

Merged DB Discussion

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Merged DB Model

- **Cost – Benefit Analysis**
- **Standardized Model for Analyzing Business Decisions**
- **Decision-Making Process**

Cost – Benefit Analysis

- **Primary Costs**
 - will be in the areas of possible reduced flexibility for each institution
 - more need for joint-decision making across the consortium
- **Primary Benefit**
 - will be in the area of reduced costs

Primary Benefits of Distributed Model

- **Decision-making is streamlined**
 - since decisions only affect each institution
- **Administration is distributed**
 - since each institution can access and change separate tables
- **Flexibility can be greater**
 - for example, enriched content or other enhancements

Primary Benefits of Merged DB Model

- **Reduced Costs**
- **Less Overhead**
- **Simpler system to maintain**

Standardized Models

- **To make standardized business decisions all the models that you analyze must:**
 - **use the same approach or**
 - **you have to factor in the costs of using different models**

Historical View: DALNET Models

- **DALNET has always had a Multiple – DB model**
- **NOTIS - DALNET**
 - a single indices model
 - a joint catalog
 - but still multiple DBs (one per member institution)
 - separate files were maintained for each institution's bib and item records

Historical View: DALNET Models

- **When Horizon was implemented the multiple DB model was maintained**
- **The joint catalog was never implemented**

Decision-making Process with the Merged DB model

- **Identify the potential lost functionality areas**
- **Identify the potential areas where more cooperation will be necessary**
- **Identify potential sites that we can consult**
- **Identify the potential cost savings**

Potential System Functionality Concerns

- **Security**
- **Record ownership**
- **DALNET as a multi-type library consortium**
- **Fiscal accounting - separate institutions using one system**

Potential Contractual Concerns

- **Can we continue to easily meet contractual obligations for any members who decide to leave the consortia?**
- **Do we need to define exactly what type of records we will provide?**

Potential Cost Savings for Merged DB Model

- **\$18,000 annual reduction in maintenance fees**
- **Identification of other potential cost savings**
- **Reduced costs for staffing**

FURTHER DISCUSSION

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