
ERM RECORD STRUCTURES

This short presentation focuses on the work we at the University of Western Australia have been doing in trying to develop record structures for the ERM. When we first embarked on this we thought it would be a relatively straight forward and short part of our implementation process, but as it turned out it occupied a great deal of our time and became one of the key components to solve in order to allow us to implement the ERM in the way we wanted.

Look at key factors in record structure:

- Relationship of the bibliographic record to resource record: To bib or not to bib?
- How to capture the complexity of electronic subscriptions
- Issues that arise out of proposed record structure

Relationship of the bibliographic record to resource record

This relationship is really a question of whether it is necessary to have a bibliographic record as well as a resource record for a resource. There are two main issues here:

1. There is a certain degree of overlap between the MARC bibliographic record and the non MARC resource record. Resource record fields such as the resource name, alternative resource name, author, subject, description, and so on all have equivalent MARC fields in the Bibliographic record. Is there enough overlap that the resource record in effect replaces the role of the bibliographic record so that it is no longer required?
2. This leads to the second issue, if you don't have a bibliographic record, how do you access the resource record. There are several options here including:
 - Adding the resource name (in some form) as a search option on your catalogue (see Ohio State example)
 - Including the resource name in the title index. This means a title search returns both bibliographic and resource records. However, it would only be via title that you could retrieve a resource record. Searching on other indexes such as the author or subject would not retrieve any records.

At UWA we decided to maintain a bibliographic record for every resource record. This meant several things:

- The bibliographic record provides all the access points to our resource records. We do not index our resource name in the title index.
- In order to minimise duplication between the bibliographic and resource/license record we developed standards which defined which data would be held in which record. So for example, we do not use the author, publisher, or alternative name fields in the resource record as this information is carried by the bib. Vice versa we do not hold any authorised user information previously held in the 506 note field in the bibliographic record as this is now carried in the license record.
- Maintaining the bibliographic record meant we could keep our order records attached to these rather than having orders attached to resources. This sidestepped any acquisitions issues we may have had with having order records attached to two separate record types.

How to capture the complexity of electronic subscriptions

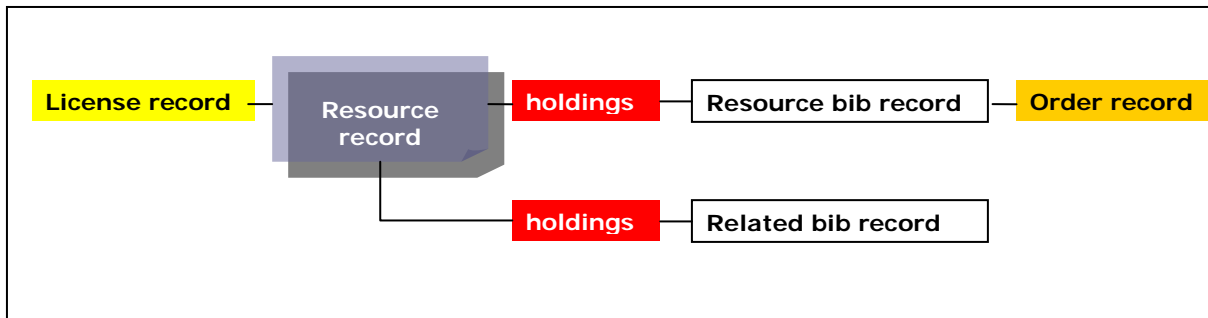
The other key factor in developing a structure is working out how it will capture the complexity of electronic subscriptions. As you all know, there is no end the various licensing, pricing, and packaging models in the information market place. The structure needs to be flexible enough to be able to deal with these variations. Within this there are in essence two competing demands on the structure:

The structure needs to capture the hierarchical relationships between resource records, license records, and related bibliographic records which reflect how the resource is packaged and licensed.

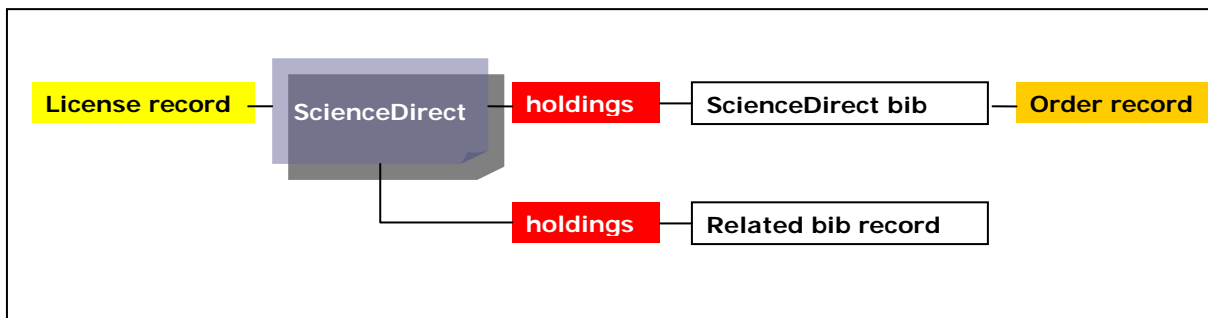
This structure also needs to be compatible with how the Library's eholdings provider structures the data so that it can match and load correctly as part of the coverage load process.

The best way to explain this is using an example:

When we first looked at this we knew that the ERM was based around the following record structure:



When we first loaded ScienceDirect it looked like this:

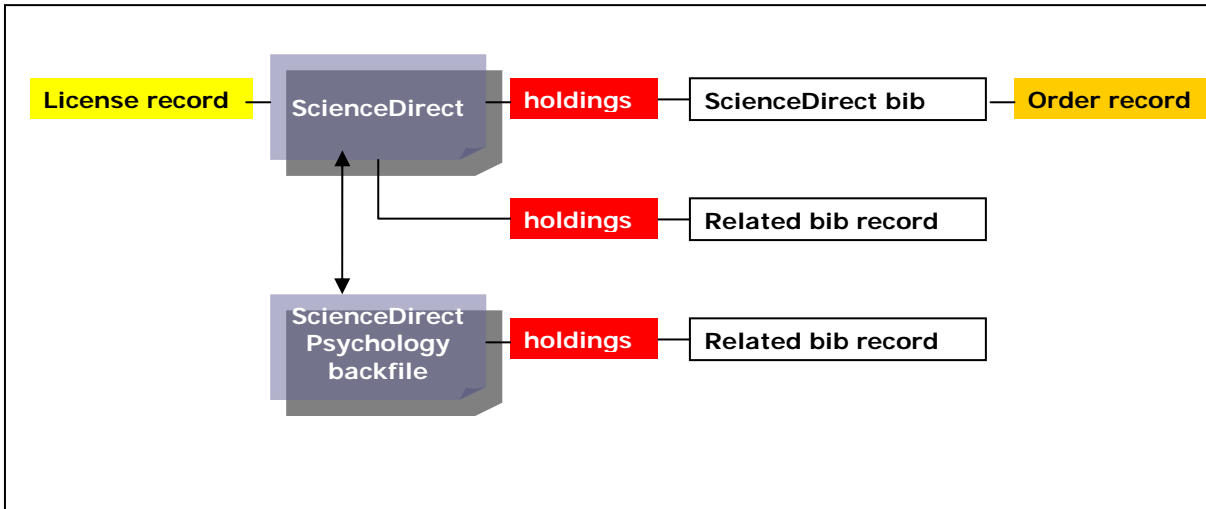


The first complication came when we then came to load the backfiles:

ScienceDirect backfiles were treated as a separate entity by our eholdings provider SerialSolutions. We assumed that since these backfiles came under the same license as the ScienceDirect freedom collection and in terms of metadata are almost identical to current ScienceDirect Freedom Collection we could load these against the existing resource record.

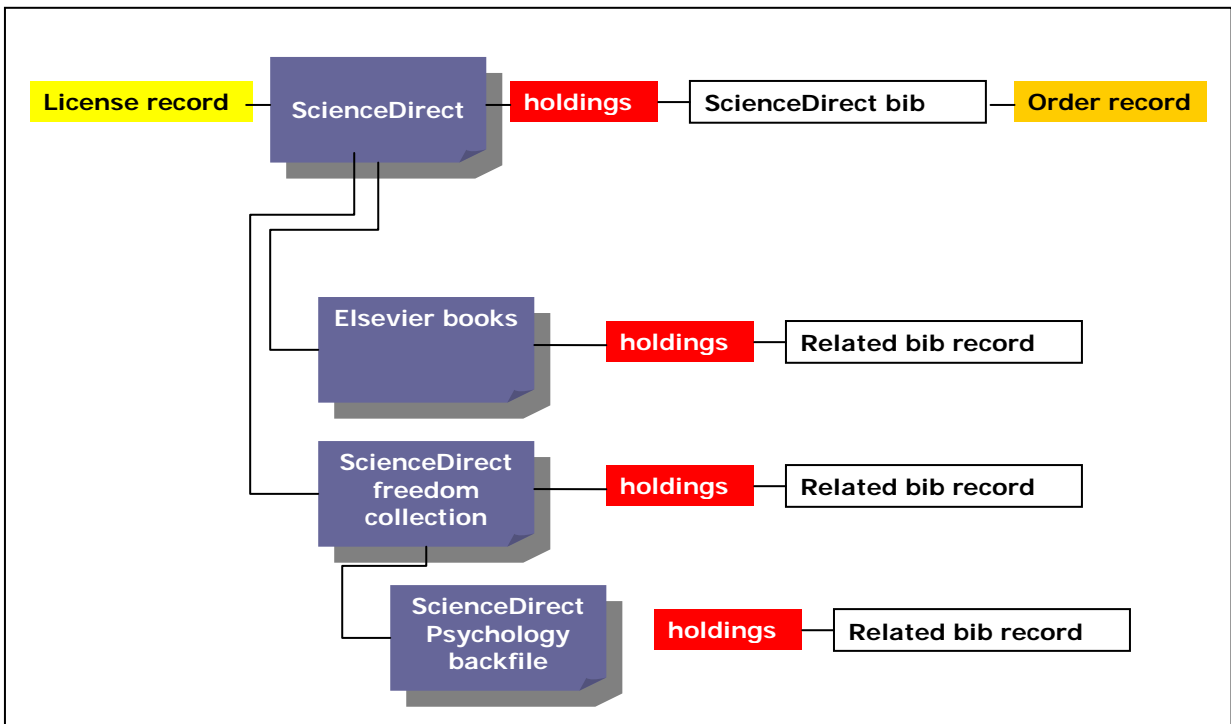
However, we discovered that the coverage load will not match where there is more than one resource id in a resource. So if we had a ScienceDirect Freedom Collection resource id and a ScienceDirect Psychology backfile resource id both on the ScienceDirect resource record, it would only match on the first id.

This meant we needed to have separate resource records in order to load the back files. We now had two types of related resource record:



The second complication came when we purchased Methods in Enzymology which is an Elsevier ebook. This title comes under the standard ScienceDirect license and is delivered via the ScienceDirect platform. This means it has the same administration data and so forth. However, it is a totally separate entity to the Freedom collection. It is not part of that package, it has a separate pricing model, and it is not purchased as part of a consortium. As such it required its own resource record. At this point we realised that there were going to be many different types of resource records which would relate to each other.

In the case of the ScienceDirect example we identified three types of record: These were the Interface record, what we call the vendor package record, and the back file record. The record structure now looks like this:



We have now identified 6 types of resource records and we use the fixed field resource level to distinguish each record. These are:

i	Interface	An interface is a software platform or website through which an electronic title(s) is made available. A resource record is created for the interface if it has attached license conditions that are independent of those set by the publisher.
v	Vendor package	A vendor package represents a title or group of titles which are purchased as a single entity. A resource record is created for a vendor package if the package title(s) are being delivered through an interface but there are certain ERM data elements which need to be distinguished at the package level. This may, for example, be where a package is based on a certain pricing model which does not apply to other titles delivered via the same interface.
r	Vendor package part	A vendor package part is a title or group of titles which are a component of a vendor package and need to be distinguished with a resource record. This may be because there are ERM elements which differ at the Package part level or because there is a need to load coverage data against a particular Package part. For example, Ebscohost is an interface which has a Vendor package called Ebsco Mega File Premier. This vendor package itself is made up of a number of databases such as Business Source Premier and Academic Search Premier. These databases require resource records in order to load coverage data against. As such, they become vendor package parts.
p	Platform package	A platform package represents a group of titles purchased as a single entity delivered via an interface, in which both the titles and the interface share the same license conditions. A resource record is created for a platform package when a single license covers the terms and conditions for both the package and the interface.
b	Backfile package	A backfile package represents a group of titles which are purchased as a separate entity and are treated as such by the Library's eholdings provider. However, in terms of licensing they are covered by either the platform package or vendor package or etitle they relate to.
e	etitle	A resource is considered an etitle if it represents a single title delivered via an interface (that is, it is not part of a package), in which the title and the interface share the same license conditions.

We have also mapped 10 possible models through which these resources can relate to each other:

These can vary from the simple one to one relationship of an etitle:

Insert diagram

To the more complex relationship involving vendor package parts:

Insert diagram (eg Informit)

Issues about this record structure

It became apparent that one license could apply to more than one resource. Unfortunately the ERM does not allow us to relate one license record to multiple resource records (however, we have requested this as an enhancement so please vote for it). What we have done as an interim measure is to create a brief license record where there is a presiding license is attached to a parent resource record. The brief license only contains the public display fields of the license taken from the presiding license.

Similarly, we discovered that there was often a lot of overlap between the various related resource records. As such, we created standards which define when a field is required on a resource record if it is also on a parent record.

Lastly, it became necessary for us to create links between these records so that we could tell which resource record related to which. Again, the ERM does not allow one resource to be related to another (we have requested this as an enhancement as well), so we had to use the Support variable length field in the resource record to build these relationships.

Eg ScienceDirect.

Show OPAC display