GLOSSARY OF TERMS / DEFINTIONS

AACR2 Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, version 2 - cataloguing

rules for the description of, and provision of access to, library

materials

Acquisitions The functional area supporting the purchase of and subscription

to print and electronic library resources.

ANSI American National Standards Institute

API Application Programming Interface, allows access to a software

platform by third party software systems

ASCII American Standard Code for Information Interchange - a

commonly used format for text files

Authority An agreed term to describe a single entity, to ensure its

consistent format and use throughout all applicable

bibliographic records, for example author name authorities

Authority file A collection or list of authority records

Bibliographic record An entry in a library catalogue which represents and describes a

specific resource and contains the data elements necessary to help users identify and retrieve that resource presented in a

formalised / standardised bibliographic format

Boolean Search A type of search that allows search terms to be combined with

operators such as AND, NOT, OR and XOR to refine results

Borrower A registered library member who has library items loaned out to

them

Bulk change Changing more than one record at a time. May also be referred

to as Batch amendments or changes.

Call number Notation on the spine of the book to show its place / location

within the library, which may be letters denoting location codes, or may include the classification number for non-fiction items.

Cataloguing The process for describing and listing an item within the library

catalogue

Central index A central aggregated index of full-text content aggregated by the

system supplier

Circulation The part of the Integrated Library System used to issue, return

and request items from the library's collection

Circulation history A record of past loans made by a member, or past loans of a

particular item

City / The City City of Johannesburg / City of Joburg

Class numbers Class numbers are classification markers used to categorise

and order materials. LIS uses Dewey and an expanded inhouse system for the Africana collection followed by three or

more letters of the author's surname / title

Client In a server / client architecture model, there are typically

multiple clients and a single central server

COJ City of Johannesburg

Collections Sets of materials arranged for specific purposes (e.g. lending

collections, music collections, art collections, reference collection). These may be part of a library or a library on their

own

COUNTER Counting Online Usage of Networked Electronic Resources - an

agreed standard for counting electronic resource usage

CSV Comma Separated Value file format, often used for the simple

transfer of data

Discovery tool The user search tool made up of a central index of subscription

metadata along with local holdings information

Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI) metadata standard

(Digital collections)

Due date The due date (or due-time time, for hourly loans) that an item is

due to be returned by, following which a fine may be levied

EM security solution A book security solution using electro-magnetic technology

which comprises EM security strips that are inserted into print library books, journals, etc., sensitiser / desensitiser equipment used to activate and deactivate the security strips, and EM security gates which sound an alarm when an active EM strip is

passed through them.

EM security gates Electro-magnetic security gates which detect EM security strips

in the book stock and are used to prevent theft and loss of

library materials

EM security strip A narrow electro-magnetic security tape inserted into print

library books/journals to reduce the risk of theft - the tape is activated when the item is not borrowed, and deactivated when it is, so that an alarm at exit gates sounds when activated

eResources Management The management of subscription and one-off purchase licences

for electronic materials

Fees Monetary amounts charged to a user, including overdue fines,

replacement fees for loss or damage to borrowed items, membership fees for value added membership categories

Fund structure An hierarchical structure of funds (Directorate --> Region -->

Library)

Global change The ability to change a piece of data across the whole system in

one go

GRAP Generally Recognised Accounting Principles which defines

books as capital assets and are required to managed and

reported on as such

GRAP17 Section 17 of the Generally Recognised Accounting Principles,

referring to Property, plants and materials, used for standard

library book assets

GRAP103 Section 101 of the Generally Recognised Accounting Principles,

referring to Heritage assets.

Holdings One or more instances of an item described within a single

bibliographic record; together all holdings form the entire library

collection

ILS Integrated library system, the library information and services

management solution that is being procured including all required software, related applications and asset (inventory)

management technologies

Inter-Library Loans (ILL) COJ Libraries borrowing resources from, or lending resources to

other libraries outside COJ e.g. from university libraries, other

municipalities

Inter-branch Issues Libraries in the Department borrowing resources from, or

lending resources to other libraries in the Department

Inventory Process of taking stock or physically verifying items within the

Library collections

ISBN International Standard Book Number

Item A generic term referring to any type of information resource or

object held by the library

Item Status The recorded status of an individual item, for example 'available

for loan', 'on loan', 'damaged', 'missing', 'in process'

Item Type The type or format of an item, for example Book, DVD, Music

CD, Magazine

LC standards Globally recognised Cataloguing standards set by the Library of

Congress

Library / The Library Unless specified, Library refers to COJ libraries as a whole,

including the public libraries of the Library and Information Services Directorate as well as other departmental libraries within the City, e.g. Law Library, Museums libraries, Public

Safety libraries

Library Member Users that have registered as members of the library and have

specific usage or borrowing rights and an account on the ILS

Library User Users include members and non-members of the Library who

make use of the Library's physical or online services, resources

or facilities

Library staff / Library staff users Library staff that require access to the back-end administration

functions of the ILS

Linked Open Data Data described semantically with links between objects,

published openly

LIS City of Johannesburg Library and Information Services including

the public libraries of the Library and Information Services Directorate as well as other departmental libraries within the City, e.g. Law Library, Museums libraries, Public Safety libraries

LMS The online Learning management system as described within

the scope of work

Loan history A record of items currently borrowed by a patron; may also

include historical information about past borrowing

Loan Period Circulation loan period for items in general

MARC / MARC21 Machine Readable Cataloguing standard used to format the

bibliographic description of resources

Materials A generic term referring to any type of object held by the library

Metadata The functional area supporting the description (cataloguing) of

all library resources. As a single term, 'metadata' means the

description given to library materials

Module A specific functional area of the library management platform

NCIP NISO Circulation Interchange Protocol that allows systems to

communicate regarding the borrowing and return of items

NFC Near-field communication, to enable cashless payment

transactions through using a short-range wireless connectivity

technology that uses magnetic field induction to enable communication between two electronic devices when they are touched together or brought within a few centimeters of each

other.

NISO National Information Standards Organization

OAI-PMH Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting, often

used for harvesting remote bibliographic databases such as

repositories

OCLC Online Computer Library Centre, based in Dublin, Ohio, USA

OCLC WorldCat A global union catalogue maintained by OCLC

OPAC Online Public Access Catalogue

OpenURL A standard method to describe a resource by encoding its

attributes within a URL

OpenURL Link resolver A tool to deliver links to providers, so that users can gain access

to resources described in the OpenURL format

Overdues Items which are overdue and have not been returned before

their due date

Overdue Fines Monetary charges made to a user for late return of borrowed

items / overdue items

Package Within the context of E-Resource Management, a grouped set

of e-resources purchased/subscribed to together for one single

fee

RDA Resource Description and Access is a cataloguing standard that

will replace AACR2

Real time Data is passed at the time it happens, rather than being

processed periodically in batches

Recalls Items that are recalled or requested back from the current

borrower, as another user would like to borrow the item

Renewals The ability for a library user to extend the loan period of an item

Reports Reports of statistics or information about system usage and

contents

Reservations A user or staff member can place a 'request' on a particular title

or item that is currently not available, i.e. on loan, not found, etc. and will be notified when the item becomes available to

them

Resources Materials managed within the ILS, comprising different types

and formats (for example physical books, electronic materials,

DVDs, subscription materials)

RFID Radio Frequency Identification - an Identification technology

used in library inventory and stock management processes which allows identification of large number of tagged books in

libraries, using radio waves

RFID tags Radio Frequency Identification tags - electronic tags which are

programmes to store specific data and are able to exchange this data with radio frequency identification (RFID) readers. When affixed to a Library item, the RFID tag can be used to

search for, identify or track that particular item.

RFID / EM Hybrid solution A solution which seamlessly combines the stock identification

and management capabilities of RFID with the security

functionality of EM technologies

RSS Rich Site Summary (RSS) web feed

SaaS Software as a service

Self-service Includes Self-issue, self-return, self-renewal, self-reservation

and is the ability for members to utilise self-service kiosks to

issue, return, renew items for themselves

Serials Also known as periodicals - Items which are routinely published

in a series, e.g. magazines and journals

Session In the context of OPAC and Discovery platform, a single period

of time devoted by a user to searching and accessing resources

through the discovery platform

Shelf mark Notation on a book spine to help show its place / location within

the library

Short loan High demand item type with restricted circulation loan period,

e.g. Overnight loan, 1-day loan

SIP Standard Interchange Protocol developed by 3M to describe

actions made on items, for example issue and return; used to

facilitate self-issue and self-return

Site Any building or location within the City of Johannesburg

Department where an item of Library stock may be stored or accessed. This covers a considerable geographical area and includes library sites, the Metro Centre and Library Regional

offices, and the centralised LIS Support Offices

SQL Structured Query Language, a standard method for querying

databases

Standard loan Items with a standard circulation loan period, currently 3 weeks

Stock Any item within the Library collections

SUSHI Standardized Usage Statistics Harvesting Initiative standard

developed by NISO to transmit electronic resource usage

statistics between systems

System The Integrated library system (ILS) that is being procured

including all required software, related applications and asset

(inventory) management technologies

System Administrator A system user with extra authorisation to change the central

configuration of the system, and to have unrestricted access to

the entire system

Unique identifier A unique identifier for a single item / object / person that only

ever occurs once in the database

URL Uniform resource locator – also known as web address or

internet address. It is the unique standardised address on the Internet used to locate a specific website, webpage or web

resource

XML Extensible Mark-up Language, often used to convey structured

information such as patron feeds or financial information

Z39.50 A NISO standard to remotely search and query library systems