in Leganto.
- Alma supports reading list ownership, which is relevant only in Leganto.

Resource Sharing Integrations

Vendor tests with Clio Software® have been successful. A broker workflow has been tested with the Clio II system using Alma's NCIP integration, and Alma-generated OpenURLs can create borrowing requests in Clio II.

For detailed information on broker-based resource sharing between Alma and various systems, see https://developers.exlibrisgroup.com/alma/integrations/resource_sharing/broker.

Availability of Alma in Multiple Languages

Alma supports additional languages, either fully (the full user interface) or partially (the patron-facing elements, such as letters, the Primo View It and Get It tabs, and self-check machine messages).

The full Alma user interface is now available in the following languages:

- German – since September 2014
- Italian – since January 2015
- Korean – since January 2015
- Spanish – since July 2015
- French – since September 2015

By the beginning of 2016, the full Alma user interface will also be available in the following languages:

- Chinese
- Polish
- Welsh

The patron-facing elements of Alma are now available in the following additional languages:

- Dutch
- Norwegian
- Swedish

At the beginning of 2016, the patron-facing elements of Alma will also be available in Hebrew.

The Alma Online Help is currently available in English and German. The Online Help will be available in French by the middle of 2016.

Known Issues

- When importing an EOD file using the New Order profile, if the location of the item does not have a call number type, the call number type of the institution should be used as the alternative call number type. Currently, however, no alternative call number is used.
- Related to merging bibliographic records in the MD Editor, if there are no requests, the Merge Records and Combine Inventory pop-up window does not display a count of 0 (zero) requests. The count appears for requests only when it is greater than 0 (zero). The count should also appear as 0 (zero) requests when they occur.
- The **Import** button in various code tables in Alma is currently not functional. This issue will be fixed in a future Alma release.
- Fixed position fields cannot be modified using the extension loader (extension packs) at this time.
- MARC extensions cannot currently be loaded into authority profiles.
- Regarding the autocomplete/pop-up assistance being provided for several UNIMARC fields in the MD Editor, there is a known issue related to UNIMARC 327 \$a and 327 \$b. These subfields are based on the same functionality and as a result, the pop-up suggestions in the MD Editor suggests both subfields' values when entering content in either the 327 \$a or the 327 \$b.
- When a member runs an import profile with the option of **Use Network Zone** and chooses to use the new functionality of **Do not override/ merge record with an older version**, the import will not create purchase order lines or inventory. The issue is scheduled to be fixed in the November release.
- The **Last updated by {institution name}** indication does not appear for edited Community Zone bibliographic records in a repository search.

Data Services

The Alma September Central KnowledgeBase and Community Zone package has been applied to the Alma environments.

New Electronic Collections Added to the Alma CKB

The following packages were added to the Alma CZ during the period 24 August 2015 through 4 October 2015:

- EBSCOhost Central & Eastern European Academic Source
- GWLA SpringerLink Upgrade collection
- HeinOnline ABA Law Library Collection Periodicals
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Biology Chemistry Geosciences 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Classical Studies History 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Complete Package English Titles 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Complete Package STM And SSH 2015
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Journal Archive 1826-2012
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Journal Archive Law Collection 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Journal Complete Collection 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Library And Information Science 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Linguistics Literature Collection 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Mathematics Physics Engineering 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Medicine Collection 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Philosophy Theology Judaism Religion 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Politics Economics Sociology 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Science Tech And Medical English Titles 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Science Technical And Medical 1826-2014
- JISC Collections De Gruyter Social Sciences And Humanities 1826-2014

- JISC Collections De Gruyter SSH English Titles 1826-2014
- JISC Collections Project Muse Basic College Collection 2015-2017
- JISC Collections Project Muse Basic Research Collection 2015-2017
- JISC Collections Project Muse Humanities Collection 2015-2017
- JISC Collections Project Muse Premium Collection 2015-2017
- JISC Collections Project Muse Social Sciences Collection 2015-2017
- JISC Collections Project Muse Standard Collection 2015-2017
- MA Education Intered
- MA Education Intered Extra
- MA Healthcare Health Professionals
- MA Healthcare InterUK Vet
- Morgan & Claypool Computer & Information Science Collection Five
- Morgan & Claypool Computer & Information Science Collection Four
- Morgan & Claypool Computer & Information Science Collection One
- Morgan & Claypool Computer & Information Science Collection Seven
- Morgan & Claypool Computer & Information Science Collection Six
- Morgan & Claypool Computer & Information Science Collection Three
- Morgan & Claypool Computer & Information Science Collection Two
- WiLS Springer Journal Package

New External Resources That Are Open for Searching

The following external resources were added for this release (the resources will be available October 5th):

- Copyright Agency (not free)
- CALIS (we_cat) (not free)