

Alexandria 5.5.3.4 Release Notes

5.5.3.4 - 4/18/2008

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Alexandria 5.5.3.4 is a maintenance release in the 5.5.3 series with several enhancements and changes. Due to multiple data enhancements, a database rebuild will be required on updating. COMPanion encourages all users to update to this version at their earliest convenience.

******* Before updating, backup or archive your data first. *******

NOTE: In order to run the Sneak Peek Utilities, QuickTime must be installed on the Data Station and on the Workstations. <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download>

System Requirements for Data Stations

Minimum

Mac OS 10.3.9+, Windows 2000+
G4, Pentium 4 (or equivalent)
1 GB of RAM
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items

Recommended

Mac OS 10.5+, Win XP or 2003
Intel Core 2 Duo or AMD
1 GB of RAM or more
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items

System Requirements for Controller and Central Union Data Stations

Minimum

Mac OS 10.4, Windows 2000+
G5 or X86, Dual Processor/Core
2 GB of RAM
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items
TCP/IP Network

Recommended

Mac OS 10.5 Server, Win 2003
Intel Core 2 Duo or AMD
4 GB of RAM or more
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items
TCP/IP Network

System Requirements for Librarian Workstations

Minimum

Mac OS 10.3.9+, Windows 2000 or XP
G4, Pentium 4 (or equivalent)
256 MB of RAM
200 MB of Free HD
TCP/IP Network

Recommended

Mac OS 10.5+, Win XP, or Vista
G4+, Pentium 4+ (or equivalent)
512 MB of RAM or more
200 MB of Free HD or more
TCP/IP Network

System Requirements for Research Workstations

Minimum

Mac OS 10.3.9+, Windows 2000 or XP
G3, Pentium III (or equivalent)
256 MB of RAM
100 MB of Free HD Space
TCP/IP Network

Recommended

Mac OS 10.5+, Win XP, or Vista
G4, Pentium 4 (or equivalent)
256 MB of RAM or more
100 MB of Free HD Space
TCP/IP Network

Browser Requirements for Web Librarian and Web Researcher

Minimum

Internet Explorer 6 for Win 98 and above
Safari for Mac OS X
Internet Explorer 5 for Mac OS 9
Java 1.4

Optional

Internet Explorer 7, Mozilla Firefox 2.0, Netscape 7, Opera, and others for both Mac and Windows

Major Features

- * Enhanced MARC Authority for improved accuracy on matching and general usability.
- * Restored Web Links for the Web Researcher.
- * The reading level and/or Lexile for an item can now be displayed in search results, based on a new local Researcher Preference.
- * Enhanced Alexandria image handling for Items, Patrons, and Sneak Peek cover art retrieval.
- * Increased performance and stability.

Specific enhancements and changes

Circulation:

- * The set due date command on the renewal pane is now working as expected.
- * Fixed a timing issue that occurred when obtaining patron details from Textbook Tracker using the QP command. This should ensure the correct Alexandria and Textbook Tracker patron information is consistently printed.
- * Alexandria will no longer assign lost charges to a special patron when patrons with checked out books are being removed.
- * The '.' command is now handling all forms of date entry properly, both for the override date and the new set due date commands for items and patrons.
- * The declare lost button in the renew window now works correctly when the 'Do not check in during check out' preference is set.
- * The "Set Due Date" dialogue of the Renewals window now parses dates correctly.
- * For Central Unions registered for duplicate barcode handling - The change barcode command now uses the client duplicate barcode leader rather than the server duplicate barcode leader.
- * Restored correct sound for the "Unknown Barcode" error in self-service mode.

Authority Control:

- * Highlighting exact matches in the Authority Control windows has been improved.
- * Increased the size of several MARC authority indexes to prevent the authority window from showing duplicate entries in most cases. A rebuild of MARC authority is required on startup.
- * We are now always showing Authority Control windows if the controlled field changes, even if an exact match exists. The only exception is MARC View in Item Management.
- * Authority control is now strict on subjects, showing only the corresponding 1xx MARC authority records for 6xx bibliographic entries; 630s are now also under Authority Control, using 130 MARC authority records.
- * Subfield b is no longer considered a valid part of a 130 record.
- * When authority controlling an item in the simple view, the medium is no longer updated as it is part of the bibliographic 245/authority 130 authority control record.
- * Invalid fields in the MARC view will not allow you to exit until they're corrected and the error message now includes the list of proper fields for reference.
- * Clicking Authority Control entries for editing no longer shows an erroneous 'Tag must be Numeric' error message.
- * Fixed problems with the authority control window sometimes not displaying all appropriate entries.
- * Updated all LOC links to reference the new and correct pages on the LOC MARC site.
- * Quick Entry for authority control now has better instructions showing which types of tags are being added.
- * Quick Entry now accepts the enter/return keys as the default for the OK button.

Controller:

- * The Restore From Archive button no longer shows on the Controller's Scheduled Events preferences pane. Restoring from an archive on the Controller must be handled manually.
- * The Items-Checkout utility is now working correctly at a client connected to a Data Station running under Alexandria Controller.

Explore:

- * Pre-5.5.3 Explore panes are now converted correctly when they're imported from the Researcher preferences pane.
- * Rearranging an Explore pane's buttons is now working properly.

Export:

- * MARC, MicroLIF, and tab-delimited exports now exclude Sneak Peek summaries.

Importing:

*Character set issues have been addressed for importing patron records via scheduled import. This corrects problems some customers may have experienced with accented characters.

*Added new Replace Records option for importing Mitinet files. This option, which is available on the Import window for Mitinet enabled accounts will enable users to import files obtained from Mitinet manually and opt to replace the entire MARC record, rather than update or add to it, without affecting circulation information, or usage statistics.

Interface:

* The Google Maps link in the address label can now be clicked when a window is locked.

Item management:

* Adding statement of responsibility (245_c) or subtitle (245_b) now works from the title editor.

* The author editor no longer considers 100_a to be mandatory.

* Fixed required item picture flags that weren't being reset after an item was saved. This could cause subsequent saved records to lose their pictures.

* Browsing quickly in the MARC view to records that have 008 as the third element no longer causes the Book Editor to pop up unnecessarily.

Miscellaneous:

* Extraneous files and folders in the Alexandria "Data" folder are now moved to a folder within the Alexandria Support directory called "Unknown Data Files". This way, the Data folder will only ever contain required items, and users will not be continually notified of files which are not needed.

* Added a user column to the log to show who performed an action.

* The homeroom window should now only close when you click on the 'x'. Making a patron current by double-clicking the name or clicking OK now leaves the homeroom window open.

Patron management:

* Punctuation is no longer removed when creating a default password.

* Patron Government ID searches now correctly handle punctuation, which allows the patron management window to detect duplicates when an ID contains hyphens.

Preferences:

* Restored correct sorting to the Explore Panes list in Preferences.

* A rebuild will now remove extraneous registration code entries.

Reports:

- * Fixed name ordering on overdue report.
- * Changed all the MARC authority reports to match types and selections available in the MARC authority editor window. Medium selections are now also functional.
- * Inventory reports no longer auto-populate selection fields with a date range.
- * Fixed totals in circulation overdue listings report.

Researcher:

- * The reading level and Lexile can now be displayed in search results, based on the new local Researcher preferences.

SIP2:

- * SIP2 printer width is now assigned a default value of 40 if it is set in preferences to 0 or less (does not use the default). Also, the Institution ID and Library ID comparisons are now case insensitive.

Utilities:

- * The Sneak Peek cover art utility now attempts to retrieve images in both GIF or JPG formats since some items images are only available in one format or the other.

Web:

- * Restored the Web Links in the Web Researcher.
- * Saved lists are now sorted properly for multiple page lists.
- * Patron and item policies now display correctly in the management windows.
- * Added Lexile identifiers to saved list report.
- * Googlebot is now explicitly blocked by robots.txt.