Report of the CONSER Publication Pattern Initiative
Task Force to Explore Partnerships between libraries and subscription agents
June 3, 2003

Information from subscription agents can enable libraries to learn in advance about key changes in frequency and other publishing pattern data. The Task Force attempted to determine whether 853/63 data could be added to CONSER bibliographic records based on a list of frequency changes which EBSCO distributes. Task Force members searched the titles on the list, and came up with the following numbers:

Total titles searched: 639
CONSER records found: 433 (68%)
Total patterns (full and provisional): 148 (23%)
          *average percent of this number which were provisional patterns: 71%
No record found or information on list too vague: *18%
*Not all Task Force members reported this number. Average represents and average % of those who did report.
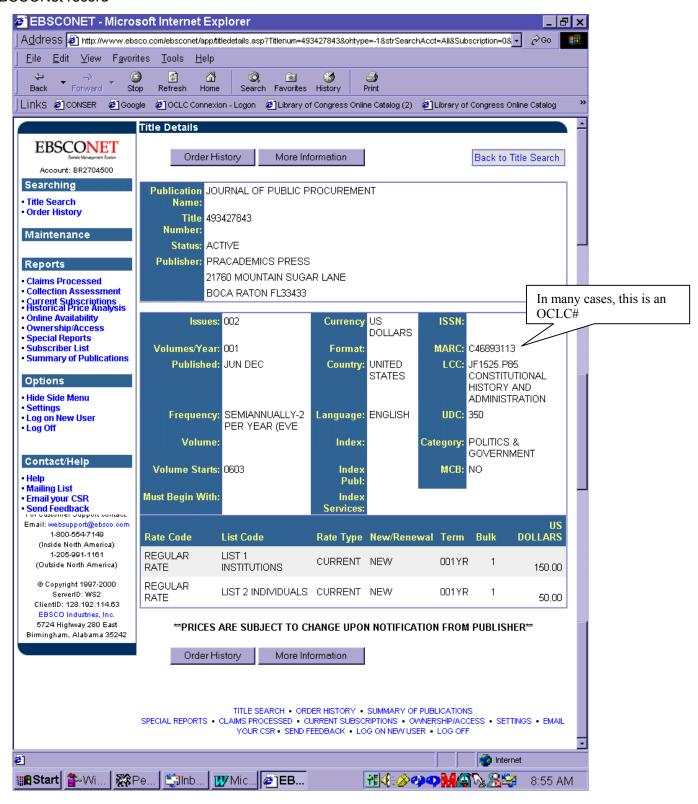

The list we were working from noted only title, old frequency, and new frequency. This was not sufficient information and in many cases people had difficulties identifying the correct bibliographic record, let alone consider adding publication pattern data.

However, the list distributed by EBSCO, supplemented by the titles' record on EBSCONet provides enough information to identify a CONSER record, as well as add some 853 data.

Sample from a page of EBSCO's list:

JOURNAL OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND DISABILITY	004QR	002SA
JOURNAL OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT	004QR	002SA
JOURNAL OF PURE & APPLIED ALGEBRA - INCLS FREE ONLINE - 12 MO BACKFILE	033OR	027OR
JOURNAL OF QUANTITATIVE SPECTROSCOPY & RADIATIVE TRANSFER	024OR	028OR
JOURNAL OF RESEARCH IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION	002SA	003TQ
JOURNAL OF SAFETY RESEARCH	004QR	005OR

EBSCONet record

Title Details

Order History   More Information   Back to Title Search

EBSCONET
Serials Management System
Account: BR2704500

Searching
- **Title Search**
- **Order History**

Maintenance

Reports
- **Claims Processed**
- **Collection Assessment**
- **Current Subscriptions**
- **Historical Price Analysis**
- **Online Availability**
- **Ownership/Access**
- **Special Reports**
- **Subscriber List**
- **Summary of Publications**

Options
- **Hide Side Menu**
- **Settings**
- **Log on New User**
- **Log Off**

Contact/Help
- **Help**
- **Mailing List**
- **Email your CSR**
- **Send Feedback**

For Customer Support contact:
Email: websupport@ebsco.com
1-800-554-7149
(Inside North America)
1-205-991-1161
(Outside North America)

© Copyright 1997-2000
ServerID: WS2
ClientID: 128.192.114.63
EBSCO Industries, Inc.
5724 Highway 280 East
Birmingham, Alabama 35242

Publication Name:	JOURNAL OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT
Title Number:	493427843
Status:	ACTIVE
Publisher:	PRACADEMICS PRESS
	21760 MOUNTAIN SUGAR LANE
	BOCA RATON FL33433

Issues:	002	Currency:	US DOLLARS	ISSN:	
Volumes/Year:	001	Format:		MARC:	C46893113
Published:	JUN DEC	Country:	UNITED STATES	LCC:	JF1525.P85 CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY AND ADMINISTRATION
Frequency:	SEMIANNUALLY-2 PER YEAR (EVE	Language:	ENGLISH	UDC:	350
Volume:		Index:		Category:	POLITICS & GOVERNMENT
Volume Starts:	0603	Index Publ:		MCB:	NO
Must Begin With:		Index Services:			

> In many cases, this is an OCLC#

Rate Code	List Code	Rate Type	New/Renewal	Term	Bulk	US DOLLARS
REGULAR RATE	LIST 1 INSTITUTIONS	CURRENT	NEW	001YR	1	150.00
REGULAR RATE	LIST 2 INDIVIDUALS	CURRENT	NEW	001YR	1	50.00

PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE UPON NOTIFICATION FROM PUBLISHER

Order History   More Information

Internet

Start   Wi...   Pe...   Inb...   Mic...   EB...   8:55 AM

What is lacking, however, is information necessary to create an 863. In order to add an 863, libraries need to have an example of what the numbering looks like after the frequency change (did the captions change? enumeration drop? did chronology change from month to season? etc.) Subscription agents do not have access to this specific information. They rarely, if ever see actual issues and are unable to verify when or if the change happens, or if the numbering changes when it does. Libraries therefore might use the lists to be aware of changes in advance and look out for the pieces to come in, but a piece is still needed in order to add an 853/63 pair to a bibliographic record.

Conclusion

The Task Force has concluded that the lists provided by EBSCO do not contain sufficient information to add an 853/863 pair to a CONSER record because it is impossible to verify 863 data. Because of this, we were not able to develop a strategy to use the list to add patterns. We do not recommend pursuing this any further.

The lists provide valuable advanced information. Future work could be done exploring how they could be used as a sort of "alert service." Work could also be done on workflow involving using a list to learn of changes in advance, pull the piece when it arrives, note the frequency change in the bibliographic record and create a new pattern.

Appendix

Following is a general list which resulted from our effort to identify the information necessary to identify a record from a list and add an 853/63 pair. It may be of use for future efforts in this area.

Identifying a bibliographic record from a list
In order to identify the proper bibliographic record, libraries need the following information (in order of preference):
- ISSN
- Other identifying numbers (OCLC#, LCCN)
- Title plus additional information (publisher or issuing body, for example).
Title alone is not sufficient to identify the correct record.

Sample
In order to create an 863, we need to know what the numbering "looks like." We need an example of the enumeration (numbering) and chronology (dates) on an actual piece. If we are creating a pattern for a frequency change, it should be the first issue after the change.

Other information needed to create a pattern

Much of this information can be gleaned from the bib record (see source column), though the more information supplied by the subscription agent, the more confidently we can create a pattern, since the information in the bibliographic record may well be outdated. In the source column, the phrase "numbering sample" refers to the example of the enumeration and chronology mentioned above. Information preceded by a * is the minimum required to create a pattern.

Information	Source	For 853
*Enumeration captions (v., no. Heft, etc.)	Numbering sample. Bib record 362, description	$a-$f

	based on (DBO) and Latest issue consulted (LIC) 500 notes.	
*Chronology (dates)	Numbering sample. Bib record 362, DBO/LIC	$i-$l
Number of units per next higher level	Bib record frequency, 362, 515	$u
Numbering continuity	Bib record frequency, 362, DBO/LIC.	$v
*Frequency	Information supplied by subscription agent. Bib record fixed field Freq: and 310.	$w
Calendar change	Information provided by subscription agent. Perhaps bib record 362, DBO/LIC.	$x
Regularity pattern—regular omissions or combined numbers	Information provided by subscription agent. Bib record fixed field Freq: and 310, 515 notes.	$y