



Updating Your “Deep Links” From WorldCat to Your Local Catalog

How to Change your Links in the WorldCat Services Administrative Module

1. Go to: <http://www.firstsearch.oclc.org/admin>
2. Log on with your FirstSearch Administration authorization. If you do not know it, check with the staff person who handles setting up WorldCat access for your library. MINITEX staff in the Bibliographic and Technical Services unit can check your authorization and password for you also.
3. After logging on, click on the “Linking” tab, then, on the left navigation bar click on “Web Library Catalogs.”
4. In the first section under “Catalog Entry Screen URL”, type in your OPAC homepage’s URL.
5. Below that, there are three types of “deep links” listed: ISBN, ISSN, and OCLC. We recommend that you fill out **ONLY** the ISBN and ISSN links. If you provide all three URLs – ISBN, ISSN, and OCLC -- the default will link by OCLC number. We do not recommend this URL unless you are absolutely certain that it will work consistently.

On the other hand, if a large part of your collection contains items without an ISBN or ISSN (such as government documents), you may want to consider using the OCLC Search Results URL. Contact the MINITEX BATS staff if you are unsure.

Below is an example of what an ISBN search results URL might look like for an institution using Ex Libris Aleph as their local ILS (Note: even this URL varies depending on your Aleph implementation):

http://library_opac_baseURL/F/?func=findb&local_base=uli02&find_code=WSB&request=

To fill out the ISBN and ISSN deep links, you probably will need to talk to your local system administrator. Or, you can contact the MINITEX/BATS Unit. We have samples from different institutions in the MINITEX region that we know work.

Alternatively, you can try a new tool in the WorldCat Registry that suggests links for you to use. See the section, “How to Change your Links in the WorldCat Registry,” below for more information on how to auto-configure your links.

After filling out the Search Results URLs, you can click on the test button to see if these links work. Don’t forget to save your changes! The changes take effect right away for people searching WorldCat via the FirstSearch platform, so searchers should see a link when your

holdings display that takes them directly to your local catalog. It takes up to 24 hours for these changes to take effect in the Worldcat.org interface.

How to Change your Links in the WorldCat Registry

The WorldCat Registry is a free online directory that contains information about libraries, such as global ILL policies, web and physical locations. Also, the information you enter here controls how your library information is displayed in the WorldCat.org interface.

Please check your institution's information in the Registry, to, at least, make sure that your "deep links" are the same as those you have entered in the WorldCat Services Administrative module. This is important because, if anyone at your institution changes your registry profile, it will override the deep link information you have entered in WorldCat Services Administrative module.

OCLC has released three new tutorials to help users update their Registry profiles. Check out the "How to Connect Patrons to Your Library" tutorial available at:

<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/support/training/registry/tutorial/default.htm>

Also, a new tool was just added to the WorldCat Registry to help library staff determine which search results URLs to use in the WorldCat Registry. You can choose your ILS vendor from a drop down list, paste in your library OPAC homepage, and the system will suggest the ISBN, ISSN, and OCLC search results URLs. You have to be logged on to the registry and in edit view in order to use this feature.

Summary

Make sure you have tested your deep links in the WorldCat Services Administrative module and the WorldCat Registry and that the links in both places match each other exactly. Unless you move to a different ILS, you should not have to change your links again. Keeping your links up-to-date ensures that web users and interlibrary loan staff can easily find and borrow items from your library.