

**Alexandria 6.0.3 Release Notes**  
**2/19/2010**

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Current Alexandria v5 customers will need to contact COMPanion prior to updating to version 6. This update is included as part of your support subscription and version 6 will require new registration codes. Version 5 to Version 6 data conversion is now fully supported.

Please contact COMPanion at 1-800-347-6439 or COMPanion Technical Support at 1-800-347-4942 with any questions regarding this update.

Documentation for version 6 is available online at:

<http://www.companioncorp.com/mediawiki/index.php/Alexandria>

**\*\*\*\*\* Archive and Backup your Data before updating\*\*\*\*\***

Alexandria v6 runs on the following operating systems. Below are more specific recommendations: Mac OS 10.4, Mac OS 10.5, Mac OS 10.6, Windows XP, Windows Server 2003, Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows Server 2008

**System Requirements for Data Stations**

**Minimum**

Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP+  
G4, Pentium 4 (or equivalent)  
1 GB of RAM  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items  
1024 x 768 Resolution

**Recommended**

Mac OS 10.6+, Windows XP or 2003  
X86 Multi-Core/Processor  
1 GB of RAM or more  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items

**System Requirements for Central Union Data Stations**

**Minimum**

Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP+  
G5 or X86, Dual Processor/Core  
2 GB of RAM  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items  
TCP/IP Network  
1024 x 768 Resolution

**Recommended**

Mac OS 10.6+, Windows 2003  
X86 Multi-Core/Processor  
4 GB of RAM or more  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items  
TCP/IP Network

**System Requirements for Controller Systems**

**Minimum**

**Recommended**

Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP+  
G5 or X86, Dual Processor/Core  
2 GB of RAM  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items  
TCP/IP Network  
1024 x 768 Resolution

Mac OS 10.6+, Windows 2003  
X86 Multi-Core/Processor  
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 10.4, Windows XP  
G4, Pentium 4 (or equivalent)  
256 MB of RAM  
200 MB of Free HD  
TCP/IP Network  
1024 x 768 Resolution

#### **Recommended**

Mac OS 10.5+, Windows XP or 7  
G4+, Pentium 4+ (or equivalent)  
512 MB of RAM or more  
200 MB of Free HD or more  
TCP/IP Network

### **Browser Requirements for Web Librarian and Researcher**

NOTE: In 6.0.3 the Web Librarian will require FireFox 3+ or Safari 3+ for Mac and Windows. Users may experience problems with IE at this time. IE 7 and 8 will be fully supported in the next major release.

#### **Minimum (recommended)**

FireFox 3+ for Windows  
Safari 3+ for Mac OS X  
1024 x 768 Resolution

#### **Optional**

Internet Explorer 7+ , FireFox 3+  
and others for both Mac and  
Windows

### **Overview of Major Features:**

Alexandria 6.0.3 is an important maintenance release in the v6 series with several bug fixes. Due to a critical database fix, everyone running Alexandria v6 should upgrade to this version immediately.

### **Specific Enhancements and Changes:**

#### **Circulation:**

\* Focus will now be returned to the command line after a patron is selected from the homeroom pane of the circulation window, or homeroom window.

#### **Database:**

\* Under certain, unusual circumstances and when a title has more than 50 copies, the copies can become permanently associated with the wrong title. This has been resolved. Although this is a rare occurrence, this can happen to anyone. Everyone running Alexandria v6 should upgrade as soon as possible.

\* Enhanced stability.

**Export:**

\* Under certain circumstances, headers could be missing from tab delimited exports. These have been restored.

**Reports:**

- \* Fixed a file conflict error in report generation correcting a "hung" operations manager that some users have reported encountering.
- \* The Pending Holds report is again displaying call numbers correctly.
- \* Copy reports, sorted by Copy Call Number should now be sorting correctly.

**Researcher:**

- \* Scrolling in full details with result sets smaller than 1 page will no longer cause the details page to become unresponsive.
- \* Corrected several issues with the display of copy status information in results lists.
- \* Simple single term searches containing apostrophe's are again working correctly.
- \* Researcher results view style and sorting controls are now correctly displayed in Internet Explorer.
- \* The Search Details window now has a scrollbar in Internet Explorer.

**Subscriptions:**

\* Corrected several issues with receiving subscriptions. Corrected issues with adding copies to existing titles, history and number of issues remaining counter.

**System:**

\* Enhanced performance and stability

**Utilities:**

- \* Corrected issues with Sneak Peek and Patron and Item Picture utilities that could cause the systems Operations Manager to "hang".
- \* Sneak Peek utilities now set "Reconnect for each Item" by default since more often than not, users are finding they need to set this option for successful results.

**Alexandria 6.0.2 Release Notes**  
**12/23/2009**

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Documentation for version 6 is available online at:

<http://www.companioncorp.com/mediawiki/index.php/Alexandria>

**\*\*\*\*\* Archive and Backup your Data before updating\*\*\*\*\***

Alexandria v6 runs on the following operating systems. Below are more specific recommendations: Mac OS 10.4, Mac OS 10.5, Mac OS 10.6, Windows XP, Windows Server 2003, Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows Server 2008

### **System Requirements for Data Stations**

#### Minimum

Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP+  
G4, Pentium 4 (or equivalent)  
1 GB of RAM  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items  
1024 x 768 Resolution

#### Recommended

Mac OS 10.6+, Windows XP or 2003  
X86 Multi-Core/Processor  
1 GB of RAM or more  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items

### **System Requirements for Central Union Data Stations**

#### Minimum

Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP+  
G5 or X86, Dual Processor/Core  
2 GB of RAM  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items  
TCP/IP Network  
1024 x 768 Resolution

#### Recommended

Mac OS 10.6+, Windows 2003  
X86 Multi-Core/Processor  
4 GB of RAM or more  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items  
TCP/IP Network

### **System Requirements for Controller Systems**

#### Minimum

Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP+  
G5 or X86, Dual Processor/Core  
2 GB of RAM  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items  
TCP/IP Network  
1024 x 768 Resolution

#### Recommended

Mac OS 10.6+, Windows 2003  
X86 Multi-Core/Processor  
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 10.4, Windows XP  
G4, Pentium 4 (or equivalent)

#### Recommended

Mac OS 10.5+, Windows XP or 7  
G4+, Pentium 4+ (or equivalent)

256 MB of RAM  
200 MB of Free HD  
TCP/IP Network  
1024 x 768 Resolution

512 MB of RAM or more  
200 MB of Free HD or more  
TCP/IP Network

### **Browser Requirements for Web Librarian and Researcher**

NOTE: In 6.0.2 the Web Librarian will require FireFox 3+ or Safari 3+ for Mac and Windows. Users may experience problems with IE at this time. IE 7 and 8 will be fully supported in the next major release.

Minimum (recommended)  
FireFox 3+ for Windows  
Safari 3+ for Mac OS X  
1024 x 768 Resolution

Optional  
Internet Explorer 7+ , FireFox 3+  
and others for both Mac and  
Windows

### **Overview of Major Features:**

Alexandria 6.0.2 is a minor release which continues to build on the technologies and features introduced in the v6 series. With the release of 6.0.2 we are introducing several new features, along with many bug fixes and minor enhancements. Among the major features are the following:

\* Implemented a new Web Librarian module. In v6 we are reengineering the Web Librarian from the ground up to offer a rich and full featured module based on modern web technologies complete with all of the functionality found in the installed Librarian Client, and more. v6.0.2 offers the first phase of this redesign with support for circulation, basic patron and item management, and reporting.

NOTE: The 6.0.2 Web Librarian will require FireFox 3+ or Safari 3+ for Mac and Windows. Users may experience problems with IE at this time. IE 7 and 8 will be fully supported in the next major release.

\* Implemented Web Administration modules for the Controller and Web Router products.

\* Implemented support for Operator and Patron authentication via LDAP.

\* Implemented support for receipt printing to Dymo model 400 printers

\* Implemented enhanced operation management for Reports, Utilities, and Exports.

In v6.0.2 all operations, scheduled or manually initiated are now being managed by an operations manager service on the server. This new manager governs load / operation queuing and offers a centralized location to monitor and track all operations and their output.

\* Made several enhancements in the Researcher to improve performance and user experience.

\* Made several improvements throughout the reporting module offering many new options including some new requested report formats and selection / sort options.

\* Improved performance and stability throughout the application.

## Specific Enhancements and Changes:

### Advanced Bookings:

- \* There is now an option located under Edit - Preferences - Circulation - Rules allowing operators the ability to send an email notification to the librarian when a reservation is made or canceled.
- \* Packing list notes configured under Edit - System Preferences - Circulation - Advanced Bookings will now properly print on packing lists

### Authority Control:

- \* The 440 and 490 tags are again being Authority controlled properly when adding new entries.
- \* Added Authority Control for Postal Code.
- \* When Authority Control is enforced, operators can no longer bypass authority control when changing tabs in management windows.

### Circulation:

- \* Printing holds, reservations, or charges via the 'Print' button is now working the same as when printing from the actions menu in these panes.
- \* The 'D' command no longer intercepts all barcodes that begin with 'D'.
- \* There are now actions menu options to open the transaction log folder in the Finder/Explorer.
- \* The license information tab should now populate correctly on clients.
- \* Restored patron expired card dialog to check in/check out mode.
- \* The payment notes from a lost transaction are now being propagated into the charge description for future reference.
- \* The temporary item window now provides a policy dropdown which allows operators to specify the item policy that will be used for the temporary transaction.
- \* Added new commands: SC, ST, SA. Similar to the Locate Title "T" command in previous versions, these new "Search" commands allow you to quickly locate an item by Call Number, Title, or Author.
- \* Added 'A' (awards) keyword option to 'Assign Keywords' mode. Thus, one can set Award notes on a title using the VA command.
- \* Copy alert notes will again display when a copy with such notes is made current.
- \* The reason for discard is now added into the copy notes when a copy is discarded.
- \* The 'Z' command with notes is working again.
- \* Added Check In option when renewing an item with a pending hold.
- \* Added message to reservation alert window with the copy barcode of the next available copy.
- \* Holds, reservations, and charges panes are no longer allowing multiple selections.
- \* Duplicating a title no longer also duplicates the title hold queue.
- \* Charges tab/Make payment: If a patron has credit then that credit can be used in the payment.
- \* When "Allow check in with confirmation during check out" is set in preferences, Renew is now the default option in the confirmation dialog.

- \* Patrons can now have their library cards renewed or activated from the circulation window when the patron expired/not active dialog is shown.

### **Controller:**

- \* Implemented a Web Administration module for the Controller.
- \* Fixed an issue in the email notification code that prevented all administrators from receiving messages.
- \* The Controller now creates a default user on startup (Admin/<serial number>).
- \* As a security measure, the Controller now defaults to requiring a user login. Note: this only applies to newly registered data sets.
- \* A Librarian client connected to a Data Station in a Controller is now allowed to check for updates. Although the client won't be given the option of an application update, Netlink updates and other resources can now be obtained as required.
- \* Browsing to a sites list enabled controller no longer saves the users site selection indefinitely unless they opt to "Always use this server" by selecting the check-box labeled such.
- \* Shared IP addresses and web ports are now displayed for Data Stations running in a Controller.
- \* The Librarian now displays the serial number in the transaction log and the circulation window's title bar when it's connected to a Data Station in a Controller.

### **Database:**

- \* When updating from pre-v6 versions, the systems data folder will be automatically archived incase needed. The data will be stored in the Alexandria Support folder in an appropriately named sub-directory.

### **Email:**

- \* There is now much more email related information in the primary email log, and much less in the visible transaction log. Once per hour Alexandria will check for email errors, and if there are any, it will write a single transaction log message to inform the operator.

### **Explore Builder:**

- \* The v6 Explore Start Pane will always be generated even for users not registered for Explore. This allows use of certain pre-defined search options that are always present in the Researcher.
- \* Explore Builder now properly stores search settings for editing.

### **Export:**

- \* Added an export option to limit a MARC record export to 25 copies per record. This option can be used when it is possible a MARC export will exceed the 10,000 character per record limit. Limiting such an export to 25 copies per title will more often ensure the overall size of the MARC record will be under the size limit. Copies in excess of 25 are addend to a new title record until all copies have been exported.
- \* Scheduled exports should now properly respect all notification and location options.

**Help:**

- \* Help throughout the application has been enhanced. Many of the help pages on the wiki have been better organized and updated with more current content.

**Import:**

- \* The item policy drop-down value on the import window now defaults to "Default Web Page" for Netlink updates.

This ensures they are associated with a policy that allows them to display correctly as cataloged web sites in the Researcher.

- \* Underscores in a URL are no longer converted to dashes when importing records with 856 (URL) tags.

- \* The patron import mechanism will now modify any duplicate user ID's on import.

- \* Scheduled imports should now work properly when explicitly specifying an import file. You must specify the file type in the filename. For Example: Example\_Import.txt

- \* Import browse now allows you to view tab delimited headers if they are present in the file being browsed.

- \* Reassigned barcode messages will only appear when actual copies are imported and their barcodes have been reassigned.

- \* Import will only attempt a Mitinet firewall export and upload when the file being imported contains item records and the "Use Firewall" option is enabled.

- \* Credit that should be given during import of lost items with fees paid is now being given.

**Interface:**

- \* Image files can now be copied and pasted into image locations.

- \* The System Information pane now shows the actual monitor resolution on Windows instead of just the workspace area.

**Inventory Helper:**

- \* The Items not inventoried count in the Review tab should now report the correct number of items.

**Item Management:**

- \* Audited all MARC tags and subfields and made necessary updates and additions per 2008 / 2009 MARC 21 updates.

- \* Net Link records are once again displaying and included in searches in Item Management.

- \* Enhanced the Item selection window to remember search and search type settings until the management window is closed.

- \* When opening the Item window a last modified search is performed as the default selection. When "Filter Results by Site ID code" is set in preferences, this search will implicitly filter for the current site. This means that operators will only get results for items with copies that match the logged in users site code, or have an empty site code.

- \* Added additional Item quick-searches to the lower actions menu in Item Management. Such searches include: Most Recently Modified, Most Recently Added, Created Today, Created in the Last Week, Modified Today, Modified in the Last Week.
- \* Added additional counters for copy status in the Item Statistics tab. This includes: checked out, lost, on-reserve, in stock hold, discarded, library use, repair, on-order, archived, in-transit and in-transit hold.
- \* Made the 'x of y copies available' display on the Item Management window linkable to the Copy List window.
- \* We now offer MARC, MicroLIF, Tab-Delimited and the special case "Texas Library Connection" export options for single record exports from within the item management interface.
- \* Display of title and copy sequence numbers has been restored to the Item Management window.
- \* Added Copy Sequence Number browse capability to Item Management.
- \* Added a link at the bottom of the ISBN editor window to go to the ISBN Calculator/Converter.
- \* Added an indicator in the form of a text label for titles that are 'Available at Public Library'. When applicable, this information will appear just below the Title's 'Don't show in Researcher' checkbox.
- \* Duplicating and Adding copies through Item Management has now been restricted to
- \* When adding a title through the 'Add Title Assistant', we are now making sure to include the newly added title in the result list in item management.
- \* Changed 'Search Result Cap' to 'Search Result Limit' in the Item selection window.

### **Log:**

- \* An empty workstation log is no longer created when archiving log files on the server.
- \* The login/logout log entries have been enhanced to show the security level (name) as well as the username.

### **Miscellaneous:**

- \* We now support Patron or Item picture imports via drag and drop on the Circulation window.
- \* ZZRESETPATRONPASSWORDS implements a utility to reset all blank (encrypted blank) passwords to the standard default, the last name.
- \* The Patron Attachments feature that existed in Alexandria v5 has been removed for re-design in v6. For those that need access to existing patron attachments, we have created an export function for you. The command is ZZPATRONATTACHMENTS. This command takes a single parameter of 'ALL' or a patron barcode. When ran, this creates a Folder called ZZPATRONATTACHMENTS in the Application's support folder. For each patron processed a subfolder is created. The patron's attachments are placed in this folder. For url attachments, they are placed in a 'URL Attachments' text file.
- \* Added a print button for the system information pane that opens a VWP window displaying the system information. This can then be printed like other VWP documents

**Mitinet:**

- \* Cleaned and improved Mitinet firewall queue. All imported files should now more reliably upload to Mitinet for processing by MARC Firewall.
- \* Fixed automatic Mitinet download. Alexandria should no longer attempt to retrieve the same Mitinet job multiple times.

**Operation Management:**

- \* Implemented enhanced operation management for Reports, Utilities, and Exports. In v6.0.2 all operations, scheduled or manually initiated are managed by the operations manager on the server. This new manager governs load and offers a centralized location to monitor and track all operations and their output.

**Patron Management:**

- \* Enhanced the Patron selection window to remember search and search type settings until the management window is closed.
- \* When opening the Patron window a last modified search is performed as the default selection. When "Filter Results by Site ID code" is set in preferences, this search will implicitly filter for the current site. This means that you will only get results for patrons with site codes that match the logged in users site code, or have an empty site code.
- \* Added additional Item quick-searches to the lower actions menu in Patron Management. Such searches include: Most Recently Modified, Most Recently Added, Created Today, Created in the Last Week, Modified Today, Modified in the Last Week.
- \* Display of patron sequence numbers has been restored to the Patron Management window.
- \* Modified grade field in patron selection window to work like the other similar selection fields.
- \* Changed 'Search Result Cap' to 'Search Result Limit' in the Patron selection window.

**Patron Server:**

- \* The Patron Server import now uses the default patron policy preference instead of the Standard Policy when it receives an unrecognized policy code from the Patron Server.
- \* The Patron Server now creates a default user on startup (Admin/<serial number>).
- \* Added login window and logout option on the desktop to the patron server web UI.
- \* Added reset user and password capability to the web UI.
- \* A restart no longer causes a Data Station to be unable to contact a Patron Server.

**Preferences:**

- \* Implemented LDAP preferences necessary to support user authentication via LDAP.
- \* Fixed a number of issues in patron grade table. Patron grade information should now be saved more reliably, and patrons should advance as expected when advancing grades.
- \* The item policy default fine rate for all standard and user-defined policies is now \$0.00 (zero).
- \* The default entry for a new address book is now given the registration name instead

of "My Data Station".

- \* Corrected several cases where one could encounter problems saving exceptions to new policies that haven't yet been saved.
- \* The logout password window is no longer invoked unless the preference requiring a logout password is set.
- \* If the next barcode in a users preferences is the same as the next barcode in the systems preferences, changing the user's no longer incorrectly changes the system's as well.
- \* The Call Number Policy Mapping preference is now a tab of the Management - Cataloging Preference.
- \* The current tab will now be the only tab restored when using the restore defaults function on a preference pane that has multiple tabs.
- \* Restoring user and machine preferences to system defaults should now work properly for all preferences in the system.
- \* You can now restore Damage Code preferences to defaults.
- \* Added a preference for receipt printing to obscure the patrons ID on the receipt. When enabled, if the length of a barcode is < 6, it prints an \* for every digit except the last digit of the barcode, which is shown. If it is longer than 5, then it prints an \* for every digit save the last 3, which are shown.
  - \* You can now select multiple entries in the Circulation Groups preferences. Edit or double clicks will edit the first selected item. More importantly, removing will eliminate all selected items.
- \* The list of circulation groups now has a counter, a line number for each circulation group.
- \* Added link to database utilities from the scheduled events preference pane.
- \* Disabled the policy check box to limit holds by copy library for non-central union registered installations.
- \* Address book preferences now handle embedded books.
- \* An automatic patron utility modifying all patron grades to match grade table settings is no longer being ran when changing level values in the grade table as this was making changes to patron data many users were not expecting.

### **Reports:**

- \* Canceling reports ran from a client no longer cause the client to disconnect from the server. Also corrected many additional situations that could cause clients to unexpectedly lose connection to the server.
- \* You are no longer able to open multiple report edit windows at once.
- \* Generating PDF reports has been reworked. They should look more similar to printed VWP reports now, particularly in regard to image and barcode image display and placement.
- \* Printing landscape PDF reports no longer prompts to adjust paper size and generates a PDF with the correct paper size.
- \* VWP reports are again locked by default.
- \* The correct label deselection template is now being offered when "Skip some Labels" is selected for Envelope and Spine labels reports.
- \* Removed custom text dialog from label reports that were using it, and added custom

text filed to the report edit window; this solution better supports saved / scheduled label reports.

- \* Added a new circulation report to generate a list of items “Coming due that are needed to fill a reservation”. The report selects all checked out items coming due within selection range, then displays items with reservations that start within 7 days of the due date.
- \* Added a new format of the Envelope and Spine label report; Envelope and Spine Labels Centered with Scannable Barcode.
- \* Added a new spine labels format - Spine Labels, Left (Large) with size 14 font.
- \* Added 3 new Horizontal Spine Label formats - Horizontal Spine Labels - 5x10 Center (Medium), Horizontal Spine Labels - 5x10 Center (Large), and Horizontal Spine Labels - 5x10 Left. Also added 'Include Library' checkbox to each report as well as the two original reports.
- \* Added new title report, Series List - 1 Line.
- \* Added the 3 standard copy location sort options to circulation reports.
- \* Added Copy Barcode sort option to circulation reports.
- \* Added Copy Call Number selection option for circulation reports.
- \* Added Postal Code and City selections to patron reports.
- \* Added Copy Serial Number selection option to copy reports.
- \* Added Award Notes selection option to title reports.
- \* Added # of Patrons to the Patron Policy report and # of Titles to the Items Policy report. This allows users to quickly generate a report showing the number of patrons or items that are using any particular policy.
- \* A new operations name is now set only when explicitly saved.
- \* Call number can now be omitted from copy barcode labels by deselecting the “Include Call Numbers” checkbox.
- \* Fixed “Show In Researcher” selection for all reports where it is applicable.
- \* Fixed inventory statistics summary report output.
- \* Removed the separate AR Reading Level Add-on report template and added a checkbox to the standard Reading Level Add-on template for the AR Reading Level option.
- \* Added “Print Patron’s Name” option to select circulation listings so users can omit the name if needed for privacy reasons. This option does not apply to the Circulation Posting List, Circulation Posting List - Detailed, Circulation Listings - Detailed with Overdue Fines, and Circulation Listings - Detailed with Contact Info.
- \* Added 'Hide or Swap Patron Name' option to the circulation posting list and Circulation Posting List - Detailed reports which swaps out the patrons name for their barcode.
- \* Fixed grade range selection in patron usage reports.
- \* Fixed relative date selections in usage reports.
- \* Fixed unused barcode report sorting.
- \* Removed the show patron phone number checkbox from the Loaned Items - Complete report format as it is not applicable to this report.
- \* Restored Use Local Library option for the Pull Pending Holds title report.
- \* Multiple email notifications should no longer be sent for a single operation.
- \* Report headers now display selection values for reports with more than one

selection.

- \* Made many additional formatting improvements throughout the report module.

### **Researcher:**

- \* WAN searching via embedded address book / search group has been restored.
- \* Patrons can now change / reset their UID, password, and other personal info from the Researcher if allowed to do so by preferences.
- \* Hold, Reservations, and Renewals made from the Researcher are again successful when a patron is logged in with a User ID that differs from their Patron ID or Barcode.
- \* Spaces in search terms no longer break searches.
- \* Restored the error message that should display when trying to renew an item with a hold pending.
- \* Fixed several areas where Spanish strings were not displaying correctly.
- \* Removed the "None" option from Researcher local collection popups. These now default to the collection set in the users preference settings.
- \* Simple series search now auto-sorts by series.
- \* Added a 'Jump to Top' button on the bottom of the results list.
- \* The browse panel now scrolls to and selects the closest match.
- \* The enter key now works in the browse window.
- \* Changed the label for the "Site Search" filter option to use the preference for the institution term.
- \* The copy details will now display the current site at the top of the list.
- \* Added due date to the copy details window.
- \* Made the "Don't show title availability" preference affect the visibility of the title availability in the results view.
- \* Added a "Clear" button next to the print button in saved lists.
- \* A logged in patron with a long name no longer bumps the library name to the next line.
- \* Patrons using IE8 can again log into the Researcher.
- \* Auto-hidden copies are also hidden from the copies dialog.
- \* Patrons can now place reservations in the Researcher.
- \* The default reservation period is no longer one day too long.
- \* Researcher users can again place a reservation on a specific copy.
- \* The Researcher now logs the signed-in patron out correctly.
- \* The View MARC record option is working again.
- \* Results sorted by Accession Date now default to the most recently added at the top.
- \* Restored the MLA citation, toggled by the 'Show Citation References' preference. The 510 citation notes will always be shown if they exist in a title record.
- \* Certain message dialogs were fixed so that they will no longer show up behind other windows.
- \* Reservation periods displayed in the Researcher are now correctly defaulting to values based on policies.
- \* <http://<IP Address>#login> now brings up the login window as a shortcut.
- \* <http://<IP Address>/reset> now works for resetting the Researcher.
- \* When displaying total number of search results, we also display the results there could have been if not for the limit imposed by the maximum number of hits.

- \* Added patron history to the patron details window in Researcher.
- \* Nettekker options are no longer displayed unless you have the correct activation codes.
- \* A Researcher can have its default library set via a special url now. This sets a cookie and makes that library the default until someone else changes it. All available search address books can then be linked to via the home page which is auto-populated with these links if registered as central union.
- \* All search links in the netTrekker tool should now work.
- \* SearchALL link no longer locks up the browser.
- \* The Most Popular search should now be working as designed.
- \* Improved functionality and appearance for the iPhone search interface.
- \* Added 'Study Program Details' print format to Saved List print options.
- \* Added an option to "Link to these Results" so users can email a direct link to a results list if desired.

### **Security:**

- \* Due to changes in the way passwords are now stored [encrypted], operators can no longer "View" Patron or Operator passwords, however they can "Edit" or reset them. Made changes to security controls to reflect this.
- \* The Student Aid security group has the following changes to its Defaults: Cash Drawer - No access, Charges - view, Payments - View, Credits - View.

### **SIF:**

- \* Patron site can be taken from the SchoolInfo object now according to a check box setting.
- \* StudentSchoolEnrollment events can update the patron location.

### **Subscriptions:**

- \* The options inside of the History tab in Subscriptions are now working.

### **Utilities:**

- \* The "Always remove" checkbox now changes the choices in the "Checked Out Copies" so that "Delete" is the only choice if it is checked.
- \* Fixed checkout utility so items can again be checked out to system patrons without error.
- \* Fixed Remove Copy utility when setting copies to lost.
- \* Added match title/copy policy utilities
- \* Added match title/copy call number utilities.
- \* Added option to remove temporary items in remove lost and archived copy utilities
- \* Added a "hidden" utility to merge copies to a single title.
- \* The copy-transfer utilities have been enhanced to support the Renumber Duplicate Copy Number and Use Smallest available copy number features. An undo-script name and file browser option was also added so users can revert changes easily if required.
- \* The remove patron transactions utility removes all patron transactions and updates item and patron counters.

- \* The Remove Title utility now sets copies to lost properly.
- \* Scheduled utilities set to archive first will now run properly.
- \* Modify call number - Add Prefix utility no longer adds the prefix twice.
- \* The Replace Information - Purchase Cost / Replacement Cost copy utilities now properly modify Purchase Cost or Replacement cost, respectively.
- \* The circulation fix due date utility should no longer give incorrect reservation conflict messages when the new due date is 'today'.

**VWP:**

- \* Pictures now print properly when printing VWP documents.
- \* Fixed text drawing issue in VWP when an initially small VWP window is quickly made larger.

**Web Librarian:**

- \* Implemented a new Web Librarian module. In v6 we are reengineering the Web Librarian from the ground up to offer a rich and full featured module based on modern web technologies complete with all of the functionality found in the installed Librarian Client, and more. v6.0.2 offers the first phase of this redesign with support for circulation, basic patron and item management, and reporting.

NOTE: The 6.0.2 Web Librarian will require FireFox 3+ or Safari 3+ for Mac and Windows. Users may experience problems with IE at this time. IE 7 and 8 will be fully supported in the next major release.

**Web Router:**

- \* Implemented a Web Administration module for Web Router.
- \* Web router copyright date should now stay current.

**Web Station:**

- \* Web Station has been discontinued in the v6 series as in most cases it is no longer required. The Web Router replaces this product. v5 Web Stations are now automatically converted to a Web Router when first launched and web requests will be directed to the configured data-station without any user interaction or additional configuration. Web Station users should contact COMPAnion prior to updating with any questions or concerns they may have regarding this change.

**Alexandria 6.0.1 Release Notes  
8/5/2009**

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Alexandria 6.0.1 is a major release in the v6 series introducing improvements to the

system expanding on recently introduced technologies, increasing performance and stability. Data conversion from v5 to v6 is now fully supported and version 6 of the Alexandria Controller, Web Router, and Patron Server products are now available. Many additional enhancements and fixes have been made throughout the application.

Current Alexandria v5 customers will need to contact COMPanion prior to updating to version 6. This update is included as part of your support subscription and version 6 will require new registration codes. Version 5 to Version 6 data conversion is now fully supported.

Please contact COMPanion at 1-800-347-6439 or COMPanion Technical Support at 1-800-347-4942 with any questions regarding this update.

Documentation for version 6 is available online at:  
<<http://www.companioncorp.com/mediawiki/index.php/Alexandria>>

**\*\*\*\*\* Backup and Archive your Data before updating\*\*\*\*\***

Alexandria v6 runs on the following operating systems. Below are more specific recommendations: Mac OS 10.4, Mac OS 10.5, Windows XP, Windows Server 2003, Windows Vista, Windows Server 2008

### **System Requirements for Data Stations**

Minimum	Recommended
Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP+	Mac OS 10.5+, Windows XP or 2003
G4, Pentium 4 (or equivalent)	X86 Multi-Core/Processor
1 GB of RAM	1 GB of RAM or more
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items	20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items
1024 x 768 Resolution	

### **System Requirements for Central Union Data Stations**

Minimum	Recommended
Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP+	Mac OS 10.5+, Windows 2003
G5 or X86, Dual Processor/Core	X86 Multi-Core/Processor
2 GB of RAM	4 GB of RAM or more
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items	20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items
TCP/IP Network	TCP/IP Network
1024 x 768 Resolution	

### **System Requirements for Controller Systems**

Minimum	Recommended
Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP+	Mac OS 10.5+, Windows 2003

G5 or X86, Dual Processor/Core  
2 GB of RAM  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items  
TCP/IP Network  
1024 x 768 Resolution

X86 Multi-Core/Processor  
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 10.4, Windows XP  
G4, Pentium 4 (or equivalent)  
256 MB of RAM  
200 MB of Free HD  
TCP/IP Network  
1024 x 768 Resolution

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

### **Browser Requirements for Web Librarian and Researcher**

Minimum (recommended)  
FireFox 3+ for Windows  
Safari 3+ for Mac OS X  
1024 x 768 Resolution

Optional  
Internet Explorer 7+ , FireFox 3+  
and others for both Mac and  
Windows

### **Overview:**

Alexandria version 6.0.1 now supports data conversion from v5 to v6 and the Alexandria Controller, Web Router, and Patron Server products are now available. Support for running as a service on Mac and Windows has been implemented for stand-alone servers as well as the Controller and Web Router products. In addition to such systems level features, v6.0.1 offers many additional enhancements as well such as new receipt printing options, SIF2.0 support, automatic reporting for daily chores events like the removal of expired holds and reservations, enhanced patron and operator passwords security, and many more. Alexandria even offers an included search module for the Apple iPhone© and iPod Touch©! Please review the Major Features section below for a more detailed overview of key improvements by category / area.

### **Major Features:**

#### **Acquisitions:**

\* COMPanion has expanded integration with several of our book vendor partners including Bound to Stay Bound, Mackin, and Perma-Bound.

\*Bound to Stay Bound; added vendor support.

- \*Bound to Stay Bound; operators can now export their data in MARC format and then upload it to BTRB for review, using BTRB's website.
- \* Mackin; operators can now export their data in MARC format and have it automatically uploaded to Mackin's site for review.
- \*Perma-Bound; operators can now export their data in MARC format and have it automatically uploaded to Perma-Bound's site for review.
- \*Implemented support for Capstone PebbleGo

### **Authority Control:**

- \* Values added for copy location fields are now being retained in the copy record.

### **Circulation:**

- \* Added Inventory Book drop mode support to off-line mode.
- \* The offline window now has a Print Log button which will create a COMPedit document with the current transactions.
- \* Operators can now select which charges to apply payments to when a patron has multiple charges and it not paying for them together.
- \* Corrected the copy number being used when in-stock holds are placed.
- \* Forgiving all of the charges for a lost item no longer improperly removes the transaction.
- \* Self Service; Only a single instance of the self-service window may be open at a time
- \* Self Service; The correct copy is now used during check out.
- \* Security must now be enabled in order to use self-service mode.
- \* Temporary items can no longer be discarded.
- \* The cash drawer report selection works again.
- \* When using the print commands, +++ or +++e, we are now displaying the COMPedit window and allowing the user to print through that interface.
- \* Added in transit and credit info to patron details.

### **Controller:**

- \* Alexandria Controller can now be run as a service on Mac and Windows.
- \* The Controller no longer requires its Data Stations to have unique IP addresses.
- \* Added a Show Archive Folder button to the controller in v6.
- \* From a client you can now restore a controlled collection to an archive.
- \* The Controller now logs when a Data Station begins running as well as when one is stopped.
- \* The Controller window now displays the process ID (PID) for each running Data Station and other helpful information.
- \* The Controller again downloads and creates client installer resources on behalf of its Data Stations.

### **Database:**

- \* Alexandria now performs a full verify of items after a rebuild to enhance data integrity. Rebuilds may take longer to complete as a result.
- \* Web statistics now store only 3 months instead of one year due to size issues reported by users.

- \* Once a month we now run a utility that clears out any web statistics older than one year.
- \* Alexandria now outputs a report to the System Reports Queue whenever daily chores are ran. This report details the automatic actions taken such as the removal of expired holds or reservations.
- \* Alexandria now encrypts passwords before storing them. Any operator or patron password is encrypted before transmission over the network. Passwords are no longer “visible” to anyone, including high-level operators as they have been in the past so if forgotten by a user, they must be reset.

### **Item Management:**

- \* Alexandria now supports the 830 and 490 series tags from simple item view and we have deprecated the 440 per MARC 21 updates.
- \* Phantom 490 records are no longer being created if you add a volume and update the record.
- \* Copy replacement costs now use the correct default values when adding new copies.
- \* Changed the default Copy barcode from 200 to COMP200.
- \* Added the ISBN Calculator menu item to the ISBN edit fields.
- \* Call numbers are no longer broken into separate words when they're indexed as keywords.
- \* Empty authors no longer cause extra characters to appear in the item window.
- \* The Show Search Details actions menu item now opens the current item in the Researcher.
- \* When specifying a circulation group during checkout, we are logging the circulation group as part of the checkout log entry.
- \* Charging fees to special patrons has been blocked.
- \* By popular demand we have put back the RSN indicators on the database management windows. These will be available, along with RSN find selection options if you hold down the Option key while opening the window.
- \* The find window in Item Management now allows for a double quote string to find empty fields.
- \* If you edit a copy without a site code, on save it will be given your default site code. This will make it unlikely that a copy will be created without a site code. Additionally we are no longer displaying the site code from preferences when viewing copies that do not have a site code specified. If the site code is empty in the data it will now be obvious as a result so operators can properly set the site code for these copies if required.

### **Import:**

- \* Field mapping windows now show the last record in a file.
- \* Added support for tab delimited import and export of Award Notes.
- \* Added support for tab delimited import and export of Patron Reading Level.
- \* During a Marc import, if the title does not contain a Call number, the copy call number

will be used and added to the title record.

- \* Re-worked assigning of copy numbers on import to be more flexible. Users can now specify a copy number value not restricted to numeric only. An option to reassign duplicate copy numbers on import has been implemented. The default state of this option is ON.

### **Interface:**

- \* Alexandria now offers a Set-up Manager to assist users in defining key settings when initially bringing a new collection on-line.

- \* Windows now maximize properly on dual-monitor Windows systems.

- \* Restored maximize capability on multi-monitor Windows systems.

- \* Primary tabs can be navigated with F-keys.

- \* Sub-tabs can now be navigated with the keyboard using Shift-FKeys.

- \* On windows when you moved selected text in a COMPedit document off the screen and back on it is now being redrawn correctly.

### **Misc:**

- \* Downloading the default Explore Resources now works on clients when archiving first.

- \* The Bulletin Board window has been given browse hot keys.

- \* Fixed a problem with creating a new bulletin when the current bulletin had locked content.

- \* Enhanced logging on client and server so events are more accurately logged at both locations where applicable.

- \* Enhanced logging on client and server so that the visible log on the server does not unnecessarily display many client events. Pertinent activity is properly logged to the server log file however.

- \* For events that trigger multiple associated sounds, the sounds now queue up and play in succession instead of simultaneously.

- \* The Map editor find is now functional and is designed to find based off of the beginning of the range only. Do not include '-' as it is not used.

- \* Fixed printing a range of pages that doesn't start at one.

### **Patron Management:**

- \* The Card Exp Date field has been restored in the Patron Management window.

- \* Enhanced Patron Management to block access to editing a patron with a location that is restricted to the current Operator.

- \* By popular demand we have put back the RSN indicators on the database management windows. These will be available, along with RSN find selection options if you hold down the Option key while opening the window.

### **Preferences:**

- \* Moved the Links preferences from Management -> Researcher to System Administration -> Site Info since clients, not Researchers, use it. Enabling the Researcher Home Page in Researcher preferences can provide links for patrons.

- \* Policies; The loan period type is back, and support for same-day checkouts and no loan period should all be working as it did in v5.
- \* Researcher Preferences; In the Researcher Home Page preference pane, the user can now drag files and folders into a list to copy to the Web folder.
- \* index.htm or index.html can be used for the naming of the primary homepage file.
- \* Copying files to the web folder will now send them across the network if on a client.
- \* Implemented "Display Copy Condition" option in Circulation -> Rules that allows users to set whether the copy condition code displays in the circulation window.
- \* Added a preference to Circulation -> Receipts that will allow users to specify the number of copies of receipts to print for different types of receipts.
- \* Receipts can now be serialized by enabling a new preference option in Circulation -> Receipts preferences.
- \* Enhanced the 'Alert for copies from Different Libraries' to have three states. Never, During Check-in and Inventory, and Always.
- \* Changes to one preference pane are now seen on the same open pane on other machines in the network if the pane is not dirty.
- \* Since many electronic resources are title records only, they are no longer affected by the auto-hide preference that hides titles without copies.

#### **Patron Server:**

- \* The Patron Server now allows the user to choose its IP address on machines that have multiple addresses.

#### **Reports, Utilities, and Export:**

- \* Reports, Utilities, and Exports can now be sorted in a user-defined order on the saved and favorites tabs.
- \* Saved and Favorite tabs now have a pane that shows details about the selected operation.
- \* Added search filter to saved and favorite lists in the report, utility, and export windows making it easier to find a specific operation in large lists.
- \* Added option to add authors to the 3 x 10 format copy barcode labels report.
- \* PDF report format now supports page numbers.
- \* Page breaks now show up correctly in PDF reports.
- \* Restored inventory start date to usage super summary reports.
- \* Restored date range selection to patron payment history report.
- \* Restored utility for clearing copy and patron notes.
- \* Restored special items list specific selections.
- \* Added Copy YTD Usage selection for copy reports and utilities.
- \* Moved Reservation Labels report to copy reports.
- \* Added Lexile Code selection for title reports and utilities.
- \* The edit field type selections now allow for a double quote string to find on empty fields.
- \* Saving a report with no title now gets a title assigned based on type rather than prompting the user to create one.

#### **Researcher:**

- \* Alexandria Researcher is now accessible from the Apple iPhone© and iPod Touch©.
- \* v5 Researcher clients will now receive a message upon connecting; there is no update available for v5 Researcher clients, the catalog is accessed via the web browser based researcher.
- \* Pre-search filters have been relocated to be more accessible and user friendly. They are now located in a pane directly beneath the search fields and can be collapsed or expanded on demand.
- \* In-stock holds are no longer counted as available in search details.
- \* z39.50 search support has been added for the researcher client. You can now view marc records from z39 details. You can not add a result from z39.50 search to a list or link directly to it.
- \* WAN search support is again functional. Embedded Address Books are not yet supported.
- \* Citation formatting has been fixed and should be more accurate now where displayed.
- \* Display of tags such as the 111 and 711 and their subfield information has been enhanced to be in a more standard and readable order.
- \* Call numbers in results lists are now clickable links like the title. When clicked a call number search is performed on that number.
- \* Call number searches now search for a range similar to the existing call number when initiated from the details window.
- \* Lexile help-me searches no longer limit results if the search is initiated while holding the "Alt" key. All search limits can be bypassed in this manner.
- \* In-stock holds are no longer counted as available in search details.
- \* Reservations support has been restored.
- \* Search Add-Ons such as SearchAll and Capstone are now available in the researcher located directly beneath the popular search or explore options.
- \* If netTrekker is turned off the option no longer shows up in the Researcher.
- \* Amazon.com and MARC Record links from the details view now work correctly.
- \* Searching by keyword from the Alexandria home page has been restored.
- \* The lexile pre-filter slider will now default to 1000 instead of 0 when a patron is not logged in.
- \* Options are available for users to copy a link directly to a specific item or search result.

#### **SIF:**

- \* SIF can now register as version 2.2 and it can also register to receive messages in multiple versions.

#### **SIP2:**

- \* Implemented the pay command in SIP2.

#### **Web Router:**

- \* The Web Router no longer listens on the main application port, so it can now reside on the same machine as another Alexandria service if desired.

- \* Bulletin board images are now available when using the web router.
- \* Web router now offers a web management interface so certain operations can be performed while the router is running as a service. Because of this, security ON by default – the default credentials are Admin:DS Serial #, which we of course recommend be upgraded immediately.

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**Alexandria 6.0.0 Release Notes**  
**4/15/2009**

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Alexandria 6.0.0 is a major release introducing many enhancements throughout the application. In addition to Improvements that have been made to the core technologies which increase performance and stability of the application, the User Interface has been updated to be more intuitive and user friendly and this release offers many new capabilities, features and other improvements.

Documentation for version 6 is available online at:  
<[http://www.companioncorp.com/mediawiki/index.php/Alexandria\\_v6.x.x](http://www.companioncorp.com/mediawiki/index.php/Alexandria_v6.x.x)>

Current Alexandria customers will need to contact COMPanion prior to updating to version 6 as this release will require modified registration codes. Version 5 to Version 6 data conversion will be supported in an upcoming release.

Please contact COMPanion Technical Support at 1-800-347-4942 with any questions regarding this release.

**\*\*\*\*\* v5 to v6 data conversion is not yet supported \*\*\*\*\***

**System Requirements for Data Stations**

<p>Minimum Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP+ G4, Pentium 4 (or equivalent) 1 GB of RAM 20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items 1024 x 768 Resolution</p>	<p>Recommended Mac OS 10.5+, Windows XP or 2003 X86 Multi-Core/Processor 1 GB of RAM or more 20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items</p>
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**System Requirements for Central Union Data Stations**

<p>Minimum Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP+ G5 or X86, Dual Processor/Core</p>	<p>Recommended Mac OS 10.5+, Windows 2003 X86 Multi-Core/Processor</p>
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2 GB of RAM  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items  
TCP/IP Network  
1024 x 768 Resolution

4 GB of RAM or more  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items  
TCP/IP Network

### **System Requirements for Controller Systems**

Minimum  
Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP+  
G5 or X86, Dual Processor/Core  
2 GB of RAM  
20 GB of Free HD/100,000 Items  
TCP/IP Network  
1024 x 768 Resolution

Recommended  
Mac OS 10.5+, Windows 2003  
X86 Multi-Core/Processor  
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 10.4, Windows XP  
G4, Pentium 4 (or equivalent)  
256 MB of RAM  
200 MB of Free HD  
TCP/IP Network  
1024 x 768 Resolution

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

### **Browser Requirements for Web Librarian and Researcher**

Minimum (recommended)  
Internet Explorer 7+ for Windows  
Safari 3+ for Mac OS X  
1024 x 768 Resolution

Optional  
FireFox 3+ and others for both Mac  
and Windows

### **Overview:**

Alexandria 6.0.0 is a major release introducing many new features, as well as enhancements to the core technologies, and user interface throughout the application. With the release of version 6.0.0, COMPanion will begin “rolling out” these latest advancements in the Data Station, Librarian Workstation, and Researcher

products with many updates planned for associated products and modules in subsequent releases. Support for v5 to v6 updates and enhancements to the Alexandria Controller, Alexandria Web Router, Alexandria Patron Server, and Web Librarian will debut in updates scheduled for release over the course of the coming year.

NOTE: Current Alexandria customers will need to contact COMPAnion prior to updating to version 6 as this release will require modified registration codes. Version 5 to Version 6 data conversion will be supported in an upcoming release.

## **Major Features:**

### **Program Menus**

Alexandria's menu structure has been arranged to be more concise and user friendly. Alexandria offers several primary menu items where most features and modules can be found. Key options are noted below:

- 1) Edit - The edit menu contains preferences items.
- 2) Show - The show menu offers access to all main management modules in the software, including Patron and Item Management.
- 3) Tools - The tools menu offers access to all supporting modules in the software, including Reports and Utilities
- 4) Help - The help menu offers access to the online documentation, updates services, and similar functions.

### **Circulation**

The Circulation window has been modified to better present operators with the available tools and controls pertinent to or accessible from this window. Additionally, many of the features have been audited and streamlined for convenience and ease of use.

Alexandria v6 also introduces a new Self Service circulation interface for unattended checkout or bookdrop stations. This mode can be configured to allow for self service checkout, self service bookdrop, or both.

### **Patron and Item Management**

The Patron and Item Management systems offer improvements in the database as well as user interface enhancements which present an improved layout and some new management tools. Record selection capabilities within these modules has been greatly enhanced to allow for simple record lookups or more complex queries for a set of related records.

## **Reports**

The Alexandria report writer has been extensively modified with emphasis placed on saved operations. In addition to allowing for Ad-Hoc, or on-the-fly type reporting, all reports can now be customized and saved for easy access when needed. All saved reports can also be scheduled so regular operations can be made automatic saving you time for other tasks. Report output can be in PDF or COMPedit format and scheduled reports can be delivered in several different ways including via email or to our new System Reports module, which is accessible from the Tools menu within Alexandria.

## **Utilities**

The Utilities systems have been modified with an emphasis being placed on saved operations. In addition to allowing for Ad-Hoc, or on-the-fly utilities, all utility operations can now be customized and saved for easy access when needed. All utility operations can now be scheduled so regular operations can be made automatic saving you time for other tasks. Alexandria offered scheduled Rebuild and Archive utility options in past versions, with v6 nearly all available utilities can be configured, saved, and scheduled to run automatically.

## **Export**

Alexandria's data export tools have been modified with an emphasis being placed on saved operations. In addition to allowing for Ad-Hoc, or on-the-fly data export, all export operations can now be customized and saved for easy access when needed. All export operations can now be scheduled so regular operations can be made automatic saving you time for other tasks. Export output can be directed to a local file directory or to a remote server via ftp.

## **Import**

The data import mechanism has been improved with an emphasis being placed on saved operations. In addition to allowing for Ad-Hoc, or on-the-fly import of patron and item data, all import operations can now be configured and saved for easy access when needed. All import operations can now be scheduled so regular operations can be made automatic saving you time for other tasks.

## **Preferences**

Preferences have been enhanced with a new user interface which makes the many available settings options easier to find, understand, and use. Many preference options including Policies, Operators, and Security have been revised to offer additional options and improved manageability. Our new preference model also introduces User Preferences which allow Operators to maintain settings custom to their specific login. This new system completely replaces the Global / Default Local / Local controls that existed in version 5.

## **Acquisitions**

The Orders, Budgets, Vendors, Subscriptions, and Routes modules have all been

updated. The User Interface has been enhanced to be more intuitive and user friendly.

### **Researcher**

The Alexandria Researcher has been completely redesigned and replaces the v5 Researcher applications. The new system is an application based on advanced modern web technologies and introduces a powerful new user interface with several new search tools and performance enhancements.

### **Inventory Management**

Alexandria version 6 introduces many improvements which should streamline the inventory process. All tools that have existed in the past to manage your sites inventory remain, and we have also implemented a new Inventory Helper under the Tools menu to further simplify the process by centralizing all reporting, status, and utility tools required to complete a successful inventory on a collection or area within a collection.

### **System and Framework**

Alexandria's core technologies have been greatly updated in the release. Several enhancements have been made which will offer users greater performance and system reliability. In addition to these "under the hood" improvements, COMPanion is introducing some new system tools such as a built in outgoing mail server so Alexandria can send email without the need to configure or load an external, supporting mail system to manage these tasks.

### **Documentation**

In version 6 Alexandria will begin offering extensive online documentation. Located at our online Wiki, Operators will find the Users Manual, Help documents, and technical resources to assist them when learning the system or looking for reference on a particular feature or task. Most Help and other documentation requires an internet connection with COMPanion's Servers. This is provided through port 80 using modern web technologies so there should be no special configuration on the part of your IS department. Researcher Help is maintained within Alexandria so it will be readily available to all patrons searching the catalog whether internet access is available or not.