

HORIZON to KOHA data migration

Technical issues and challenges : the Dimitris & Aliki Perrotis library case

Iro Sotiriadou, Librarian

Fotini Traka, Librarian

Damiana Koutsomiha, Library Coordinator

Dr. Dimitrios Kouis, Software Engineer

George Veranis, Software Engineer

Foundation of the AFS

The American Farm School of Thessaloniki was founded by an American visionary named John Henry House in 1904.



The AFS's first students in 1904

Princeton Hall building: the AFS library today

The AFS educational institution has a library since 1926,
which is now housed in the then newly built
Princeton Hall building.



Cornerstone laying ceremony of the
Princeton Hall building, 1924



Princeton Hall today

History of our library catalog

- 1926 – 1950's : the AFS had a well-organized library, according to the American library standards of that time



Our library in the 1930's



Our library in the 1950's

Library catalog using MS Access

- 1980's → card catalog
- 1990's – 2000 → Microsoft Access



Our library in the 1990's

New ILS : Horizon (I)

Generous donation in 2000 by Mrs. Alik Perrotis:

- The Library was named after its donors as ‘Dimitris & Alik Perrotis Library’
- Purchase of Horizon ILS in 2001 powered by SirsiDynix

The screenshot shows the Horizon Information Portal interface. At the top left is the logo "HORIZON Information Portal". At the top right are links for "Login" and "My List - 0". Below the logo are three buttons: "Home", "Search", and "My Account". A blue banner below these buttons contains the text "Welcome | Hours". Below the banner, it says "You're searching: Dimitris & Alik Perroti Library - American Farm School". Below that is a yellow banner with the text "Welcome to the Library Catalog". The main content area has a welcome message: "Welcome. Please search the library catalog by selecting your desired index, input your term and select the 'go' button." Below this is a search form with the label "Search:", a text input field, and a red "GO" button. At the bottom, it says "Horizon Information Portal 3.08", "POWERED BY", and the SirsiDynix logo. The footer text is "© 2001-2004 Dynix All rights reserved."

HORIZON
Information Portal

Login My List - 0

Home Search My Account

Welcome | Hours

You're searching: Dimitris & Alik Perroti Library - American Farm School

Welcome to the Library Catalog

Welcome. Please search the library catalog by selecting your desired index, input your term and select the 'go' button.

Search: GO

Horizon Information Portal 3.08
POWERED BY
DYNIX
© 2001-2004 Dynix All rights reserved.

OPAC of Horizon

New ILS : Horizon (II)

- Why did we choose to purchase Horizon at the time?
- Period of testing and evaluation of our needs as a library: specific Horizon modules, not full pack.
- Horizon ILS was operated from 2001 to 2016.
 - 2001–2004 : common catalog with two more libraries (Consortium)
 - 2004–2016 : Horizon stand-alone catalog

DAPL today: new needs and opportunities

- New library branches
 - High maintenance fees for Horizon ILS
 - Need of a web-based ILS platform
 - Need of a full-pack ILS vs Horizon
 - Better monitoring of the catalog
 - User-friendly interface
-

On September '15 we decided to move our catalog to **KohaILS**

Horizon to KOHA in numbers...

Throughout the 15 years
of Horizon ILS :

- more than **44.177**
bibliographic records
- and
- **103.777** authority records
were created
- plus approximately **2.818**
users were added

The total number of
bibliographic and authority
records, items and users that
were actually transferred was
(respectively):

- **10.566** bib. records
- **21.237** authority
records
- **16.466** items
- **953** users

Before the Migration process

- Weeding of our circulation data – deletion of inactive users
- Addition of 949 tag to every record was necessary for two reasons:
 - Horizon Item window could not be transferred to Koha
 - Division of our library collection into three separate branches
- 16.466 items were processed in 2 months (!)
- Check and correction of misspelled or duplicate authority records and subjects

Migration Process:

methodology for records transfer (I)

Step 1.

MARC fields usage statistics from Horizon database.

Step 2.

Decision about which fields to transfer to our new system. Also perform improvements where we could and prepare Koha's bibliographic format to import Horizon database.

Step 3.

Change of character encoding from ELOT to UTF-8.

Migration Process:

methodology for records transfer (II)

Step 4.

- a) Export of Horizon authorities from bibliographic records using Koha's libraries.
- b) Conversion of authorities from Horizon to Koha format and merge with the initially exported ones. Finally linking of the updated authorities with the bibliographic records.

Step 5.

Check and re-check of migration statistics.

After the Migration Process (I)

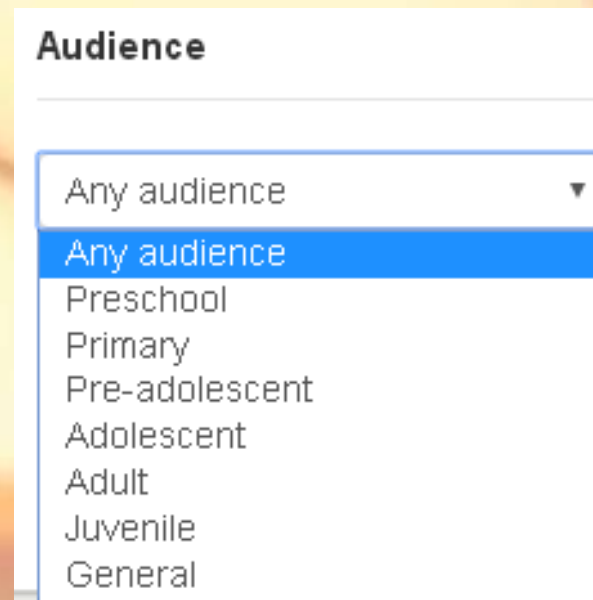
- Training of the library staff
- Insertion of 400 and 500 tags to the authority records
- Overall check of the Koha catalog vs. the Horizon old catalog
- Check of the Koha OPAC functionality

After the Migration Process (II)

- Training of:
 - Pre-K/Kindergarten and Primary School teachers
 - Lyceum and Perrotis College faculty
- Creation of:
 - Koha user instructions (Moodle and LibGuides)
 - Video user manuals regarding Koha's features
- Planning of library orientation seminars for new and old students of Lyceum and Perrotis College

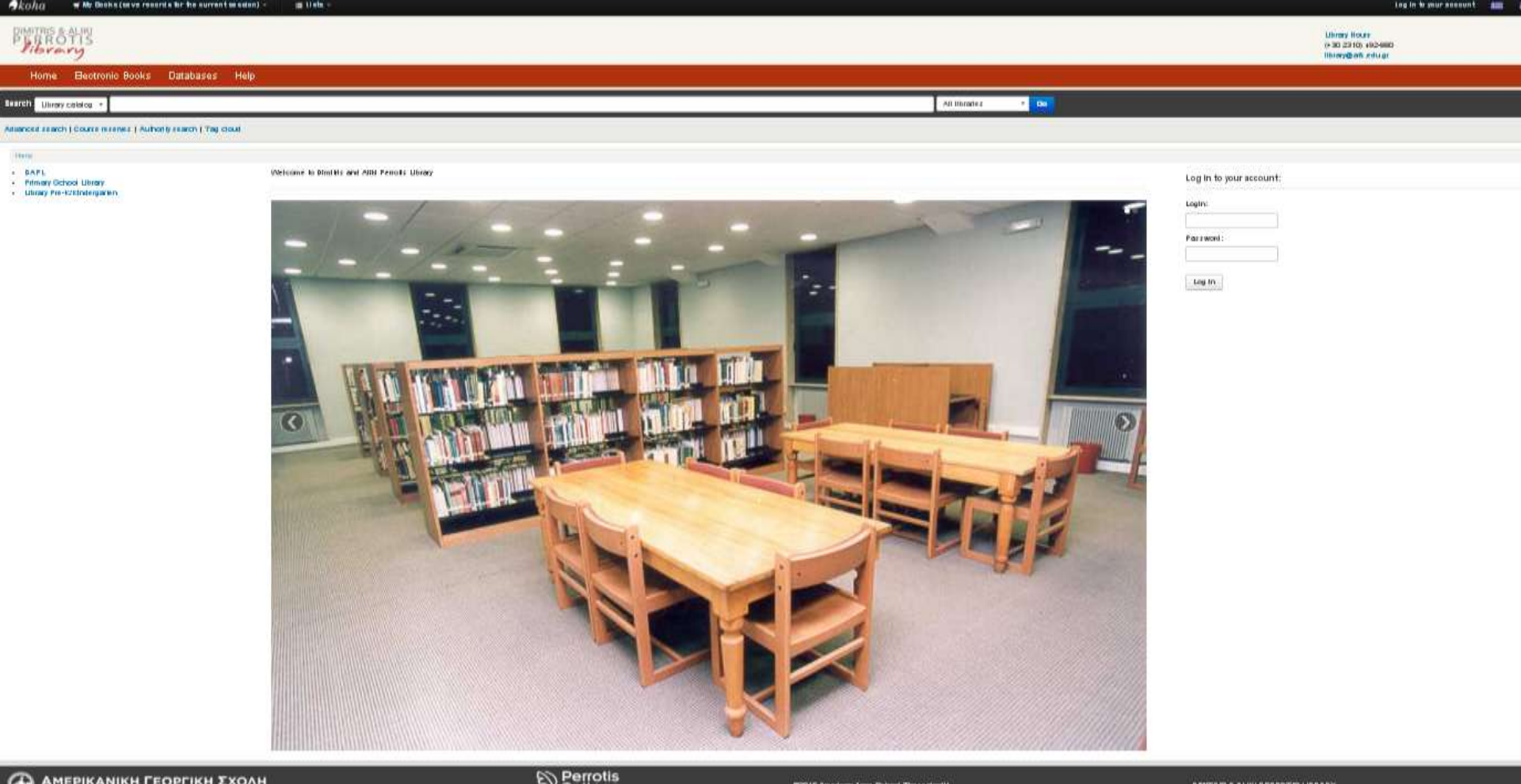
Horizon to Koha: food for thought..!

- Native support on multilingual environment
- Option 'Audience' in *advanced search* (OPAC) :
useful or confusing ?



A screenshot of a web interface showing a dropdown menu for 'Audience'. The menu is open, displaying a list of options. A red arrow points to the 'Audience' label above the dropdown.

Audience
Any audience ▼
Any audience
Preschool
Primary
Pre-adolescent
Adolescent
Adult
Juvenile
General



You can visit our Koha OPAC website here:

<http://librarycatalog.afs.edu.gr/>

Thank you for your attention !