Merging of MDS-Books Hebrew with MDS-Books All

Beginning with the 2007 subscription year, the separate MARC Distribution Service-Books Hebrew (Hebrew and Yiddish language records) will be discontinued. Records from this separate MDS subscription service will be available as part of MDS-Books All.

The upcoming demise of the RLIN system and the RLG merger with OCLC necessitates new workflows and record processing for LC's Hebrew cataloging. Also, the migration of the CDS MARC Distribution Service to a new server-based environment will be complete before the end of 2006 and the mainframe will be shut down. The revenue from MDS-Books Hebrew is not sufficient to warrant allocating limited CDS programmer resources to rewrite the mainframe programs used to produce the separate distribution files.

CDS will not increase prices of the current MDS-Books All for the 2007 subscription year even though there will be additional records included after the merging of the services. Books Hebrew records remain distinguishable by their language codes and 880 non-Roman fields for those subscribers needing to separate and process Hebrew records from other books records.

Questions about this change can be directed to:

> Loche McLean
> Cataloging Distribution Service
> Library of Congress
> telephone: 202 707-1285
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