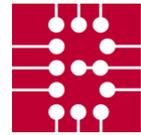


ETH-*Bibliothek*

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

ETH-Bibliothek

ETH Zurich
Rämistrasse 101
8092 Zurich



LibraryThing as a library service.

Assessment report

Aina Manso Santolaria

Innovation & Marketing Department

www.ethbib.ethz.ch

August 2009

Acknowledgments

The author would like to acknowledge all the participants interviewed:

Lluisa Amat, Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura del Vallès - Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya; Ferran Moreno Lanza, CRAI Biblioteca de Biologia - Universitat de Barcelona; Javier Leiva, Catorce, Formación y consultoría en web social; Mandy Reeman Clark, Scottish Centre for Information on Language Teaching and Research; James Richard, Delaware Division of Libraries; Jessica Pollock, Information Services - Greenfield Public Library; Marcus Kohout, Zentralbibliothek - Universität Zürich; Nuria Gallart Marsillas, Biblioteca Universitària de Sabadell - Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona; Toni Espadas and Francesc March Mir, Espai Virtual. Biblioteca - Universitat Oberta de Catalunya; John Butler, University of Minnesota Libraries; Mathew Miles, David O. McKay Libraries; Alan Hagyard, Libraries Online (LION); David Kane, Waterford Institute of Technology; Suzanne Julich, Applications and Web Services - University of Iowa Libraries; Phyllis Fox, Point Loma Nazarene University; Kristi Chadwick, C/W MARS Inc.; Kirsti Burton, Careers Information - Queen Mary, University of London; Jo Norry, Libraries and Learning Innovation - Leeds Metropolitan University; Anna Brynolf, Malmö University Library; Chris Powis and Miggie Pickton, The University of Northampton (UK); Adela d'Alòs-Moner and Olga Giralt, doc6 Consultors en recursos d'informació.

Contents

SUMMARY	3
INTRODUCTION	18
CHAPTER 1. ABOUT LIBRARYTHING	19
1.1 PRESENTATION.....	19
1.2 SERVICES AND MAIN FUNCTIONS	20
1.2.1 <i>Collection in LT</i>	20
1.2.2 <i>LibraryThing for Libraries</i>	27
1.3 COMPARISON WITH OTHER SIMILAR SOCIAL CATALOGUING TOOLS.....	32
CHAPTER 2. WHAT OTHER LIBRARIES ARE DOING WITH LIBRARYTHING (BENCHMARKING).....	34
2.1 LIBRARIES USING <i>LIBRARYTHING</i>	34
2.1.1 <i>Collections in LT</i>	34
2.1.2 <i>Participating in LT groups</i>	36
2.2 LIBRARIES USING <i>LIBRARYTHING FOR LIBRARIES</i>	36
CHAPTER 3. ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	39
3.1 A COLLECTION IN <i>LIBRARYTHING</i> . STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES	39
3.2 USE OF <i>LIBRARYTHING FOR LIBRARIES</i> IN THE LIBRARY OPAC. STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES.....	46
3.3 LTFL AND PRIMO.....	54
3.3.1 <i>Brief analysis of social content in Primo</i>	54
3.3.2 <i>Comparison between tagging and reviewing functions in Primo and LTFL</i>	58
3.3.3 <i>Interoperability between Primo and LTFL</i>	59
3.4 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	60
REFERENCES	63
ANNEXES.....	64
ANNEX 1. <i>LIBRARYTHING FOR LIBRARIES</i> . OFFICIAL INFORMATION.....	64
ANNEX 2. EXAMPLES OF LIBRARIES AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS WITH A COLLECTION IN LT	73
ANNEX 3. COMPLETE LIST OF LIBRARIES USING LTFL	79
ANNEX 4. PRICES.....	85
ANNEX 5. LIST OF LIBRARIES AND STAKEHOLDERS CONTACTED	86
ANNEX 6. REPORT PRESENTATION.....	87

Summary

Introduction

This report was requested by the **Innovation and Marketing department of the ETH-Bibliothek**, for the purpose of **assessing the social cataloguing tool LibraryThing and its potential uses in an academic library**.

The report contains the following main points:

Chapter 1. Presentation of LibraryThing

Chapter 2. Observation of how other libraries use LibraryThing

Chapter 3. Analysis, conclusions and recommendations

The author of this report found out that **there are two main services offered by LibraryThing**, on which the contents of this report are focused:

- 1) Having an account and a collection in LibraryThing.**
- 2) Enhancing the library OPAC with social content from LibraryThing (tags, reviews, etc.), a product called *LibraryThing for Libraries*.**

We considered that it was worth comparing some issues of this product with similar functions currently offered by the new generation of search and retrieval interfaces. In this context, the **tag and review functions from Primo – the ExLibris product – were observed and superficially analysed**, in order to compare them with the same service offered by *LibraryThing for Libraries*. In section 3.3 there is a brief comparison between the two.

The comments and opinions of other libraries were considered very important. **A total of 15 libraries were questioned**, by e-mail or interview (see Annex 5 to see the list).

Chapter 1. About LibraryThing

Presentation

LibraryThing (from now on LT) [<http://librarything.com>] is an online personal cataloguing tool people can use to organise personal book collections, make the collections known to all web users, and connect with users who have similar tastes (Jeffries, 2008).

LT has been in existence since August 2005. Tim Spalding, a web developer and web publisher based in Portland (USA), founded it. In May 2006, Canadian bookseller AbeBooks acquired 40% of the company. Two years later, in 2008, AbeBooks was partly bought by Amazon. Recently, it has been bought by Bowker¹.

LT distinguishes the *works* from their *manifestations*. In this sense, LT's system architecture reflects the thinking that is embodied in the international Functional Requirements of Bibliographic Records initiative (FRBR) developed by IFLA [<http://www.frbr.org>] (O'Neill, 2007). LT's users can catalogue their books by themselves or import the data from one of the 694 sources available – among them the Library of Congress, the British Library, the NEBIS Catalog or Amazon. The protocol Z39.50 is used for exchanging data.

¹ The author of this report does not know the exact percentage of Bowker's ownership.

As a social network, LT offers different Web 2.0 functions. The users can add more data to the books and authors, rate the works, write reviews and tag the works, join other people in discussion groups, see other users' information, etc.

Currently, LT has 782,058 members and 41,887,920 catalogued books, which correspond to 4,746,979 works. It is the oldest of similar programs (Goodreads, Shelfari, etc.). The tool is available in 53 different languages, with translations done by LT members; the German language version has 9,768 members, 527,787 catalogued books and 784,529 tags.²

Even though the tool was designed for use by individual members, LT has developed new services: an account for institutions (non-profit and for-profit) and the service called *LibraryThing for Libraries* (LTFL), which permits visualisation of some LT content (tags, reviews, similar books...) in the library's OPAC. According to the information given by LT, there are currently 2,750 organisational accounts – presumably most are for libraries and booksellers – and 140 libraries using *LibraryThing for Libraries* enhancements in their OPACs.

Services and main functions

Collection in LT

Open a collection

LT could serve as a tool for displaying a specific collection (new acquisitions, reading lists, etc.), or the whole collection of a library.

To create an individual or institutional collection in LT, the following steps must be taken:

- a) Create an account and modify the member profile
- b) Add books to the library
- c) Edit records

Visualisation of data

By default, LT shows a screen with basic information about the book: author, title and social data (members who have the book, ratings, tags...). In *Details*, it is possible to visualise the *Work details* with a bibliographic description of the work from LT's common knowledge section, and also *Book details* with a bibliographic description of the book which has been entered or imported by users. Note that in *Work details*, the work is indexed with a Library of Congress Classification, Dewey Decimal Classification and subjects from the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH).

Search and browse options

LT allows two options for searching (in My Library or on the whole site) and in several fields. There are other search boxes in different sections of the site for searching in specific areas (*Tags, Groups, Conversations etc.*). There are different browsing options as well. The main and most characteristic among them is **browsing tags**. Note that behind the tags, there are aliases that lead to related groups.

Widgets

It is possible to add a widget to the library website or blog in order to enable the users to see the latest books added to the collection, random books from the collection, tag clouds, etc. There are two main kinds of widgets:

- 1) Standard widget: shows books, authors or tags.
- 2) Search widget: lets the user search the collection right on the library website.

² All these data were compiled on 27 July 2009 in [<http://www.librarything.com/zeitgeist>] and [<http://www.librarything.com/zeitgeist/language>]. Please note that LibraryThing keeps growing bigger every day.

Other functions

- Author pages
- Talk, groups and local
- Blogs: *LibraryThing* blog [<http://www.librarything.com/blog/>] and *Thingology* [<http://www.librarything.com/thingology/>]
- LibraryThing for Early Reviewers
- CueCat scanner
- Instructions for accessing LT with a mobile phone
- LibraryThing APIs and Easy Linking. See LibraryThing APIs section for more information [<http://www.librarything.com/services/>]
- More.

LibraryThing for Libraries

LT began offering the *LibraryThing for Libraries* service (from now on LTFL) in 2007. LTFL draws on the data stored in LT and contributed by LT users. LTFL is an overlay for the OPAC. It allows the integration of new content from LT into the library's online catalogue, including tag clouds, recommendations, user reviews, etc. Moreover, with LTFL library users can add reviews (not tags!) in the library OPAC, without needing to register as a member in LT.

Below is a complete list of possible functions:

FUNCTIONS:
Catalogue Enhancements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tag browsing• Book recommendations• Other editions and translations
Review Enhancements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patron reviews, review importation from LT, ratings and widgets

NOTE: According to LT and Bowker, the review enhancement functions are only available for the following systems: Horizon Information Portal, III Webpac and Webpac Pro, Koha, Voyager, iBistro, iLink and e-Library. However, the Primo Administrator Guide by ExLibris declares that tags and review imports from LT are possible with Primo.



Tags, reviews, book recommendations, and other editions and translations always refer to items which are in the library catalogue. The system never shows user items from other libraries or LT that are not in the OPAC of the library.

Catalogue enhancements:

▪ **Tag browsing and book recommendations**

Once the user has searched in the catalogue, the Javascript displays LT tags for the book and a list of similar books.

Similar Books (or recommendations) is based on data collected from the over 41 million books on LibraryThing - which books members of the site own, how they rate them,

and how they tag them. Library cataloguing data, including subject headings and call numbers, is also used to improve the recommendations [<http://www.librarything.com/forlibraries/about>].

Tags are key words and labels used by people to describe a book. A tag cloud is a visual organisation of tags - the larger the text, the more people have tagged that item with that specific word. LibraryThing librarians have approved preselected LTFL tags for usefulness and appropriateness. Highly personal tags (to read, gift from mom) have been excluded. As for risqué words as tags, LT has a rating system with three levels - each library can choose to include them or not. So far, most libraries have not chosen to limit their tags. [<http://www.librarything.com/forlibraries/about>].

The tags are hyperlinked to a **tag browser** overlay, which **lists tags used for that item**, suggests **related tags** and **lists books in the OPAC that have the same LT tag**.

- **Other editions and translations (FRBR)**

Assuming LT is based on FRBR, LTFL allows the library OPAC to show related editions and translations of the same work. This option shows other manifestations of the same work contained in the library but detected in LT. This means that whenever there is something missing or a mistake in LT it will show up in the library OPAC too (e.g. two manifestations of the same work that haven't yet been combined in LT).

Review Enhancements:

LTFL permits visualisation of LT reviews, adding a library user's reviews and rating the books. Once the user creates and adds a new review, this can be visualised in their library catalogue, in other library catalogues, and on librarything.com. The system allows libraries to approve user reviews before making them publicly available. Moreover, reviews can be put on users' Facebook pages, blogs and other social network tools (widgets).

Comparison with other similar social cataloguing tools

The table below³ aims to summarise the main differences between four popular social cataloguing tools⁴:

- **LibraryThing**
- **Goodreads** [<http://www.goodreads.com/>]
- **Shelfari** [<http://www.shelfari.com/>]
- **Visual Bookshelf**
[<http://www.facebook.com/apps/application.php?id=2481647302>]

³ All the information in the table comes from the article written by Scott Jeffries (Jeffries, 2008).

⁴ Other sites should also be considered in the future if their popularity keeps growing. This could well be the case with **WeRead** [<http://wepread.com/>], the tool from which OCLC is currently importing book reviews to be viewed in their WorldCat catalogue.

Social cataloguing tools	Strengths	Weaknesses	Other comments
LibraryThing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Oldest social networking site.</i> ▪ <i>Uses Amazon, Library of Congress and 690 other sources.</i> ▪ <i>Tagging plays an important role within the site.</i> ▪ <i>The design of the interface is pleasing, not cluttered.</i> ▪ <i>LT has aimed at libraries and librarians as key users of its services and an important market for their product.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Deficient in usability and community-building.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Began in August 2005.</i>
Goodreads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Completely free.</i> ▪ <i>A large collection of author-created pages where the reader can connect with the author.</i> ▪ <i>The social networking emphasis is very evident.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Includes some advertisements.</i> ▪ <i>No advanced search options found beyond title, author, and ISBN.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Began in 2006, but developed more in late 2007.</i>
Shelfari	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>The distinctive feature is its visual shelf display that places the image of an added book on a virtual shelf.</i> ▪ <i>Adding tags is easy.</i> ▪ <i>Widget for adding a particular collection to a blog.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Book information records only list the title and author information as well as reviews. Further information on the book such as ISBN and publisher is hidden in an 'edit book' screen.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Began in October 2006</i> ▪ <i>It was acquired by Amazon in August 2008</i> ▪ <i>Access enabled for purchasing the book from Amazon.</i>
Visual Bookshelf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>The product with the most potential from a social standpoint. A Facebook user adds the application to a current account and then begins adding books to a collection along with reviews and comments. Facebook 'friends' that have also added Visual Bookshelf are then able to view the user's reading activities as well.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Thin on bibliographic information beyond the title, author, and the cover image.</i> ▪ <i>It is designed for listing and sharing and not for cataloguing.</i> ▪ <i>Offers no option for tagging or adding additional data to the book item.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>While LT, Goodreads and Shelfari connect the user with other users who have similar interests but may not actually be friends or acquaintances, Visual Bookshelf connects the user to people who are already familiar with one another through Facebook.</i> ▪ <i>Visual Bookshelf could provide a unique avenue between the library and its users; a librarian might notice trends and preferences of its</i>

			<p><i>users' reading activities and suggest books to fit individual tastes. Conversely, the user could see what has been highlighted on the library's Visual Bookshelf page.</i></p>
--	--	--	--

Chapter 2. What other libraries are doing with LibraryThing (benchmarking)

Libraries using LibraryThing



According to the information given by LT, there are currently a total of 2,750 organisational accounts. Presumably most of them are library institutions or bookshops.

The examples observed show how libraries have created one or several collections in LT, with different goals. In this sense, the types of collections are different. Each library can open more than one collection or just one using tags to classify the items.

The **collection types observed** are the following:

- new acquisitions
- reading lists
- bibliography related to specific events or commemorations
- specific subject booklists
- the whole collection of a department, project or programme
- the whole collection of a library or other type of organisation

Below is a **list of examples of each kind of collection**:

New acquisitions:

- Biblioteca de l'ETSAV. Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura del Vallès. Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC). Spain. (*)
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile/bibliotecaETSAV>]
- Cancer Care Research Centre (CCRC). University of Stirling. UK.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile/CCRC>]
- Biblioteca di Scienze. Università di Firenze. Italy
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=Bibscienze>]
- Ryan Library. Point Loma Nazarene University. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=RyanLibraryPLNU>]
- Special Collections. University of Illinois. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=UICreadingRoom>]

Recommended reading lists:

- Biblioteca de l'ETSAV. Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura del Vallès. Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC). Spain. (*)
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile/bibliotecaETSAV>]

Bibliography related to specific events and commemorations:

- Zentralbibliothek Zürich. Universität Zürich. Switzerland. (*)
[http://www.librarything.de/profile/Zentralbibliothek_ZH]

Specific subject booklist:

- Greenfield Public Library. USA. (*)
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=greenfieldlibrary>]
- Syracuse University Science & Technology Library. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=suscilib>]
- Ohio State University Libraries. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=OSULibraries>]

Entire collection of the library:

- Resource Centre and Enquiry Service. Scottish Centre for Information on Language Teaching and Research (Scottish CILT). University of Strathclyde. UK. (*)
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile/ScottishCILT>]
- Amnesty International UK Resource Centre. UK.
[http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=AIUK_ResourceCentre]

Entire collection of a specific programme, project or department:

- Dakota Writing Project. University of South Dakota. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=dwp>]
- Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science. Portland State University. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=cee-psu>]
- Careers Services. Queen Mary Careers. University of London. UK. (*)
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=queenmarycareers>]
- School of Pharmacy. Pacific University. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=pusop>]

Note: Only those marked with (*) have been contacted and confirmed.

Libraries using *LibraryThing for Libraries*

According to the information available on LTFL website, a **total of 139 libraries** around the world are using *LibraryThing for Libraries* in their OPACs. Notably, the **United States of America is the country where more libraries are using the tool**. In general, **there are more public libraries using LTFL than academic libraries; but it should be emphasised that the difference is not very noticeable**.

The table below shows the library types and the countries in more detail:

Country	Public libraries	Academic libraries	School libraries	Special libraries	Networks of different types of libraries	Total
USA	54	35	1	1	7	99
Australia	15	2	1	-	-	18
Canada	3	-	-	-	-	3
UK	-	3	-	-	-	3
Ireland	-	3	-	-	-	3
Sweden	1	2	-	-	-	3
Netherlands	-	2	-	-	-	2
France	-	1	-	-	1	2
New Zealand	1	-	-	-	-	1

Colombia	-	1	-	-	-	1
U. Arab Emir.	-	1	-	-	-	1
China	-	1	-	-	-	1
Norway	1	-	-	-	-	1
Spain	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	75	53	2	1	8	139

Chapter 3. Analysis and recommendations



LT's major strength is the possibility of connecting catalogue and library users with the worldwide community. In this way, social tagging increases the collection visibility and its retrieval.

The following tables analyse the strengths and weaknesses of the two main services of LT. The background of the ETH-Bibliothek has been taken into account, emphasising the features that might have an impact on an academic library specialising in sciences and technologies.

Having a collection in *LibraryThing*. Strengths and weaknesses

STRENGTHS

The following issues are the strengths observed for one or more collections in LT:

- S1. LT is a way of sharing part of the library collection with the worldwide community.
- S2. There are several quick and easy ways to create a collection in LT; massive file importation and importation from sources that use the protocol Z.39.50 (Library of Congress, Amazon, NEBIS, British Library, etc.).
- S3. LT allows each member to have more than one collection and to tag the items with complete freedom. This allows the library to categorise its collection/s in LT in a way which serves its users' needs better. In the profile section, the library has a space for explaining in detail what kind of collection has been set up in LT.
- S4. The collection in LT can serve different purposes: new acquisitions, recommended reading lists, collections related to specific programmes or projects, sharing items related to special events and commemorations etc.
- S5. General and subject RSS (Really Simple Syndication). LT allows the library users to subscribe to one or several RSS-Feeds in order to find out about new acquisitions and reviews in their fields of specialisation.
- S6. LT allows adding a widget to a website, a blog and other library tools, and can be accessed from other devices such as mobile phones.
- S7. Interface in German and many other languages.
- S8. LT allows the library patrons to manage their own collections or book-reading lists.
- S9. Compared with other social cataloguing tools, LT has the most to offer libraries, organisations and scholars. The company makes efforts in innovation.
- S10. Customisation options.
- S11. Possibility of creating private groups or joining public groups and getting in contact with the community.
- S12. Competitive prices.

WEAKNESSES

The following issues are the weaknesses observed when having one or more collections in LT:

- W1. LT only stores physical books.
- W2. A from the concept of a 'single access point' with Primo.
- W3. Whenever a library user clicked on an item shown in the LT widget on the library website, he was transferred to Amazon.
- W4. The standard collections in LT are not, in general, the same as an academic, technical and scientific library collection. In consequence, a large part of the ETH-Bibliothek collection could probably not have been added before by other LT members.
- W5. Despite the fact that in the profile section the libraries have space to explain themselves, in some cases it is not very clear what kind of collection is being stored in LT. This might confuse the library users.
- W6. The quality of the bibliographic descriptions cannot be completely assured.
- W7. Compared with other social cataloguing tools, LT is deficient in usability and community-building.

Use of LibraryThing for Libraries in the library OPAC. Strengths and weaknesses

STRENGTHS

The following issues are the strengths observed about LTFL and its Web 2.0 tools in the libraries' OPACs:

- S1. LTFL enriches access to library resources. The folksonomy system and user reviews increase search options and serendipity. A parallel coexistence between the folksonomy and the library classification system is possible and enriching.
- S2. Tags and 'similar books' functions since Primo was launched. Promotion of tagging and reviewing among library users.
- S3. 'Similar books' and 'Other editions' always shows items that are in the library, so any items (in any language) that LibraryThing has data for will show up.
- S4. Easy implementation.
- S5. Customisation options.
- S6. Innovation, maintenance and assistance.
- S7. More than 55 academic libraries around the world are currently using it. Among them, three prestigious ones: Washington University in St. Louis (USA), Utrecht University (Netherlands) and Brigham Young University (USA).
- S8. Opinions from other libraries using LTFL are mostly positive and LTFL features are well used by library users.

WEAKNESSES

The following issues are the weaknesses observed about LTFL and its Web 2.0 tools in the libraries' OPACs:

- W1. Distortion of the institutional brand and image, due the integration of external content. However, patrons are never taken away from the library site and the reference to LibraryThing is minimal.
- W2. Currently, LTFL does not allow library users to add tags: all tags come from LibraryThing and are in English. However, this might not be the case in ETH-Bibliothek, because Primo already allows users to add tags. However, both systems have to be compatible.
- W3. According to LT, currently LTFL's *Review Enhancements* feature does not work with Aleph or Primo. This means that the review function will not be possible for ETH-Bibliothek, at least for the moment. However, Primo Administrator Guide by ExLibris

says exactly the opposite.

- W4. The standard collections in LT are not, in general, the same as an academic, technical and scientific library collection; an important part of ETH-Bibliothek collection could probably not have been added before by LT members on the LibraryThing website and, as a result, there will not be tags for all these items. On average, the overlap between academic libraries and LT holdings is 45%.
- W5. Generally, the typical LT user profile is not the same as the profile of the users of an academic library specialised in sciences and technologies. In consequence, the tagging behaviour will probably be different, especially in the level of specificity and completeness of the content analysis.
- W6. Weakness in LTFL capacity for harvested data from items that do not have ISBN.
- W7. Weakness in the tagging search function.
- W8. Most of the top ranking universities in the world are not currently using LTFL.
- W9. According to one of the libraries contacted, LTFL does not encourage library users to write their own reviews.
- W10. According to one of the libraries contacted, some problems in the implementation phase might appear.

LTFL and Primo

Brief analysis of social content in Primo

Primo offers the following functions concerning tags and reviews:

- Tags associated to an item:
 - all users are allowed to add tags and delete them
 - my tags for this work/manifestation
 - everybody's tags for this work/manifestation

Comments:

- In the 'work' record, Primo shows all tags associated to all the 'manifestations' related to that work. In the 'manifestation' record, Primo shows only the tags associated to that specific manifestation.
 - Weakness in the tag-adding function; the user can tag the work or the specific manifestation of the work. But if he/she tags the work, it seems that the system will associate this tag just to the first manifestation, not to all of them.
 - Weakness in tag-adding function; the user can add one or several tags to an item at the same time, but the user is not allowed to add more tags later without losing the previous ones. If he/she wants to conserve those tags and add a new one, he/she must write them all again.
 - Weakness in adding/deleting tag function; the interface and explanations are not very clear (adding and deleting tags can be easily confused).
- Advanced search options:
 - combine searches (tags, title, author, etc.), tags can be searched in combination with other contents fields
 - Tag page:
 - most recent tags (list or cloud)
 - most popular tags (list or cloud)
 - number of items associated to a tag
 - my tags only (show only my user tags)
 - search for a tag (only one tag)

- Reviews
 - add a review
 - *see other user reviews*
 - *review validation before publication*

A few libraries that are already using Primo were observed in order to analyse the progress of their tag and review systems (University of Minnesota Libraries, University of Iowa Libraries, University of Oxford Libraries, and University of Guelph Libraries).

Comparison between tagging and reviewing functions in Primo and LTFL

The following table shows the differences between LTFL and Primo in tags, reviews, other editions and translation features:

	LTFL	Primo
TAGS		
Tags	Yes	Yes
Add tags	No	Yes
See tags	Yes	Yes
See 'my tags'	No	Yes
Tags in any language	No. All tags are in English	Yes
Tag search	No	Yes. In advanced search, the user can combine tags with other fields.
Tag browse	Yes. Features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tags associated to the manifestation ▪ Related tags ▪ Other items with similar tags 	Yes. Features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tags associated to the work and the manifestation ▪ Other items with the same tag
Most recent tags	No	Yes
Most popular tags	No	Yes
REVIEWS		
Add review	Yes (according to ExLibris) No (according to LT and Bowker)	Yes
See reviews	Yes (according to ExLibris) No (according to LT and Bowker)	Yes
See 'my reviews'	No	?
Reviews in any language	Depends; all reviews imported from LT will be in English, reviews written by library users can be written in any language.	Yes
Review validation	Yes	?
OTHER EDITIONS AND TRANSLATIONS (FRBR)		
Other editions and translations	Yes	Yes



Concerning tag and review functions, the main difference in comparison with LTFL is that with Primo it is the community of library users which has to build up the system on its own. It will take a long time until the system is consistent enough in terms of the quantity of tags and reviews.

On the other hand, with Primo library users are allowed to tag and review by themselves – which is not the case for tags with LTFL.

Consequently, with Primo, tags and reviews can be added and viewed in any language (German, English etc.)

Concerning 'other editions and translations'; both systems offer this function, although they show works/manifestations in different ways. But with Primo there may be fewer errors.

Interoperability between Primo and LTFL



The catalogue enhancement package can be implemented with Primo: tags, similar books and other editions and translation functions can be used.

Review Enhancement package: according to LT and Bowker, the Review Enhancement package is not available to libraries using Aleph or Primo. However, the Primo Administrator Guide says exactly the opposite.

But the other major issue is the **compatibility and level of integration between the tag and review system from LTFL and the tag and review system from Primo**. The major questions are:

- Can both systems operate at the same time?
- Does it make sense if the user sees them separately?
- Can both systems be viewed as one at the front end?
- How does it work? For example, will the tag search query both systems?

These and other similar points have to be investigated.

Conclusions and recommendations

Create/modify the ETH-Bibliothek section in *LibraryThing Local*

The author of this report recommends that the ETH-Bibliothek create its own profile in *LT Local*. As has already been explained in this report, someone has entered the contact information of the ETH-Bibliothek in LT [<http://www.librarything.com/venue/15761/ETH-Bibliothek>]. The information currently available is correct, but not complete; an image/logo and a short description would improve it. Furthermore, the ETH-Bibliothek should modify it in order to make it completely institutional.

A collection in *LibraryThing*

The author of this report would definitely not recommend the implementation for the following purposes:

- ✚ Displaying **new acquisitions** - LT would be too much simple and **it does not allow the organisation of new acquisitions in different domains, typologies and sources**. Furthermore, **it would permit displaying physical books only**, which are not the most important and most used resources in a research-intensive academic library, and the scientific research environment of the future.

However, I do recommend implementing a single-point window for 'new acquisitions' on the first page of the Primo interface which is firmly connected with it. The best option would be for the customisation options to permit the choice of a specific domain.

- ✚ Displaying **reading lists** for courses - there would be the **same problem with resource typologies being different from physical books**. The library should definitely offer this service, but probably not with LT (another tool such as the e-learning platform connected with Primo would be one of various possible solutions).
- ✚ The use of LT might help the library users find a tool for organising their books. However, **to help library users to organise their searches and bibliographies, the academic library should offer its patrons other options more suitable than LT (tools such as e-Shelf in Primo, or bibliographic management programs such as EndNote or others)**. Again, with these, patrons can manage more resource typologies than with LT.
- ✚ **Being closer to the users**. Firstly, with LT the library will get closer to members of LT, not to its library users. Secondly, the ETH-Bibliothek is already using Facebook and Twitter in this sense and these tools are much better for this purpose than LT.

Nevertheless, there are the following two cases in which LT might make sense:

- ✚ **A specific 'literature, reading, leisure' collection**. If the library has this kind of collection, LT could be a platform for **sharing it with the citizens of Zurich**. In this case, the author of this report would not add a widget to the Primo interface, in order to avoid a split from the 'single access point' concept which is behind the Primo implementation. At most, the LT widget could be added to the library website. The purpose of this option would be to share this kind of collection among potential users within the general public of the town.
- ✚ **The 'book of the week/month' or 'selected new acquisitions'** - LT could be a good option for adding a widget with this information to the library website or the Primo interface with the cover and bibliographic data of just one or a few physical books. **LT could be a possibility for virtualising the selection of new acquisitions which is currently on display in the showcase at the entrance of the InfoCenter** in the main library. However, be aware that one of the issues is that **whenever a library user clicks on an item in the widget, he/she is transferred to the Amazon website**. That is why **LT is not the optimal solution for offering this service**.

On the other hand, this could be changed and perhaps done better on the CMS website. Moreover, the library should make sure that adding a widget from LT to the Primo interface is possible. Consequently, the recommendation is for **testing and comparing the final results:**

- a) open an individual account in LT and enter one book, and then try to add a widget to the new library website and/or Primo interface;
- b) do the same with the CMS website or functions that Primo might have;
- c) finally, compare both results in terms of ease, interface design and usability, as well as user needs and abilities.

LibraryThing for Libraries: adding content from LibraryThing into the Primo interface

The author of this report would definitely recommend **seriously considering the potential of this kind of product**. Nowadays, **research and academic libraries must improve their digital services** if they want to continue serving their patrons' needs better each day. **The current trends in the World Wide Web seem to indicate that interaction with Internet users is one of the major points. Therefore, connecting to the features of Web 2.0 is essential. Libraries should give their users the tools to make this interaction possible.** Assuming this point, the author of this report considers that **LTFL or other similar products offer more than just this: they make the connection between the library and its users with information and resources of the World Wide Web possible.** If libraries manage this relationship well, they could enrich their services.

In a more practical sense, firstly, **the library should carry out a survey comparing the different products on the market.**

Secondly, it is necessary to highlight an important **requirement**. **Implementing LTFL or another similar product in Primo would be beneficial as long as this product and Primo tag and review systems can be viewed at the front end as a single and coherent tool: patrons should interact with a single system in the front end for searching, browsing and visualisation functions. Otherwise, library users might become confused.** The following graphic explains this idea:

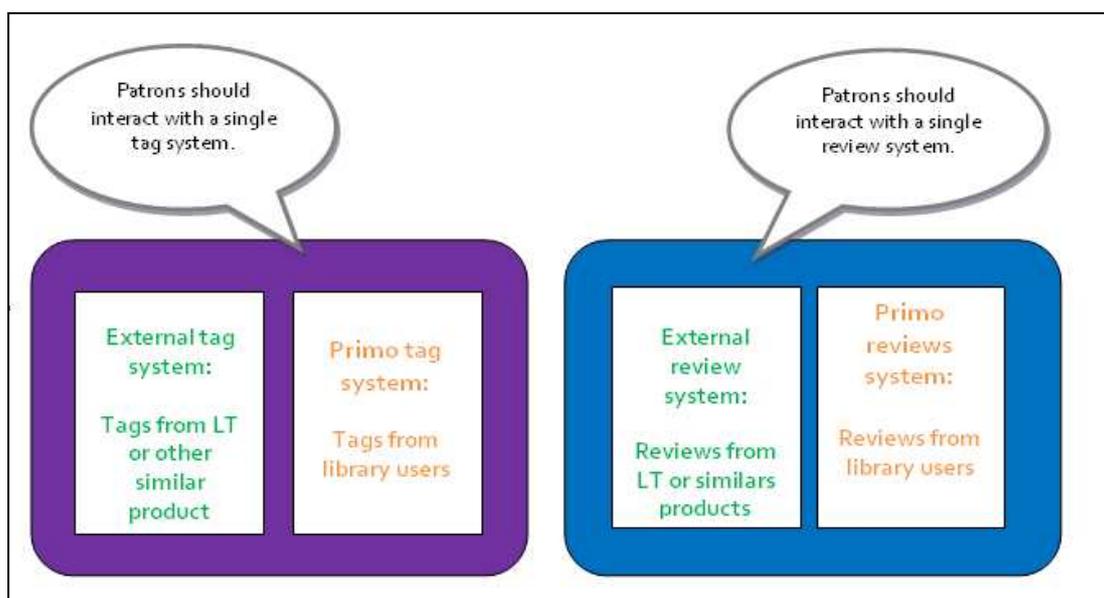


Figure 0. Tag and review systems from LTFL (or other similar product) and Primo must be viewed by users as a single system at the front end (searching, browsing and visualisation functions).

In conclusion, **the first step to pursue would be to prepare a comparative analysis between various products on the market.**

In the case of LTFL, more specifically, the following should be done:

1. Contact Bowker, LTFL, and ExLibris and find out whether reviews can be imported into Primo or not.
2. Contact LTFL or Bowker and open a free trial account.
3. Find out what is the overlap between the ETH library collection and the LT collection.

4. Check with ExLibris and IT library staff whether the front end can be viewed as a single system.
5. Test it.

Introduction

This report was requested by the **Innovation and Marketing department of the ETH-Bibliothek**, for the purpose of **assessing the social cataloguing tool LibraryThing and its potential uses in an academic library**.

The report contains the following main points:

Chapter 1. Presentation of LibraryThing

Chapter 2. Observation about how other libraries use LibraryThing

Chapter 3. Analysis, conclusions and recommendations

The author of this report found that **there are two main services offered by LibraryThing**, on which the contents of this report are focused:

3) An account and a collection in LibraryThing.

4) Enhancing the library OPAC with social content from LibraryThing (tags, reviews, etc.), a product called *LibraryThing for Libraries*.

We considered that it was worth comparing some issues of this product with similar functions currently offered by the new generation of search and retrieval interfaces. In this context, the **tagging and review functions from Primo – the ExLibris product - were observed and superficially analysed**, in order to compare them with the same services offered by *LibraryThing for Libraries*. In section 3.3 there is a brief comparison between the two.

The comments and opinions of other libraries were considered very important. **A total of 15 libraries were contacted** by e-mail or interviewed (see Annex 5 to see the list).

About the author of this report:

Aina Manso Santolaria - currently an internship student in ETH-Bibliothek, from Universitat de Barcelona (Spain). Contact: ainamanso@gmail.com ; amanso@doc6.es

Chapter 1. About LibraryThing

1.1 Presentation

LibraryThing (from now on LT) [<http://librarything.com>] is an online personal cataloguing tool people can use to organise personal book collections, make the collections known to all web users, and connect with users who have similar tastes (Jeffries, 2008).

LT has been in existence since August 2005. Tim Spalding, a web developer and web publisher based in Portland (USA), founded it. In May 2006, Canadian bookseller AbeBooks acquired 40% of the company. Two years later, in 2008, AbeBooks was partly bought by Amazon. Recently, it has been bought by Bowker⁵.

LT distinguishes the *works* from their *manifestations*. In this sense, LT's system architecture reflects the thinking that is embodied in the international Functional Requirements of Bibliographic Records initiative (FRBR), developed by IFLA [<http://www.frbr.org>] (O'Neill, 2007). LT's users can catalogue their books by themselves or import the data from one of the 694 sources available – among them the Library of Congress, the British Library, the NEBIS Catalog or Amazon. The protocol Z39.50 is used for exchanging data.

As a social network, LT offers different Web 2.0 functions. The users can add more data to the books and authors, rate the works, write reviews and tag the works, join other people in discussion groups, see other users' information, etc.

Currently, LT has 782,058 members and 41,887,920 catalogued books which correspond to 4,746,979 works. It is the oldest among similar programs (Goodreads, Shelfari, etc.). The tool is available in 53 different languages, translated by LT members: the German language version has 9,768 members, 527,787 catalogued books and 784,529 tags.⁶

Even though the tool was designed for the use of individual members, LT has developed new services: an account for institutions (non-profit and for-profit) and the service called *LibraryThing for Libraries* (LTFL), which permits visualisation of some content from LT (tags, reviews, similar books...) in the library's OPAC. According to the information given by LT, there are currently 2,750 organisational accounts – presumably most of them are for libraries and bookshops – and 140 libraries using *LibraryThing for Libraries* enhancements in their OPACs.

In the next section, the main services and functions of the tool are described in detail.

⁵ The author of this report does not know the exact percentage of Bowker's ownership.

⁶ All these data were compiled on 27 July 2009 in [<http://www.librarything.com/zeitgeist>] and [<http://www.librarything.com/zeitgeist/language>]. Please note that LibraryThing keeps growing bigger every day.

1.2 Services and main functions

1.2.1 Collection in LT

1.2.1.1 Open a collection

LT could serve as a tool for displaying a specific collection (new acquisitions, reading lists, etc.) or the whole collection of a library.

To create an individual or institutional collection in LT, the following steps must be taken:

a) Create an account and modify the member profile

After having created an account, LT allows its members to customise their profile in several ways (adding pictures and member information, adding links to the library OPAC, personalising the appearance, and some issues concerning the visualisation of data, linking the tool with Twitter, etc.).

b) Add books

There are several ways to add books to the member's library:

- import data from one of the 690 external sources
- manually
- massive import of files of maximum 2MB, in several formats –TEXT, CSV, XML, HTML, RTF, etc.- or HTML pages
- search a book already catalogued in LT and add it to the member's collection.

c) Edit records

The book record has the following fields:

- Title. *It is the only compulsory one.*
- Author. *Note that it is a non-repeatable field.*
- Tags. *Member tags.*
- Collections. *The member must classify the item in one or more of his collections (My Library, Wish list, Currently reading, To read, Read but not owned, Favourites).*
- Rating. *The member can rate the book with between 0 and 5 stars.*
- Your review
- Other authors. *It is a repeatable field. It is the only way in LT to enter all the authorities (other authors, translators etc.)*
- Publication
- Publication date

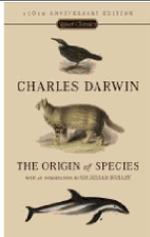
- ISBN
- Library of Congress Classification
- Dewey Decimal Classification
- Subjects. *The indexing terms come from the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH).*
- Primary language
- Secondary language
- Original language
- Comments
- Private comments
- Summary
- Number of copies
- BCID.
- Date acquired
- Reading dates. *It is a repeatable field.*
- Member
- Entry date
- Data source

Afterwards, the member can add information to the **Common Knowledge field** (*book series, canonical title⁷, original publication date, people/characters, important places, awards, etc.*)

1.2.1.2 Visualisation of data

By default, LT shows a screen with basic information about the book: author, title and social data (members who have the books, ratings, tags etc.), see Figure 1. In *Details*, it is possible to visualise the *Work details* with the bibliographic description of the work from LT's common knowledge section (Figure 2), and also *Book details* with a bibliographic description of the book which has been entered or imported by the users (Figure 3). Note that in *Work details*, the work is indexed with a Library of Congress Classification, Dewey Decimal Classification and subjects from Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH).

⁷ Note that the *canonical title* is the title, in catalogue language, which is generally accepted and more common.



On the origin of species

by **Charles Darwin**

Members	Reviews	Popularity	Average rating	Conversations
4,265	24	432	★★★★ (4.11)	106

[+ Add to your library](#)

Members [all members](#)

Recently added by [tasseled](#), [missravenx](#), [bbudke](#), [private library](#), [Imaurits](#), [echoui](#), [kjetilhope](#), [burningbooks](#)

Legacy Libraries [Ian Fleming](#), [Carl Sandburg](#), [Eeva-Liisa Manner](#)

Tags [numbers](#) [show all](#)

19th century animals anthropology atheism **biology** british Charles Darwin Classic classics **darwin** darwinism Easton Press ebook English **evolution** Evolutionary Biology evolutionary theory fiction Folio Society genetics geology Harvard Classics history history of science literature **natural history** Natural Science **Natural Selection** nature non-fiction origin of species Own owned paperback penguin classics Philosophy philosophy of science Popular Science read reference **Science** speciation tbr theory Unfinished unread victorian

Recommendations

LibraryThing recommendations

- [The Blind Watchmaker: Why the Evidence of Evolution Reveals a Universe Without Design](#) by Richard Dawkins
- [The Voyage of the Beagle](#) by Charles Darwin
- [The Selfish Gene](#) by Richard Dawkins
- [Wonderful Life: The Burgess Shale and the Nature of History](#) by Stephen Jay Gould
- [The Descent of Man](#) by Charles Darwin
- [Bully for Brontosaurus: Reflections in Natural History](#) by Stephen Jay Gould

Figure 1. Book - main page.

Work details	Book details
Title	On the origin of species
Author	Charles Darwin
Owned by	4,267 members
Reviews	24
LC Classification	AC1 .G72 vol. 49 (see all)
Dewey	575.8 (see all)
Subjects	Electronic books Evolution Evolution (Biology) Heredity Human beings > Origin Human evolution Natural selection Species, Origin of Species, Origin of. [from old catalog]
Other languages	Danish – Arternes Oprindelse : Ved naturligt Udvalg eller ved de heldigst stillede Formers Sejr i Kampen for Tilværelsen Dutch – Over het ontstaan van soorten door middel van natuurlijke selectie, of Het behoud van bevoordeelde rassen in de strijd om het leven Finnish – Lajien synty French – L'Origine des espèces German – On the Origin of Species: A Facsimile of the First Edition Hebrew – The Origin of Species Hungarian – A fajok eredete természetes kiválasztás útján Italian – L'origine della specie Norwegian (Bokmål) – Om arternes opprinnelse gjennom det naturlige utvalg, eller De begunstigede rasenes bevarelse i kampen for tilværelsen Portuguese – Origem das Espécies, A Russian – The Origin of Species Spanish – El origen de las especies/ The Origin of Species Swedish – Om arternas uppkomst genom naturligt urval eller De bäst utrustade rasernas bestånd i kampen för tillvaron

All LibraryThing books belong to a "work," a cross-user and cross-edition concept designed to improve social contact, recommendations and cataloging quality.

Figure 2. Work details

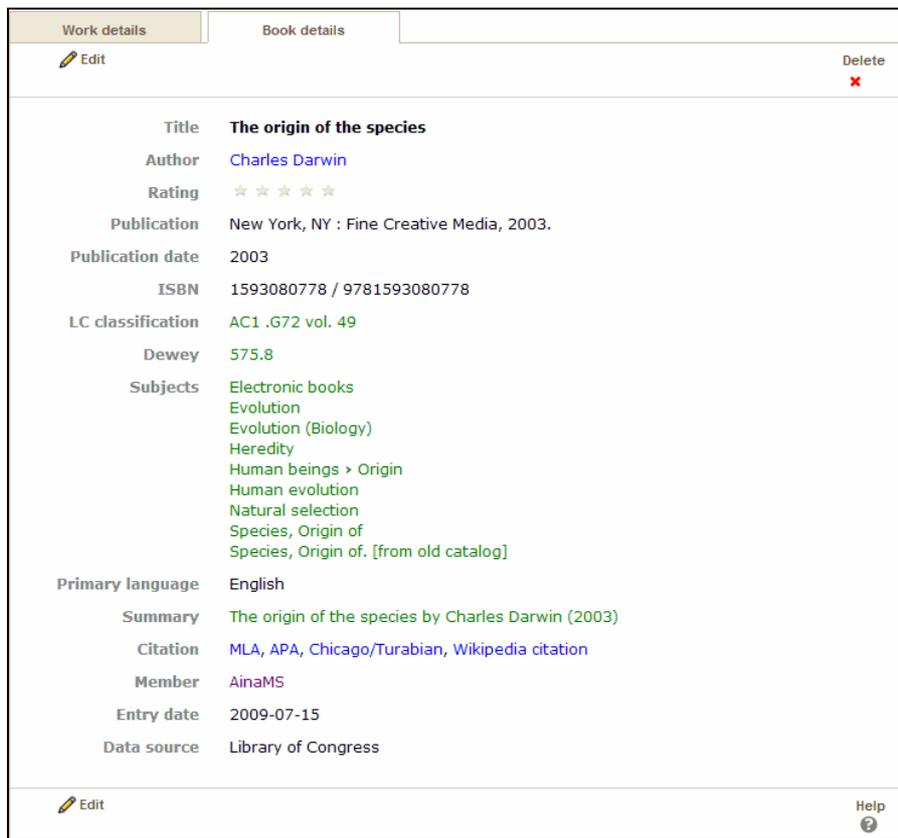


Figure 3. Book details

1.2.1.3 Search and browse options

LT allows two options for searching (in My Library or on the whole site) and across several fields (Figure 4). There are other search boxes in different sections on the site for searching in specific sections (*Tags, Groups, Conversations etc.*).

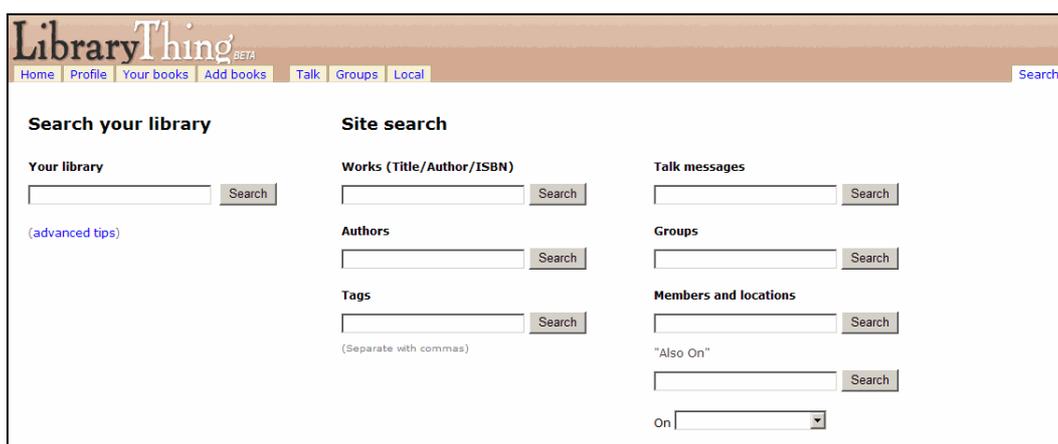


Figure 4. Search options.

There are different browsing options as well. The main and most characteristic of them is **tag browsing** (see Figure 5). Note that behind the tags, there are aliases that lead to related groups.

Tag info: natural science
Includes: natural science, natural sciences, natuurwetenschappen (what?)

Tag and its aliases used 2,044 times by 335 users.

Most often tagged natural science

- A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson (24)
- On the origin of species by Charles Darwin (22)
- A Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking (12)
- Consilience: The Unity of Knowledge by Edward O. Wilson (10)
- Mr. Wilson's Cabinet Of Wonder: Pronged Ants, Horned ... by Lawrence Weschler (9)
- The Selfish Gene by Richard Dawkins (7)
- The Ancestor's Tale: A Pilgrimage to the Dawn of Evolution by Richard Dawkins (6)
- Wonderful Life: The Burgess Shale and the Nature of History by Stephen Jay Gould (5)
- The Universe in a Nutshell by Stephen Hawking (5)
- The Voyage of the Beagle by Charles Darwin (5)
- Eight Little Piggies: Reflections in Natural History by Stephen Jay Gould (5)
- Biology by Neil A. Campbell (4)
- The Song of the Dodo: Island Biogeography in an Age of ... by David Quammen (4)
- The Panda's Thumb: More Reflections in Natural History by Stephen Jay Gould (4)
- Handbook of Nature Study by Anna Botsford Comstock (4)
- Darwin's Black Box by Michael J. Behe (4)
- Dinosaur in a Haystack: Reflections in Natural History by Stephen Jay Gould (4)
- The Diversity of Life by Edward O. Wilson (4)
- A Natural History of the Senses by Diane Ackerman (4)
- Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors by Carl Sagan (4)

(see more|see raw count)

Using the tag natural science

westher (136), NoLongerAtEase (123), Allacci (56), dhancock (36), vreeland (37), mattormeg (36), LadyLovecraft (33), SimPenguin (29), ablueldol (28), blaakopi (25), heuristictet (24), mfd101 (23), VanishedOne (18), E59F (17), casa_tali (16), SUMSBLlibrary (15), kristen.r.tanner (15), bataviabirders (14), wfscm (13), oakesspalding (13), NVCCAN (12) ... and 315 other members

[your tags](#) | [LT tag cloud](#) | [LT author cloud](#)

Related tags [\(show numbers\)](#)

anthropology art biography **biology** botany
children's **conservation darwinism** dinosaurs ecology
environmentalism essays **evolution**
evolutionary theory fiction field guide genetics
geography geology **history history of science** journalism mathematics memoir
natural history nature Nature Study
non-fiction paleontology parapsychology
penguins philosophy photography
physics politics **popular science psychology**
read Reference religion san francisco **science**
social science sociobiology tbr theology travel trees unread

Related subjects

Evolution (Biology) (27)
Evolution (17)
Natural selection (16)
Science > History (12)
Cosmology (11)
Science > Popular works (10)
Human evolution (9)
Heredity (8)
Biology (8)
endangered species (6)

Figure 5. Tag browsing.

1.2.1.4 Widgets

It is possible to add a widget to the library website or blog to enable the users to see the latest books added to the collection, random books from the collection, tag clouds, etc. There are two main kinds of widgets:

- a) **Standard widget: shows books, authors or tags.**
- b) **Search widget: lets the users search the collection right on the library website.**



A widget can be added to a library website, a blog and other tools. This widget might be a search box for the library collection in LT or might display books, authors or tags entered in the library collection in LT.

The following image shows how to design and implement a widget on the library website or in a blog:

Figure 6. Making a standard widget

1.2.1.5 Other functions

LT has many other functions, among others:

- Author pages
- Talk, groups and local
- Blogs: *LibraryThing blog* [<http://www.librarything.com/blog/>] and *Thingology* [<http://www.librarything.com/thingology/>]
- LibraryThing for Early Reviewers
- CueCat scanner
- Instructions for accessing LT with a mobile phone
- LibraryThing APIs and Easy Linking. See LibraryThing APIs section for more information [<http://www.librarything.com/services/>]
- More

Authors' pages

Once a new author is entered in LT files, an author page is created automatically. The main information displayed is the following:

- Variants of the name (if they have been combined previously)
- The number of members who have works by the same author, the number of reviews, the average rating, the number of members who have selected the author as a 'favourite', and events related to him/her.
- Books written by the author.
- Common knowledge (canonical name, biographic data, awards, etc.)
- External links (Wikipedia and others)
- Related tags
- Author disambiguation
- More

Albert Einstein
 Author of *Relativity: The Special and the General Theory*
 Also known as: Einstein, A. Einstein, Albert Einstein

Members	Reviews	Rating	Favorited	Events
3,822	24	★ ★ ★ ★ ½ (3.74)	12	0

Books by Albert Einstein

- Relativity: The Special and the General Theory* 1361 copies, 7 reviews
- Ideas and Opinions* 693 copies, 3 reviews
- The World As I See It* 295 copies, 4 reviews
- Evolution of Physics* 241 copies, 1 review
- The Meaning of Relativity* 219 copies, 2 reviews
- Albert Einstein: Out of My Later Years* 205 copies, 1 review
- The Quotable Einstein* 98 copies
- Dear Professor Einstein (Albert Einstein's Letters to and from Children)* 53 copies, 1 review
- Essays in Science* 49 copies, 1 review
- Investigations on the Theory of the Brownian Movement* 44 copies
- Albert Einstein, The Human Side* 40 copies
- Sidelights on Relativity* 35 copies
- Einstein's Miraculous Year: Five Papers That Changed the Face of Physics* 33 copies
- The Theory of Relativity: & Other Essays* 33 copies
- Why War?* 30 copies
- Selections from The Principle of Relativity (On the Shoulders of Giants)* 26 copies
- Einstein's 1912 Manuscript on the Special Theory of Relativity* 24 copies

Is this you?
 If you're an author, consider becoming an official LibraryThing Author.

Links

- Wikipedia author page
- Obituary, New York Times, April 19, 1955

Related tags

- 20th century anthology autobiograp
- biography collection cosmolo
- easton press education **einstei**
- essays Folio Society general relativ
- german gravitation hardcover histo
- history of science lets
- mathematics memoir newton NOR
- fiction own peace philosophy
- philosophy of science **physic**
- politics popular science quotatio
- read reference **relativity** relig
- science** special relativity tbr tr
- translation UNRead

Figure 7. Author page [<http://www.librarything.com/author/einsteinalbert>]

Talk, groups and local

With *Talk* and *Groups* functions, members of LT can meet other users, read their opinions, join forums for different interests, etc. The LT interface allows many different ways to find the conversations the user is most interested in (searching by language conversation, by conversations related to the books of his/her library, etc.). *Groups* are sets of conversations (*talks*) concerning similar topics. *Groups* can be public or private.

See *Talk and Groups FAQ Page* for more information:
[\[http://www.librarything.com/wiki/index.php/Talk_and_Groups\]](http://www.librarything.com/wiki/index.php/Talk_and_Groups)

Through *LibraryThing Local*, members can add local venues (bookshops, fair/festivals, libraries, other) and coming events related to those venues:

LibraryThing Local

Upcoming events
 Zurich: No events found. Add events from venue page.

Venues
 Show: All | Bookstore | Fair/Festival | Library | Other

- ★ **Orell Füssli for Kids & Family, Zürich** (0.0 miles)
 Bahnhofstr. 62, Zürich, ZH 8021 Switzerland
- ★ **Kaufleuten Restaurants** (0.2 miles)
 Pelikanplatz, Zurich, 8001 Switzerland
- ★ **Buchhandlung Beer** (0.2 miles)
 St. Peterhofstatt 10, Zürich, ZH 8022 Switzerland
- ★ **Kunstiosk** (0.3 miles)
 Limmatquai 31, Zürich, ZH 8001 Switzerland
- ★ **Orell Füssli Kramhof** (0.3 miles)
 Füsslistrasse 4, Zürich, ZH 8001 Switzerland
- ★ **Romanica Buchhandlung** (0.3 miles)
 Schifflande 5, Zürich, ZH 8001 Switzerland
- ★ **Literaturhaus Zürich** (0.3 miles)
 Limmatquai 62, Zürich, 8022 Switzerland
- ★ **Schulthess Juristische Medien** (0.3 miles)

Find venues by location | by name
 Zurich 5 miles Search
 address or postal code

hide map
 Terrain
 Zürich
 Bookstore Library Fair/Festival Other Multiple

Figure 8. LibraryThing Local page [<http://www.librarything.com/local/place/Zurich>]

Note that a member of LT has already added information about the ETH-Bibliothek:

ETH-Bibliothek

Rämistrasse 101
Zürich, 8092
Switzerland

+41 44 632 21 35; info @ library.ethz.ch

Web site: <http://www.ethbib.ethz.ch>

Added by: Thalia. **Contacted:** Not contacted.

Favorited: Thalia

★ [favorite this venue](#)

[edit venue info](#) | [add a picture](#) | [do you work here?](#) | [add an event](#)

Upcoming events  **Comment wall** ([add comment](#))

No events found. Go ahead and [add an event](#).

Figure 9. ETH-Bibliothek in LibraryThing [<http://www.librarything.com/venue/15761/ETH-Bibliothek>]

1.2.2 LibraryThing for Libraries

LT began to offer the *LibraryThing for Libraries* service (from now on LTFL) in 2007. LTFL draws on the data stored in LT and contributed by LT users. LTFL is an overlay for the OPAC. It allows the integration into the library's online catalogue of new content from LT, including tag clouds, recommendations, user reviews, etc. Moreover, with LTFL library users can add reviews (but not tags) to the library OPAC, without needing to be a registered member in LT.

It consists of a snippet of Javascript residing in the OPAC's HTML code which queries LT data by ISBN number and by author-title matching when a user selects a bibliographic record. The Javascript then displays LT contents (Westcott, 2008).

Below is a complete list of possible functions:

FUNCTIONS:
Catalogue enhancements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tag browsing• Book recommendations• Other editions and translations
Review enhancements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patron reviews, review importation from LT, ratings and widgets

See Annex 1.

NOTE: According to LT and Bowker, the review enhancement functions are only available for the following systems: Horizon Information Portal, III Webpac and Webpac Pro, Koha, Voyager, iBistro, iLink and e-Library. However, the Primo Administrator Guide by ExLibris declares that tag and review imports from LT are possible with Primo.



Tags, reviews, book recommendations, and other editions and translations always refer to items that are in the library catalogue. The system never shows the user items from other libraries or LT which are not in the OPAC of the library.

1.2.2.1 Catalogue Enhancements (tags, book recommendations, and other editions and translations)

Tag browsing and book recommendations:

Once the users have searched in the catalogue, the Javascript displays LT tags for the book and a list of similar books.

Similar books (or recommendations) is based on data collected from the over 41 million books on LibraryThing - what books members of the site own, how they rate them, and how they tag them. Library cataloguing data, including subject headings and call numbers, is also used to improve the recommendations [<http://www.librarything.com/forlibraries/about>].

Tags are key words and labels used by people to describe a book. A tag cloud is a visual organisation of tags - the larger the text, the more people have tagged that item with that specific word. LibraryThing librarians have approved preselected LTFL tags for usefulness and appropriateness. Highly personal tags (to read, gift from mom) have been excluded. As for risqué words as tags, LT has a rating system with three levels - each library can choose to include them or not. So far, most libraries have not chosen to limit their tags. [<http://www.librarything.com/forlibraries/about>].

The LT tags are user-generated tags drawn from LT holdings, and are displayed in the OPAC as either as a tag cloud or a tag list. LTFL offers different ways to customise how and where the tags and similar books appear:

Author [Wingell, Richard, 1936-](#)
 Title **Writing about music : an introductory guide / Richard J. Wingell**
 Permanent link to this record

Location	Call Number	Status
HON	ML3797 .W54 1997 c.2	DUE 08-31-09

Edition 2nd ed
Imprint Upper Saddle River, N.J. : Prentice Hall, c1997
Description xii, 160 p. : music ; 23 cm
Note Includes bibliographical references and index
Contents Part I Words and Music -- Chapter 1 Writing about Music 1 -- Why We Write about Music 1 -- The Special Challenges of Writing about Music 2 -- Inappropriate Ways to Write about Music 3 -- Chapter 2 Musical Analysis 7 -- Definition 8 -- Questions to Consider 10 -- The Intent of the Composer 11 -- Examples of Analytical Approaches 13 -- Part II Writing A Research Paper; Other Kinds of Research Projects -- Chapter 3 Getting Started: Research 19 -- Choosing a Topic 19 -- What Research Means 23 -- Gathering Materials 25 -- Places to Start 25 -- Evaluating Resources 31 -- Foreign-Language Sources 31 -- Scores and Recordings 32 -- When to Stop: How Much Research Is Enough? 33 -- Chapter 4 Writing a Research Paper 35 -- The Outline 35 -- Writing the Draft 38 -- Editing and Revising the Draft 44 -- The Clean Copy 46 -- Proofreading 46 -- Keep a Copy 47 -- Chapter 5 Using a Word Processor to Produce a Paper 49 -- Advantages of Word Processing 49 -- The Writer's Responsibility 50 -- The Basic Rule 51 -- Format Issues 52 -- Editing 53 -- Printing 54 -- Chapter 6 Questions of Format 56 -- Paper 57 -- Page Format 57 -- Spacing 58 -- Page Numbers 58 -- Quotations 59 -- Footnote Format 62 -- Bibliography Format 71 -- Chapter 7 Other Kinds of Writing Projects 76 -- The Seminar Presentation 76 -- Concert Reports 82 -- Essay Examinations 82 -- Program Notes 86 -- Part III Writing Effective Prose -- Chapter 8 Principles of Style 93 -- Different Kinds of Prose 93 -- Tone 94 -- The Stance of the Writer 95 -- The Question of Pronouns 96 -- Chapter 9 Writing Effective Sentences 98 -- Word Choice 98 -- Word Combinations 101 -- Sentence Structure 103 -- Chapter 10 Effective Paragraphs and the Effective Essay 107 -- Effective Paragraphs 107 -- The Effective Essay 108 -- Chapter 11 Common Writing Problems 112 -- Errors in Basic Writing Style 112 -- Spelling 116 -- Some Frequently Misused Words 120 -- Punctuation 123 -- Special Problems Involved in Writing about Music 128 -- Appendix Sample Paper 140

ISBN/ISSN 0134633326
Subject [Music -- Historiography -- Handbooks, manuals, etc](#)
[Musical criticism -- Authorship -- Handbooks, manuals, etc](#)
[Report writing -- Handbooks, manuals, etc](#)

Other editions and translations [Writing about music : an introductory guide / Richard J. Wingell](#) by Wingell Richard 1936- (ISBN 0130406031)
[Writing about music : an introductory guide / Richard J. Wingell](#) by Wingell Richard 1936- (ISBN 0136157785)

Similar Books [A history of western music / Donald Jay Grout Claude V. Palisca](#) by Grout Donald Jay
[Romantic music : a history of musical style in nineteenth-century Europe / Leon Plantinga](#) by Plantinga Leon
[Anthology of romantic music / Leon Plantinga editor](#)
[This is your brain on music : the science of a human obsession / Daniel J. Levitin](#) by Levitin Daniel J
[The study of orchestration / Samuel Adler](#) by Adler Samuel 1928-

libraryThing Tag(s) [arts](#) [music](#) [music history](#) [music theory](#) [musician](#) [on writing style](#) [guide](#) [writing](#) [writing reference](#)

Figure 10. Tags and similar books in the OPAC.
 Libraries of The Claremont Colleges, California, USA.

[Mark](#)

[Place Hold](#)

[Buy at Blackwell's](#)

[Find more by this author](#)

[Find more on Subject headings](#)

[Nearby items on shelf](#)

Where is it Shelved? **Details of this Title**

An outline of European architecture
 Pevsner, Nikolaus.
 ISBN: 0713906774
Personal Author: Pevsner, Nikolaus.
Title: An outline of European architecture / Nikolaus Pevsner.
Edition: 7th ed.
Publication info: London : Allen Lane, 1973.
Physical descrip: 496 p.
Subject term: Architecture--Europe--History.
Classmark: 720.94

Similar Books

[How buildings learn : what happens after they're built](#) by Brand, Stewart

[From Bauhaus to our house](#) by Wolfe, Tom.

Tags

16th century 19th century 20th century architectural history architecture art art history art theory baroque Buildings Europe European European History gothic gothic architecture history humanities international John modern architecture modernism pelican renaissance Romanesque romantic

Figure 11. Tags and similar books in the OPAC.
 Leeds Metropolitan University, United Kingdom.

The tags are hyperlinked to a [tag browser](#) overlay, which **lists tags used for that item**, suggests **related tags** and **lists books in the OPAC that have the same LT tag**:

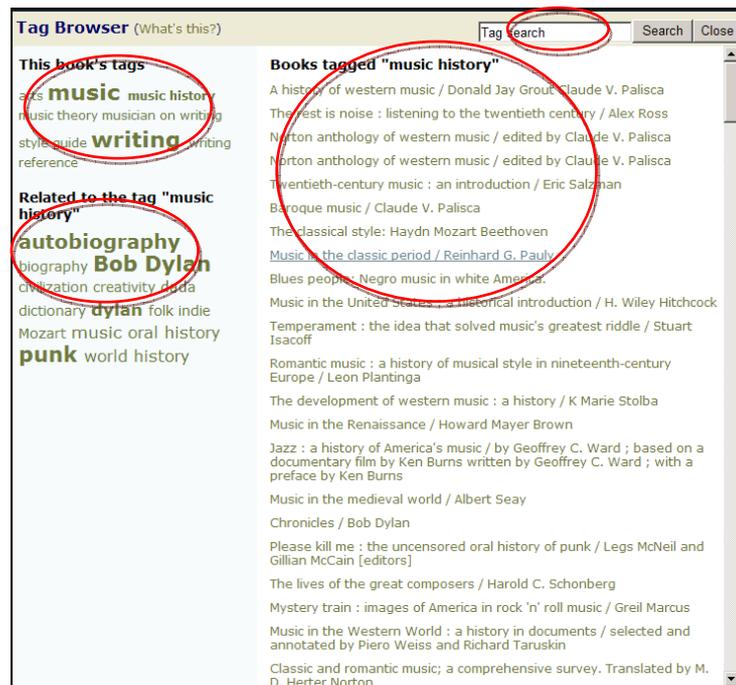


Figure 12. Image of the tag browser and similar books.
Libraries of The Claremont Colleges, California, USA.

LTFL is a quick and easy way of inserting a user-generated folksonomy into the OPAC without being committed to a major change in software, and saving the library from having to create data from scratch or build up a user base. Since it is easy to implement and use, LTFL might be a simple way for libraries to try a next-generation catalogue concept for assessment with minimal fuss (Westcott, 2008).

Other editions and translations (FRBR):

Assuming LT is based on FRBR, LTFL allows the library OPAC to show related editions and translations of the same work. This option shows other manifestations of the same work contained in the library but detected in LT. This means that whenever there is something missing or a mistake in LT it will show up in the library OPAC too (e.g. two manifestations of the same work that have not yet been combined in LT).

All 'other editions' information comes from LibraryThing, where LibraryThing members combine different editions (and their ISBNs) to form one work. Combinations can include different editions in the same language or in other languages as well [<http://www.librarything.com/forlibraries/about>].

Descript xvi, 683 p.
Bibliog. Includes bibliographical references.
Local Note AP book
ISBN 0670835102
 0140445927
Author [Homer.](#)
Subject [Achilles \(Greek mythology\) -- Poetry.](#)
[Trojan War -- Poetry.](#)
Alt Author [Fagles, Robert.](#)
[Knox, Bernard MacGregor Walker.](#)

Tag Browse, Similar Books, and Related Items are trial features - [Comments ?](#)

Tag Browse
[ancient](#) [Ancient Greece](#) [classical literature](#) [epic](#) [epic poetry](#) [Greece](#) [Greek](#) [Greek literature](#) [history](#) [Homer](#) [mythology](#) [poetry](#) [Trojan War](#) [Troy war](#)

Similar Books
[The Aeneid](#) by Virgil
[Beowulf : The fight at Finnsburh](#)
[The Oedipus cycle : an English version](#), by Sophocles.
[Metamorphoses](#) by Ovid, 43 BC.-17 AD
[Inferno](#) by Dante Alighieri

Related Items
[The Iliad](#) by Homer (ISBN 0140444440)
[The Iliad](#) by Homer (ISBN 0679410759)

Figure 13. Tag browse, similar books and related items.
 More: Indianhead Federated Library System, USA.

1.2.2.2 Review Enhancements (patrons' reviews, reviews imported from LT, rates and widgets)

LTFL permits visualisation of LT reviews, adding library user reviews and ratings of the books. Once the user creates and adds a new review, it can be visualised in their library catalogue, in other library catalogues and on LibraryThing.com. The system allows a library to approve user reviews before they are publicly available. Moreover, reviews can be put on users' Facebooks pages, blogs and other social network tools (widgets).

Reviews At My Library (Close)
Reviews for Night sky atlas / author, Robin Scagell ; consultant, Jacqueline Mitton.
What do you think?
[Review this yourself](#) [Find out more](#)
Reader Reviews (1)
Review by H00054358 (Higher Colleges of Technology) ★★★★★
 A very fascinating book. It contains illustrations and pictures of the famous constellations like Orion and Cassiopeia. A must for astronomy lovers.
 Did you find this review useful? **Yes No** (0 yes, 0 no votes) Reviewed on Jun 06 2009
© Permanent link | Terms of Use | LibraryThing for Libraries © 2005-2008 LibraryThing.com; individual reviews are copyright their authors.

Figure 14. Image of the reviews. The libraries of the Higher College of Technology, United Arab Emirates.

1.3 Comparison with other similar social cataloguing tools

This section aims to summarise the main differences between four popular social cataloguing tools: **LibraryThing**, **Goodreads** [<http://www.goodreads.com/>], **Shelfari** [<http://www.shelfari.com/>] and **Visual Bookshelf** [<http://www.facebook.com/apps/application.php?id=2481647302>]. All the information in the table below comes from the article written by Scott Jeffries (Jeffries, 2008).

However, other sites should also be considered in the future if their popularity keeps growing. This could well be the case with **WeRead** [<http://weread.com/>], the tool from which OCLC is currently importing book reviews to their WorldCat catalogue.

Social cataloguing tools	Strengths	Weaknesses	Other comments
LibraryThing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oldest social networking site. ▪ Using Amazon, Library of Congress and 690 other sources. ▪ Tagging plays an important role on the site. ▪ The design of the interface is pleasing, not cluttered. ▪ LT has aimed at libraries and librarians as key users of its services and an important market for their product. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deficient in usability and community building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Began in August 2005.
Goodreads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Completely free. ▪ A large collection of author-created pages where the reader can connect with the author. ▪ The social networking emphasis is very evident. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Includes some advertisements. ▪ No advanced search options found beyond title, author, and ISBN. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Began in 2006, but developed more in late 2007.
Shelfari	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The distinctive feature is its visual shelf display that places the image of an added book on a virtual shelf. ▪ Adding tags is easy. ▪ Widget for adding a particular collection to a blog. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Book information records only list the title and author information as well as reviews. Further information on the book such as ISBN and publisher is hidden in an 'edit book' screen. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Began in October 2006 ▪ It was acquired by Amazon in August 2008 ▪ Access for purchasing the book from Amazon.

<p>Visual Bookshelf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>The product with the most potential from a social standpoint. A Facebook user adds the application to a current account and then begins adding books to a collection along with reviews and comments. Facebook 'friends' who also have added Visual Bookshelf are then able to view the user's reading activities as well.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Thin on bibliographic information beyond the title, author, and the cover image.</i> ▪ <i>It is designed for listing and sharing and not for cataloguing.</i> ▪ <i>Offers no option for tagging or adding additional data to the book item.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>While LT, Goodreads and Shelfari connect the user with other users who have similar interests but may not actually be friends or acquaintances, Visual Bookshelf connects the user with people who are already familiar with one another through Facebook.</i> ▪ <i>Visual Bookshelf could provide a unique avenue between the library and its users; a librarian might notice trends and preferences of users' reading activities and suggest books to fit individual tastes. Conversely, the user could see what has been highlighted on the library's Visual Bookshelf page.</i>
--------------------------------	---	--	---

Chapter 2. What other libraries are doing with LibraryThing (benchmarking)

2.1 Libraries using *LibraryThing*

2.1.1 Collections in LT



According to the information given by LT, there are currently a total of 2,750 organisational accounts. Presumably most of them are library institutions or bookshops.

The examples observed showed how libraries have created one or several collections in LT, for different purposes. The types of collections are different, according to their purpose. Each library can open more than one collection or just one using tags to *classify* the items.

The collection types observed are the following:

- **new acquisitions**
- **reading lists**
- **bibliography related to specific events or commemorations**
- **specific subject booklists**
- **the whole collection of a department, project or programme**
- **the whole collection of a library or other type of organisation**

Below is a **list of examples of each kind of collection:**

New acquisitions:

- Biblioteca de l'ETSAV. Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura del Vallès. Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC). Spain. (*)
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile/bibliotecaETSAV>]
- Cancer Care Research Centre (CCRC). University of Stirling. UK.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile/CCRC>]
- Biblioteca di Scienze. Università di Firenze. Italy
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=Bibscienze>]
- Ryan Library. Point Loma Nazarene University. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=RyanLibraryPLNU>]
- Special Collections. University of Illinois. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=UICreadingRoom>]

Recommended reading lists:

- Biblioteca de l'ETSAV. Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura del Vallès. Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC). Spain. (*)
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile/bibliotecaETSAV>]

Bibliography related to specific events and commemorations:

- Zentralbibliothek Zürich. Universität Zürich. Switzerland. (*)
[http://www.librarything.de/profile/Zentralbibliothek_ZH]

Specific subject booklist:

- Greenfield Public Library. USA. (*)
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=greenfieldlibrary>]
- Syracuse University Science & Technology Library. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=suscilib>]
- Ohio State University Libraries. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=OSULibraries>]

Entire collection of the library:

- Resource Centre and Enquiry Service. Scottish Centre for Information on Language Teaching and Research (Scottish CILT). University of Strathclyde. UK. (*)
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile/ScottishCILT>]
- Amnesty International UK Resource Centre. UK.
[http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=AIUK_ResourceCentre]

Entire collection of a specific programme, project or department:

- Dakota Writing Project. University of South Dakota. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=dwp>]
- Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science. Portland State University. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=cee-psu>]
- Careers Services. Queen Mary Careers. University of London. UK. (*)
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=queenmarycareers>]
- School of Pharmacy. Pacific University. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=pusop>]

Note: Only those marked with (*) were successfully contacted and confirmed.

See Annex 3 for more details about each library or organisation and its use of LT.

Consult Chapter 3 of this report to see the advantages of having a collection in LT, in terms of visibility, customisation, etc.

2.1.2 Participating in LT groups

Members of LT can create or join *Groups* and have conversations about different topics with other members of LT. The groups can be public or private. However, it is necessary to highlight that most of the libraries questioned do not use this function. Below there is a list of examples of libraries participating in one or more groups:

Libraries/members participating in public groups:

- Zentralbibliothek Zurich (Switzerland)
- Quatrefoil Library (USA)
- Wilmington University Library (USA)
- Delaware Division (USA)

Most of them are participating in the group 'Librarians who LibraryThing' [<http://www.librarything.com/groups/librarianswholibrar>].

Libraries/members participating in private groups:

- Pacific University - School of Pharmacy (USA)

2.2 Libraries using *LibraryThing for Libraries*

According to the information available on LTFL website⁸, a **total of 139 libraries** around the world are using *LibraryThing for Libraries* in their OPACs. Notably, the **United States of America is the country where more libraries are using the tool**. In general, **there are more public libraries using LTFL than academic libraries; but it should be emphasised that the difference is not very noticeable**.



***In total, there are 139 libraries using 'LibraryThing for Libraries' in their OPACs (tags, similar books...):
75 of them are public libraries,
whereas 53 are academic libraries.***

The 11 libraries left are school or special libraries, or networks of different kinds of libraries (including 3 academic libraries in networks with public, school or special libraries).

⁸ [http://www.librarything.com/wiki/index.php/LTFL:Libraries_using_LibraryThing_for_Libraries]

The table below shows in more detail the library types and the countries (for the complete list of libraries, see Annex 3):

Country	Public libraries (and public library networks)	Academic libraries (and academic library networks)	School libraries	Special libraries	Networks of different types of libraries	Total
United States	54	36	1	1	7 ⁹	99
Australia	15	2	1	-	-	18
Canada	3	-	-	-	-	3
United Kingdom	-	3	-	-	-	3
Ireland	-	3	-	-	-	3
Sweden	1	2	-	-	-	3
Netherlands	-	2	-	-	-	2
France	-	1	-	-	1	2
New Zealand	1	-	-	-	-	1
Colombia	-	1	-	-	-	1
United Arab Emirates	-	1	-	-	-	1
China (Hong Kong)	-	1	-	-	-	1
Norway	1	-	-	-	-	1
Spain	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	75	53	2	1	8	139

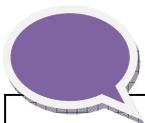
⁹ Three of these seven networks include one or more academic libraries.



All 139 libraries use at least one of the Catalogue Enhancements services: Book recommendations, Tag-based discovery and/or Other editions and translations.

Only 12 libraries use one or more Review Enhancements service: User Reviews, Already full and/or Widgets. Note that all 12 libraries are academic libraries or networks including academic libraries.

Chapter 3. Analysis and recommendations



LT's major strength is the possibility of connecting catalogue and library users with the worldwide community. In this way, social tagging increases the collection visibility and its retrieval.

The following tables and detailed explanations analyse the strengths and weaknesses of the two main services of LT. The background of the ETH-Bibliothek has been taken into account, emphasising the features that might have an impact on an academic library specialising in sciences and technologies.

3.1 A collection in *LibraryThing*. Strengths and weaknesses

STRENGTHS

The following issues are the strengths observed for one or more collections in LT:

- S1. LT is a way of sharing part of the library collection with the worldwide community.
- S2. There are several quick and easy ways to create a collection in LT: massive file importation and importation from sources that use the protocol Z.39.50 (Library of Congress, Amazon, NEBIS, British Library, etc.).
- S3. LT allows each member to have more than one collection and to tag the items with complete freedom. This allows the library to categorise its collection(s) in LT in order to serve their users' needs better. In the profile section, the library has space for explaining in detail what kind of collection has been set up in LT.
- S4. The collection in LT can serve different purposes: new acquisitions, recommended reading lists, collections related to specific programmes or projects, sharing items related to special events and commemorations, etc.

- S5. General and subject RSS (Really Simple Syndication). LT allows the library users to subscribe themselves to one or several RSS-Feeds in order to find out about new acquisitions and reviews in their fields of specialisation.
- S6. LT allows adding a widget to a website, a blog and other tools of the library, and can be accessed from other devices such as mobile phones.
- S7. Interface in German and many other languages.
- S8. LT allows the library patrons to manage their own collections or book-reading lists.
- S9. Compared with other social cataloguing tools, LT has the most to offer to libraries, organisations and scholars. The company makes efforts in innovation.
- S10. Customisation options.
- S11. Possibility of creating private groups or joining public groups and getting in contact with the community.
- S12. Competitive prices.

■ **S1. LT is a way of sharing a part of the library collection with the worldwide community.**

LT currently has 782,058 members and more than 40 million catalogued books, tagged with a total of more than 50 million words. Putting the collection in LT increases its visibility for the Internet community around the world.

Furthermore, it is the own librarian institution that is being advertised in LT. Apart from the collection, the library can be introduced in the *LibraryThing Local* section. See an example below¹⁰:

¹⁰ Note that the ETH-Bibliothek has been added to the *LibraryThing Local* section by an LT member [<http://www.librarything.com/venue/15761/ETH-Bibliothek>]. Any LT member can add information about libraries, bookshops and other local institutions.

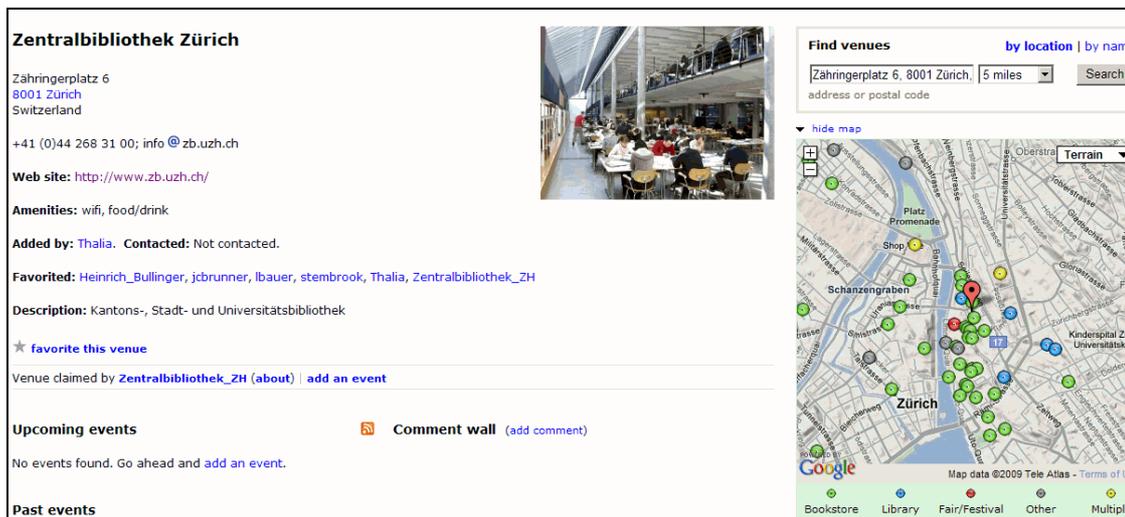


Figure 15. Zentralbibliothek Zürich in LibraryThing Local.

- **S2. There are several quick and easy ways of creating a collection in LT: massive file importation and importation from sources that use the protocol Z.39.50 (Library of Congress, Amazon, NEBIS, British Library, etc.).**

It is possible to import files of maximum 2MB, in several formats – TEXT, CSV, XML, HTML, RTF, etc., or HTML pages.

There are more than 690 sources from which to import catalogue records. Among others there is the NEBIS Catalog, the University of Zurich and the University of Basel. The ETH-Bibliothek could easily add data from NEBIS and ensure the coherence between them in this way. Furthermore, this process could serve as a way of checking the quality of the cataloguing and detecting potential errors in NEBIS.

- **S3. LT allows each member to have more than one collection and to tag the items with complete freedom. This allows the library to categorise its collection/s in LT in the best possible way to serve their users' needs. In the profile section, the library has space for explaining in detail what kind of collection has been set up in LT.**

The library can create just one collection in LT, and organise it with tags. The tags are completely free, so the possibilities are unlimited. In addition, more than one unique collection can be created. For instance, the library could create several new subject acquisition collections.

- **S4. The collection in LT can serve different purposes: new acquisitions, recommended reading lists, collections related to specific programmes or projects, and share items related to special events and commemorations etc.**

As has been explained in Chapter 2 of this report, libraries use LT for these different purposes.

- **S5. General and subject RSS (Really Simple Syndication). LT allows the library users to subscribe to one or several RSS-Feeds in order to find out about new acquisitions and reviews in their fields of specialisation.**

The library can create as many RSS-Feeds as it wants (subjects, reading lists, etc.)

- **S6. LT allows adding a widget to a website, a blog and other library tools, and can be accessed from other devices such as mobile phones.**

The library can create a widget for latest reviews or latest acquisitions, for instance. See section 1.2.1.4 of this report or the following link [<http://www.librarything.com/tools>] for more information.



Figure 16. Widget on the library website, showing the most recent reviews written by library users. Delaware Division of Libraries, USA.



Figure 17. Widget on the library website, showing the latest acquisitions. Biblioteca de l'ETSAV, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain.

■ **S7. Interface in German and many other languages.**

Each member can customise its profile and view options in German or any other language available.

■ **S8. LT allows the library patrons to manage their own collections or book-reading lists.**

Putting a collection in LT may be a way of putting library users in contact with a social cataloguing application that could be an easy and useful tool for organising their own collections and reading lists.

■ **S9. Compared with other social cataloguing tools, LT has the most to offer to libraries, organisations and scholars. The company makes efforts in innovation.**

LT has several professional librarians in its staff directory. *LibraryThing for Libraries*, *LibraryThing Author*, *LibraryThing Local*, groups such as *Librarians who LibraryThing* or *New features*, *LibraryThing* blogs and many other functions show how innovation in this field is a major goal of the company (Jeffries, 2008). LT attended the last American Library Association's annual conference (July 2009) where new features were demonstrated.

■ **S10. Customisation options.**

Each member of LT can customise their webpage in LT and the visualisation of their collection(s). Among these options: adding institutional information and a picture/logo, typographical style, general design of the webpage, number of books displayed on the screen, organisation of the tags, etc.

■ **S11. Possibility of creating private groups or joining public groups and getting in contact with the community.**

The application allows its members to join or visualise public groups. There are thousands of groups and conversations in LT, on different subjects and interests (e.g. *Librarians who LibraryThing* [<http://www.librarything.com/groups/librarianswholibrar>]). The library can create a private group as well.

■ **S12. Competitive prices.**

Non-profit and for-profit organisations can create a free account for up to 200 books and for \$15/year for up to 5,000 books.

[http://www.librarything.com/wiki/index.php/Organizational_accounts].

WEAKNESSES

The following issues are the weaknesses observed with one or more collections in LT:

- W1. LT only stores physical books.
- W2. A from the concept of a 'single access point' with Primo.
- W3. Whenever a library user clicked on an item shown in the LT widget on the library website, he/she was transferred to Amazon.
- W4. The standard collections in LT are not, in general, the same as an academic, technical and scientific library collection. In consequence, a large part of the ETH-Bibliothek collection could probably not have been added before by other LT members.
- W5. Despite the fact that in the profile section the libraries have a space to explain themselves, in some cases is not very clear what kind of collection is being stored in LT. This might confuse the library users.
- W6. The quality of the bibliographic description cannot be completely assured.
- W7. Compared with other social cataloguing tools, LT is deficient in usability and community-building.

- **W1. LT only stores physical books.**

LT only stores physical books. Any other resource in any other typology or format cannot currently be added to LT.

- **W2. A split from the concept of a 'single access point' with Primo.**

Sharing a part of the library collection with LT would spoil the idea of a 'single access point', which the ETH-Bibliothek is aiming for with the implementation of Primo, the single access point for all resources of the library. Even adding a widget in the library website or Primo website would signify a different access point for library resources.

- **W3. Whenever a library user clicked on an item shown in the LT widget on the library website, he/she was transferred to Amazon.**

Despite the fact that the customisation options for designing a widget are plentiful, there is currently one issue that cannot be changed: whenever a library user clicks on an item shown in the LT widget on the library website, they are transferred to Amazon [<http://www.amazon.com/>].



Figure 18. The library cannot choose to not transfer its users to Amazon.

- **W4. The standard collections in LT are not, in general, the same as an academic, technical and scientific library collection. In consequence, a large number of the items could probably not have been added before by other LT members.**

If this is the case, the power of the Web 2.0 features of the tool, which is its major strength, cannot be exploited.

- **W5. Despite the fact that in the profile section the libraries have space to explain themselves, in some cases it is not clear enough what kind of collection is being stored in LT. This might confuse library users.**

See a few examples in the following links:

- Greenfield Public Library (USA)
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=greenfieldlibrary>]
- School of Pharmacy. Pacific University. USA.
[<http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=pusop>]

- **W6. The quality of the bibliographic description cannot be completely assured.**

LT is a tool designed to be used by people without professional knowledge in cataloguing and indexing. Despite the possibility of importation from NEBIS, Library of Congress or many other library catalogues, there are other sources which are not as strict, and members can add items manually too. In consequence, the authority control – authors and titles – is not well assured (Moreno, 2009).

LT presents some weaknesses in the design of the catalographic registers. For instance, the *Author* field is not repeatable and the only way to add more authorities is in the *Other authors* field; the *Subjects* field describes the item with the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH), but it is not allowed to add more values and it cannot be modified (Moreno, 2009).

On the other hand, LT is based on the concept of work and manifestation, but a new manifestation entered for the first time must be associated with its work manually. This process is not automatic (Moreno, 2009).

- **W7. Compared with other social cataloguing tools, LT is deficient in usability and community-building (Jeffries, 2008).**

Some comments received from other libraries agree with this impression, affirming that the site is not as intuitive as they thought.

3.2 Use of *LibraryThing* for Libraries in the library OPAC. Strengths and weaknesses

STRENGTHS

The following issues are the strengths observed about LTFL and its Web 2.0 tools in the libraries' OPACs:

- S1. LTFL enriches access to library resources. Folksonomy systems and user reviews increase search options and serendipity. A parallel coexistence between the folksonomy and the library classification system is possible and enriching.
- S2. Tags and 'Similar books' functions since Primo's launch. Promotion of tagging and reviewing among library users.
- S3. 'Similar books' and 'Other Editions' always retrieve items that are in the library, so any items (in any language) that LibraryThing has data for will show up.
- S4. Easy implementation.
- S5. Customisation options.
- S6. Innovation, maintenance and assistance.
- S7. More than 55 academic libraries around the world are currently using it. Among them, three prestigious ones: Washington University St. Louis (USA), Utrecht University (Netherlands) and Brigham Young University (USA).
- S8. Opinions from other libraries that are using LTFL are mostly positive and LTFL features are well used by library users.

- **S1. LTFL enriches access to library resources. Folksonomy systems and user reviews increase search options and serendipity. A parallel coexistence between the folksonomy and the library classification system is possible and enriching.**

LTFL allows library users to increase their possibilities of searching and finding relevant items through the user-generated tag system, the reviews written by other people around the world, and other manifestations of the same work. All these possibilities enhance the users' search terms and serendipity.

LFTL is another way of finding books apart from the traditional keyword, author, title and subject heading searches. It provides a fun browsing tool for finding related items by user-generated tags (Wescott, 2009) and by reading other users' reviews.

Based on the Montana State University Library¹¹, the uses of the subject headings and tags are quite different; *there is little overlap between what users want in their tags and those applied by librarians as subject headings (...). These parallel modes of access should continue to maximise usability and ease of access (Peterson, 2009).*

■ **S2. Tags and similar books with the launch of Primo. Promotion of tagging and reviewing among library users.**

With the implementation of LTFL, many items in the ETH Collection and Primo interface will already have tags, reviews and/or similar books associations. However, if ETH-Bibliothek does not import this content from LT it will take many years to build up a tag system big enough to be useful. Library users will not view any tag when launching Primo and this probably will not encourage them to do it. Furthermore, if Primo and LTFL were completely compatible, users would be encouraged to add their own tags and reviews (See sections 3.3 and 3.4 for more details and explanations about this compatibility).

■ **S3. 'Similar books' and 'Other Editions' always retrieve items that are in the library, so any items (in any language) that LibraryThing has data for will show up.**

Library users are always referred to the library collection and they are never transferred outside the library site. 'Similar books' and 'other editions' will always retrieve items in any language that are contained in the Library.

■ **S4. Easy implementation.**

LTFL is a way of testing some next-generation concepts without committing oneself to a major change in software (Wescott, 2008). The opinions received from other libraries are positive in this sense. However, some problems could appear in the implementation phase, according to other libraries.

■ **S5. Customisation options.**

LFTL offers many ways of customising how and where tags and similar books appear, enabling libraries to decide how they will best meet the needs of their users (Wescott, 2009).

¹¹ Montana State University is a research university that emphasises sciences, engineering and architecture. The library implemented folksonomy tags in the Electronic Theses and Dissertations database in 2006. Note that they implemented their own system (not LTFL).

■ **S6. Innovation, maintenance and assistance.**

LTFL staff are working hard to integrate new functionality while remaining readily available for assistance and consultation (Wescott, 2009). Nevertheless, this might have changed with the recently acquisition of LT by Bowker.

■ **S7. More than 55 academic libraries around the world are currently using it. Among them, three prestigious ones: Washington University St. Louis (USA), Utrecht University (Netherlands) and Brigham Young University (USA).**

Washington University St. Louis, Utrecht Library and Brigham Young University are in the 53rd, 71st and 80th positions respectively in the "Webometrics Ranking of World Universities"¹².

■ **S8. Opinions from other libraries that are using LTFL are mostly positive and so is feedback received from patrons.**

Most comments received express globally positive assessments; the issues most commonly highlighted are: easy implementation, good assistance, customisation options, usefulness of the new content and positive feedback from patrons.

"Claremont users are happy and enthusiastic about the LTFL tags, and many students say they are helpful in searching for and finding related items" (Jezmyne Westcott, science librarian, libraries of The Claremont Colleges in Claremont) (Westcott, 2009).

WEAKNESSES

The following issues are the weaknesses observed about LTFL and its Web 2.0 tools in the libraries' OPACs:

- W1. Distortion of the institutional brand and image, due to the integration of external content. However, patrons are never taken outside of the library site and the reference to LibraryThing is minimal.
- W2. Currently, LTFL doesn't allow library users to add tags: all tags come from LibraryThing and are in English. However, this might not be the case in the ETH library, because Primo already allows users to add tags. But both systems have to be compatible.
- W3. According to LT, the *Review Enhancements* features of LTFL are not currently available to work with Aleph or Primo. This means that the review function won't

¹² The "Webometrics Ranking of World Universities" is an initiative of the Cybermetrics Lab, a research group belonging to the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), the largest public research body in Spain [<http://www.webometrics.info/index.html>].

be possible for the ETH-Bibliothek, at least for the moment. However, the Primo Administrator Guide by ExLibris says exactly the opposite.

- W4. The standard collections in LT are not, in general, the same as an academic, technical and scientific library collection: an important part of the ETH-Bibliothek collection could probably not have been added before by LT members on the LibraryThing website and, as a result, there won't be tags for all these items. On average, the overlap between academic libraries and LT holdings is 45%.
- W5. Generally, the typical LT user profile is not the same as the profile of the users of an academic library specialised in sciences and technologies. In consequence, the tagging behaviour would probably be different, especially on the level of specificity and completeness of the content analysis.
- W6. Weakness in the LTFL capacity for data harvested for items that don't have ISBN.
- W7. Weaknesses in the tagging search function.
- W8. Most of the top ranking universities in the world are not currently using LTFL.
- W9. According to one of the libraries contacted, LTFL doesn't encourage library users to write their own reviews.
- W10. According to one of the libraries contacted, some problems might appear in the implementation phase.

- **W1. Distortion of the institutional brand and image, due the integration of external content. However, patrons are never taken outside of the library site and the reference to LibraryThing is minimal.**

LTFL supposedly, by definition, adds external content to the library website (see OPAC or Primo website). The institutional brand and image is, therefore, modified. However, patrons are never taken outside of the library site. Furthermore, the customisation options allow the library to decide whether or not to add LT logos, and other similar decisions related to the interface. Despite this, there will always be a small reference to LT in the library OPAC. See the example below:

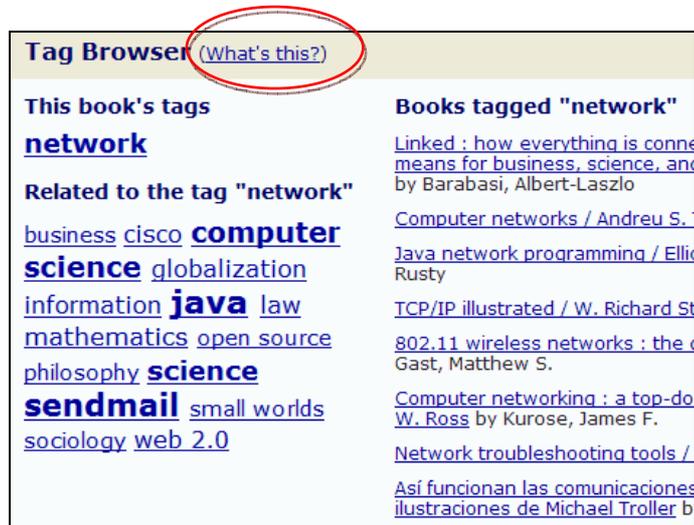


Figure 19. Tag browser from LTFL in the library OPAC. Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain.

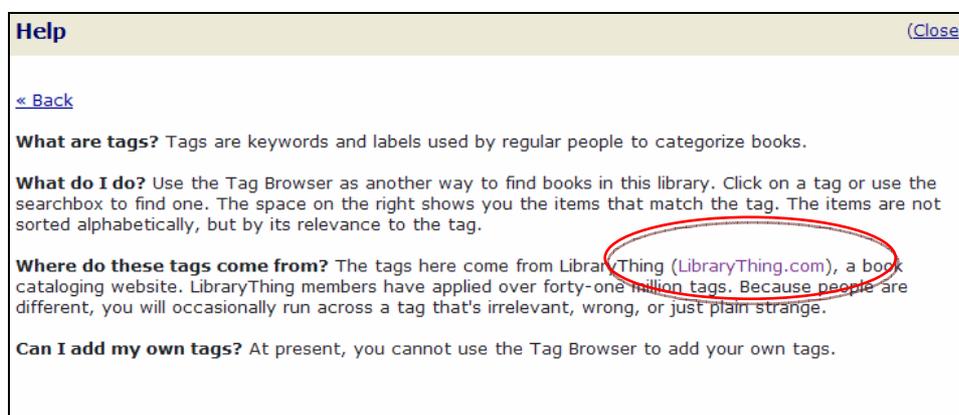


Figure 20. Help page in the tag browser. Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain.

- **W2. Currently, LTFL doesn't allow library users to add tags: all tags come from LibraryThing and are in English. However, this might not be the case in the ETH library, because Primo already allows users to add tags. But both systems have to be compatible.**

The LTFL tag system is in English and doesn't allow library users to tag items by themselves. However, if both tag systems work together at the same time, library users would be able to enter their own tags in any language (See sections 3.3 and 3.4 for more details and explanations about this compatibility).

- **W3. According to LT, the *Review Enhancements* features of LTFL are currently not available to work with Aleph or Primo. This means that the review function won't be possible for the ETH-Bibliothek, at least for the moment. However, *Primo Administrator Guide* by ExLibris says exactly the opposite.**

According to LT and Bowker, the *Review Enhancement* package (which includes the review feature) is currently available for the following systems: Horizon Information Portal, III Webpac and Webpac Pro, Koha, Voyager, iBistro, iLink and e-Library. So apparently it cannot be implemented in NEBIS, OPAC or the Primo website. LT may make it available for other systems in the future, though.

However, the Primo Administrator Guide says exactly the opposite: tags and reviews from LibraryThing can be imported (See sections 3.3 and 3.4 for more details and explanations about this compatibility).

- **W4. The standard collections in LT are not, in general, the same as an academic, technical and scientific library collection: an important part of ETH-Bibliothek collection could probably not have been added before by LT members in LibraryThing website and, as a result, there won't be tags for all these items. On average, the overlap between academic libraries and LT holdings is 45%.**

Overlap is the percentage of books that the library and LibraryThing have in common. When LibraryThing for Libraries started in the late spring of 2007, it was common for a public library to have a 50% overlap. As of March 2009, the average is around 75%. Academic, special, and foreign libraries tend to have a lower overlap, because of things like the nature of the subjects, or book editions [<http://www.librarything.com/forlibraries/about>].

This means that only a part of the ETH-Bibliothek resources will have associated tags and reviews from LT. **On average, the overlap between academic libraries and LT holdings is 45%, which is approximately the case at Libraries at The Claremont Colleges (Westcott, 2009).** And of course, we always refer to printed books.

The author of this report has done a test with 10 random items held in the ETH-Bibliothek, and the result is that there is a 30% overlap. The following list shows which items (in bold) are in both collections and which are not:

- *Technology Transfer in Biotechnology : A Global Perspective / ed. by Prabuddha Ganguli, Rita Khanna, and Ben Prickril. - Weinheim : Wiley-VCH, 2009. [005800066]*
- *Organic Electronics : Structural and Electronic Properties of OFETs / ed. by Christof Wöll. - Weinheim : WILEY-VCH, 2009. [005764002]*
- ***Foundations of Systems Biology / edited by Hiroaki Kitano. - Cambridge, Mass. : MIT Press, 2001. [004156163]***
- ***Multimedia Data Mining : A Systematic Introduction to Concepts and Theory / Zhongfei Zhang, Ruofei Zhang. - Boca Raton, Fla. : CRC Press, 2009. (Chapman & Hall/CRC Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery Series) [005697152]***
- *ROSETTA : ESA's Mission to the Origin of the Solar System / Rita Schulz ... [et al.] (eds.). - New York : Springer, 2009. [005694513]*
- ***The Sense of Touch and its Rendering : Progress in Haptics Research / Antonio Bicchi ... [et al.], (Eds.). - Berlin : Springer, 2008. (Springer Tracts in Advanced Robotics ; vol. 45) [005818998]***
- *Hybrid Nanocomposites for Nanotechnology : Electronic, Optical, Magnetic and Biomedical Applications / Lhadi Merhari, Ed.. - New York : Springer, 2009. [005780375]*

- *Thermopylae : History of the World's Fastest Clipper : História do Clipper mais veloz do mundo* / [Autores/ authors: António Fialho ... et al.]. - Cascais : Câmara Municipal, [2009?]. [005820083]
- *Particulate Systems in Nano- and Biotechnologies* / ed. by Wolfgang Sigmund ... [et al.]. - Boca Raton, Fla. : CRC Press, 2009. [005689222]
- *Chemical Reactivity Theory : a Density Functional View* / ed. by Pratim Kumar Chattaraj. - Boca Raton : CRC Press, 2009. [005723144]



The way to verify the real overlap between ETH / NEBIS collection and LibraryThing is to create a test account: *the library can apply the enhancements to its OPAC and see what comes up. One of the first indicators the library will have is on the main LTFL account page - the overlap with the LibraryThing data. Since the library can test LTFL for as long as it needs, setting up an account is the easiest way to see how the enhancements will work with library data.*

[<http://www.librarything.com/forlibraries/about>]

- **W5. Generally, the typical LT user profile is not the same as the profile of the users of an academic library specialised in sciences and technologies. In consequence, the tagging behaviour would probably be different, especially in the level of specificity and completeness of the content analysis.**

For instance, in LT the tag *biochemistry* has been used 1,143 times, but no item has been tagged with the word *inositol*, which could be a scientific user tag.

- **W6. Weakness in the LTFL capacity for data harvested from items that don't have ISBN.**

The *Catalogue Enhancement* package is based on ISBNs, i.e. primarily books and audio books. Consequently, DVDs, articles and any other item in another format won't have tags. Concerning non-ISBN books, LT now matches author and title information as well as ISBN, covering a large part of all those pre-ISBN era books. However, it seems that the issue is not completely resolved yet.

- **W7. Weakness in the tagging search function.**

Currently, tags cannot be searched in the OPAC search fields (only in the tag browser); it is not possible to search for more than one tag at a time. Nevertheless, it seems that there are plans to implement more functionality in this direction in the future (Westcott, 2009).

- **W8. Most of the top ranking universities in the world are not currently using LTFL.**

Just a few of the Top 100 Universities in the "Webometrics Ranking of World Universities"¹³ are currently using LTFL. However, amongst the libraries that have Primo, many do not import data from LTFL either; they are building up their own folksonomies.

- **W9. According to one of the libraries contacted, LTFL doesn't encourage library users to write their own reviews.**

According to this information, reviews are widely viewed by patrons but they only write their own reviews very occasionally. So, in this case the librarians had been writing the reviews.

- **W10. According to one of the libraries contacted, some problems might appear in the implementation phase.**

One of the academic libraries contacted experienced some difficulties on this subject. They complained about the process for implementing the initial configuration, which was based mainly on trial and error, because the procedures were not sufficiently well documented. Also, they had some problems displaying the information provided by LT in order to integrate it with CSS in their OPAC, so that they couldn't integrate the review feature as they wanted, in terms of designing the interface and visualising the records.

Moreover, user-tagging behaviour might develop in a way the library won't like (e.g. individual reading lists).

The major idea behind folksonomy is the freedom of users to add any words they want. Based on this idea and on a few observations done in other ILSs that are already using folksonomy, users add tags for several purposes: keywords representing the content of the item, codes and words representing individual lists or common lists, typologies of documents, genres, individual impressions, levels, names of sources, etc. The major threat is that users might start using tags to create individual lists. Note that this is not a weakness of LTFL or Primo. It is a real possibility behind the tagging concept.

¹³ The "Webometrics Ranking of World Universities" is an initiative of the Cybermetrics Lab, a research group belonging to the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), the largest public research body in Spain [<http://www.webometrics.info/index.html>].

3.3 LTFL and Primo

3.3.1 Brief analysis of social content in Primo

Primo offers the following functions concerning tags and reviews:

- Tags associated with an item:
 - All users are allowed to add tags and delete them
 - My tags for this work/manifestation
 - Everybody's tags for this work/manifestation

Comments:

- In the 'work' record, Primo shows all tags attributed to all the 'manifestations' related to that work. In the 'manifestation' record, Primo shows only the tags attributed to that specific manifestation.
 - Weakness in tag-adding function: the user can tag the work or the specific manifestation of the work. But if he/she tags the work, it seems that the system will attribute this tag only to the first manifestation, not to all of them.
 - Weakness in tag-adding function: the user can add one or several tags to an item at the same time; but the user is not allowed to add more tags later, without losing the previous ones. If he/she wants to conserve those tags and add a new one, he/she must write them all again.
 - Weakness in adding/deleting tags function: the interface and explanations are not very clear (adding and deleting tags can be easily confused).
- Advanced search options:
 - Combine searches (tags, title, author, etc.). Tags can be searched in combination with other contents fields.
 - Tags page:
 - Most recent tags (in list or cloud)
 - Most popular tags (in list or cloud)
 - Number of items associated with a tag
 - My tags only (show off only my user's tags)
 - Search for a tag (only one tag)
 - Reviews
 - Add a review
 - *See other users' reviews*
 - *Reviews validation before publication*¹⁴

¹⁴ *See other users' reviews and reviews validation before publication* are features not confirmed yet.

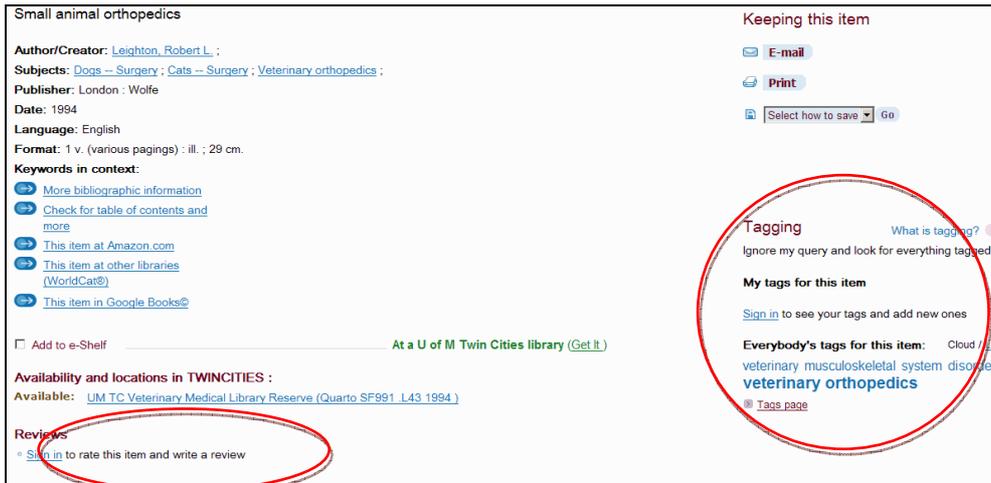


Figure 21. Bibliographic record: tagging and reviewing options in Primo. University of Minnesota Libraries

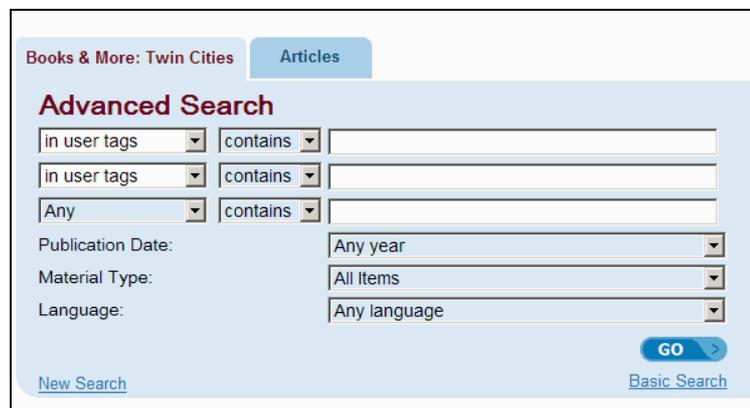


Figure 22. Advanced search allows combination of tags with other content fields. University of Minnesota Libraries



Figure 23. 'Tags Page' in Primo. ETH-Bibliothek (Primo testing phase)

A few libraries that are already using Primo were observed, in order to analyse what is going on with their tag and review systems:

➤ University of Minnesota Libraries

- At the University of Minnesota, Primo was made available to the public as a beta application in September 2007, and set as the default interface to the catalogue in August 2008.
- According to the information provided, patrons have added 1,713 tags since they introduced Primo to the public and have accessed the general 'Tags Page' 1,364 times.
- Type of tags: most of the tags refer to the content of the works; but there are a few codes as well. The 'most popular tags' have a 'notable' number of items connected to them (between 14 and 31), compared with other libraries.

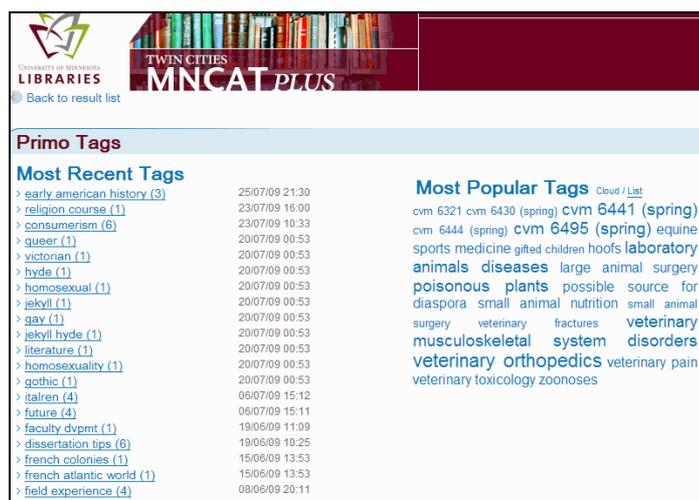


Figure 24. Most recent tags and most popular tags. University of Minnesota Libraries

➤ University of Iowa Libraries

- Type of tags: content description, codes, personal names, genres, and document typologies. Only a maximum of 15 items have been tagged with the same tag.
- Around 30 patrons have added approximately 100 tags, since January 2008; it appears that **the most common use is by library staff tagging items for use in user-education courses**. There are 30 reviews as well, most of them written by library staff.
- They are going to implement Version 3 of Primo with which they want highlight the ability to tag items and write reviews more prominently. One of their goals for the coming year is that **they are going to look into seeding the tags with Library of Congress Subject headings.**

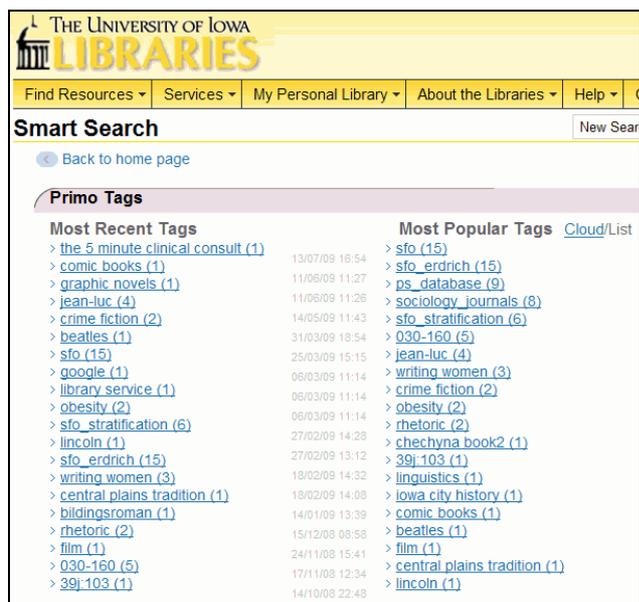


Figure 25. Most recent tags and most popular tags.
The University of Iowa Libraries

➤ **University of Oxford Libraries**

- Type of tags: 'interesting title', several reading lists, and content description (free keywords).
- Compared with other libraries, the tags are being added to a 'notable' number of items (many from 15 to 50, and others up to 100 and 200 items).

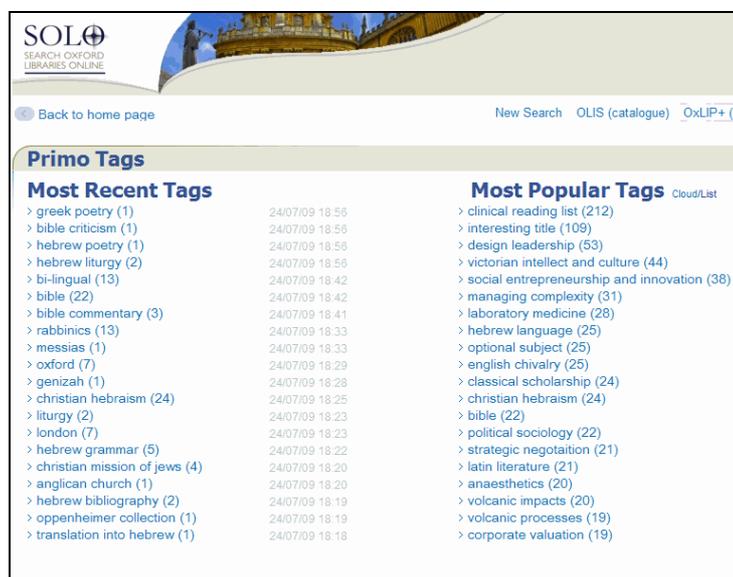


Figure 26. Most recent tags and most popular tags.
University of Oxford Libraries

➤ **University of Guelph Libraries**

- Type of tags: steps in the process of reading recommendations (challenged books, reading, must read), codes, patrons impressions (controversial), levels, names of databases, and free keywords.

- Most of them have been added to a small number of items, but a few to 20-23 items or even 100 (challenged books). It seems that the patrons could start creating reading lists through tags.

3.3.2 Comparison between tagging and reviewing functions in Primo and LTFL

The following table shows the differences between LTFL and Primo in their tags, reviews and other edition and translation features:

	LTFL	Primo
TAGS		
Tags	Yes	Yes
Add tags	No	Yes
See tags	Yes	Yes
See 'my tags'	No	Yes
Tags in any language	No. All tags are in English	Yes
Tags search	No	Yes. In advanced search, the user can combine tags with other fields.
Tags browse	Yes. Features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tags associated to the manifestation ▪ Related tags ▪ Other items with similar tags 	Yes. Features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tags associated to the work and the manifestation ▪ Other items with the same tag
Most recent tags	No	Yes
Most popular tags	No	Yes
REVIEWS		
Add reviews	Yes (according to ExLibris) No (according to LT and Bowker)	Yes
See reviews	Yes (according to ExLibris) No (according to LT and Bowker)	Yes
See 'my reviews'	No	?
Reviews in any language	Depends: all reviews imported from LT are in English; reviews written by library users can be written in any language.	Yes
Reviews validation	Yes	?
OTHER EDITIONS AND TRANSLATIONS (FRBR)		
Other editions and translations	Yes	Yes



PRIMO software – which is going to be launched next autumn – already has tag, review, and other edition and translation (FRBR) functions.

Concerning tag and review functions, the main difference in comparison with LTFL is that with Primo it is the community library users who have to build up the system on their own. It will take a long time until the system is consistent enough in terms of the quantity of tags and reviews.

But, on the other hand, with Primo library users are allowed to tag and review by themselves

– which is not the case with LTFL.

Consequently, with Primo, tags and reviews can be added and viewed in any language (German, English...)

Concerning 'other editions and translations': both systems offer this function, although they show works/manifestations in different ways. But with Primo there may be fewer errors.

3.3.3 Interoperability between Primo and LTFL

One issue is whether LTFL can or cannot be implemented in Primo:



Catalogue enhancement package can be implemented with Primo: includes tags, similar books and other edition and translation functions.

Review Enhancement package: according to LT and Bowker, the Review Enhancement package is not available to libraries using Aleph or Primo. The Primo Administrator Guide says exactly the opposite.

The other major issue is the compatibility and level of integration between the tag and review system from LTFL and the tag and review system from Primo. In this sense, the major questions are: *can both systems operate at the same time, and does it make sense if the user sees them separately? Can both systems be viewed as one at the front end? How will that work? For example, will the tag search query both systems?*

These and other similar questions have to be investigated. See the conclusions and recommendations in the next section.

3.4 Conclusion and recommendations

Create/modify the ETH-Bibliothek section in *LibraryThing Local*

First of all, the author of this report recommends that the ETH-Bibliothek create its own profile in *LT Local*. As has already been explained in this report, someone has entered ETH-Bibliothek contact information in LT [<http://www.librarything.com/venue/15761/ETH-Bibliothek>]. The information currently available is correct, but not complete: an image/logo and a short description would improve it. Furthermore, the ETH-Bibliothek should modify it in order to make it completely institutional.

A collection in *LibraryThing*

The author of this report would definitely not recommend implementation for the following purposes:

- ✚ **New acquisitions** - LT would be too much simple and **it does not allow new acquisitions to be organised in different domains, typologies and sources**. Furthermore, **it only allows physical books to be displayed**, which are not the most important and most used resources in a research-intensive academic library, and the scientific research environment of the future.
However, I do recommend implementing a single-point window for 'new acquisitions' inside the first page of the Primo interface which is connected with it. The best option would be for the customisation options to permit the choice of a specific domain.
- ✚ **Reading lists** for courses - there would be the **same problem, with resource typologies being different from physical books**. The library should definitely offer this service, but probably not with LT (another tool such as the e-learning platform connected with Primo would be one of various possible solutions).
- ✚ The use of LT might help the library users find a tool for organising their books. However, in order **to help library users organise their searches and bibliographies, the academic library should offer its patrons other options more suitable than LT (tools such as e-Shelf in Primo or bibliographic management programmes like EndNote, or others)**. Again, with these, patrons can manage more resource typologies than with LT.
- ✚ **Being closer to the users**. Firstly, with LT the library will get closer to members of LT, not to its library users. Secondly, the ETH-Bibliothek is already

using Facebook and Twitter in this sense, and these tools are much better for this purpose than LT.

Nevertheless, there are two cases in which LT might make sense:

- ✚ **A specific 'literature, reading, leisure' collection.** If the library holds this kind of collection, LT could be the platform for **sharing it among the citizens of Zurich**. In this case, the author of this report would not add a widget to the Primo interface, in order to avoid a split from the 'single access point' concept, which is behind the Primo implementation. At the most, the LT widget could be added to the library website. The purpose of this option would be to share this kind of collection among potential users within the town's general public.
- ✚ **'The book of the week/month' or 'selected new acquisitions'.** LT may be a good option for adding a widget to the library website or the Primo interface with the following information: cover and bibliographic data of just one or several physical books. **LT could virtualise the selection of new acquisitions which are currently on display in the showcase at the entrance of the InfoCenter**, in the main library. However, note that one of the issues of this possibility is that **whenever a library user clicks on an item in the widget, he/she is transferred to the Amazon website**. This is why **LT is not the optimal solution for this service**.

On the other hand, this problem could perhaps be solved better on the CMS website. In addition, the library should make sure that adding an LT widget to the Primo interface is possible. Consequently, the recommendation is to **test and compare the results:**

- a) open an individual account in LT and enter one book, and then try to add a widget to the new library website and/or Primo interface;
- b) do the same with the CMS website or functions that Primo might have;
- c) then compare the results in terms of ease, interface design and usability, and user needs and abilities.

LibraryThing for Libraries: adding external social content to the Primo interface

The author of this report definitely recommends **seriously considering the potential of this kind of product**. Nowadays, **research and academic libraries have to empower their digital services** if they want to continue serving their patrons needs better every day. **The current trends in the World Wide Web seem to indicate that interaction with the Internet users is one of the major keys. So integrating the features of Web 2.0 is essential. Libraries should give their users the tools to make this interaction possible.** Assuming this point, the author of this report considers that **LTFL or other similar products offer more**

than just this: they enable the connection between the library and its users with information and the resources of the World Wide Web. If libraries manage this relationship well, they can enrich their services.

In a more practical sense, firstly, **the library should carry out a survey for comparing the different products on the market.**

Secondly, it is necessary to highlight an important **requirement**. **Implementing LTFL or another similar product in Primo would be beneficial as long as this product and Primo tag and review systems can be viewed at the front end as a single and coherent tool: patrons should be able to interact with a single system at the front end, for searching, browsing and visualisation functions. Otherwise, library users might become confused.** The following picture represents this idea:

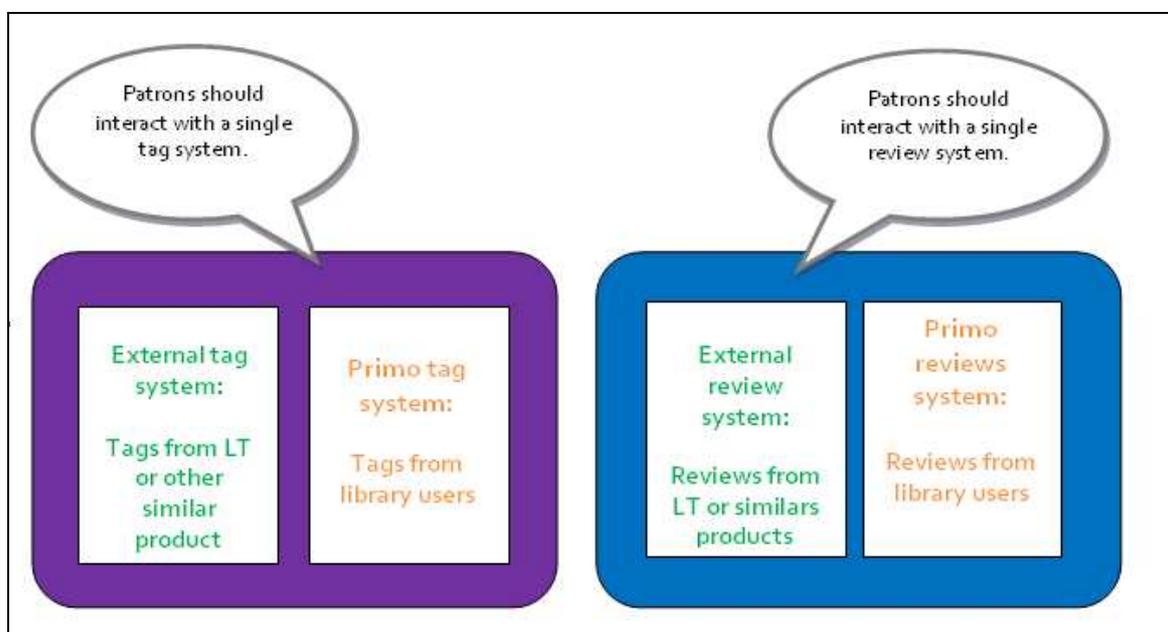


Figure 27. Tag and review systems from LTFL (or other similar product) and Primo must be viewed by users via a single system at the front end (searching, browsing and visualisation functions).

In conclusion, **the first step to pursue would be to prepare a comparative analysis between various products on the market.**

In the case of LTFL, more specifically, the following should be done:

1. Contact Bowker, LTFL, and ExLibris and find out whether reviews can be imported into Primo or not.
2. Contact LTFL or Bowker and open a free trial account.
3. Find out what is the overlap between the ETH library collection and the LT collection.
4. Check with ExLibris and IT library staff whether at the front end they can be viewed as a single system.
5. Test it.

References

Hvass, A. (2008). *Cataloguing with LibraryThing: as easy as 1, 2, 3!*, Library Hi Tech News, no. 10.

Jeffries, S. (2008). *Social Cataloging Tools: a Comparison and Application for Librarians*, Library Hi Tech, Vol. 25, No. 10.

Moreno, F. (2009). *LibraryThing: la catalogacio a l'abast de tothom*, BiD: textos universitaris de biblioteconomia i documentacio, No. 22.

Peterson, E. (2009). *Patron Preferences for Folksonomy Tags: Research Findings when both Hierarchical Subject Headings and Folksonomy Tags are used*, Evidence Based Library and Information Practice, Vol. 4, No. 1.

Westcott, J.; Chappell, A.; Lebel, C. (2009). *LibraryThing for Libraries at Claremont*, Library Hi Tech, Vol. 27, No. 1.

Annexes

Annex 1. *LibraryThing for Libraries*. Official information

FAQs: General [<http://www.librarything.com/forlibraries/about>].

Basics

What is LibraryThing for Libraries (LTFL)?

LibraryThing for Libraries enriches your library's online catalogue with the power and fun of Library 2.0.

With LTFL in your catalogue, your patrons can browse, search and engage with your libraries' holdings in a new, powerful and engaging way.

What is the difference between LibraryThing and LibraryThing for Libraries?

LibraryThing is the main site, meant for people to come and share their books. Learn more about LibraryThing here.

LibraryThing for Libraries is a product, built by us at LibraryThing, for libraries with existing library systems (ILS/OPACs).

What does LibraryThing for Libraries do?

LTFL has two awesome OPAC-boosting products:

Catalogue Enhancement package. This provides more valuable data for each book, and more points for searching. All of the search information - recommended titles, similar editions, tag search results - relate back to what can be found in your OPAC.

- **Book recommendations.** High quality 'recommended' or 'similar books', like a reader's advisory that points to books available in your library.
- **Tag-based discovery.** Tag clouds for books, and tag-based search and discovery, drawn from the 53 million tags added by LibraryThing members.
- **Other editions and translations.** Provides links to bib pages of other editions and translations of a work found in your library. (This works much like the FRBR model.)

Review Enhancement package

- **Patron reviews.** Let your patrons rate and review right in your catalogue.
- **Already full.** Comes with over 200,000 high-quality reviews from LibraryThing.com.
- **Widgets.** Patrons can display reviews and their library with library-branded 'blog widgets' and a Facebook application.
 - The Facebook application is called At My Library, and as it shows up in Facebook, it is branded with your library's name and logo, and links back to your catalogue.
 - The blog widget is a chunk of code patrons can add to their blog to show the reviews they have written.

You can choose to moderate reviews, and create multiple moderator accounts for other staff.

How does LibraryThing for Libraries work?

LibraryThing for Libraries enhances your catalogue with a few lines of HTML and a file of your records. Installation is extremely easy - you cut and paste some HTML we give you, export a list of your records, and you are ready to go. If you would like to know more about the nitty-gritty of how LTFL works, read the technical FAQs.

Will LTFL work with my OPAC?

LTFL will work with every major OPAC/ILS, and most of the minor ones too. See the list of libraries using LTFL here.

Will adding LTFL enhancements make my OPAC slower?

Your OPAC will continue operating at the same speed it currently does. LibraryThing's JavaScript architecture involves no additional load on your ILS/OPAC server.

The LibraryThing for Libraries enhancements often appear shortly after the rest of the page.

What about accessibility?

LibraryThing for Libraries enhancements are designed to work with screen readers, screen magnifiers, and other assistive technologies, and are coded to meet or exceed government accessibility guidelines.

Where does LibraryThing for Libraries get its data?

LibraryThing for Libraries draws on the world's largest personal- and social-cataloguing site, LibraryThing. Since 2005 LibraryThing members have added over 26 million books and 34 million tags.

What are the minimum requirements?

Catalogue Enhancement

1. A system that allows you to edit a portion of the HTML (even just the footer) of your OPAC.
2. An ISBN somewhere on the bib record page (it does not have to be visible, it can be in the code somewhere).
3. The ability to export your records in either tab-delimited or MARC format. Read more in the Exporting and Uploading section of the technical FAQs.
4. The system can link to an item record based upon ISBN.

Review Enhancement

1. A system that allows you to edit a portion of the HTML (even just the footer) of your OPAC.
2. The Review Enhancement does not require the other two things that the Catalogue Enhancements require.
3. An ISBN somewhere on the bib result page (it does not have to be visible, it can be in the code somewhere).

What does LibraryThing for Libraries look like?

LibraryThing for Libraries adds information wherever you would like it, and is designed to look just like the rest of the OPAC page. Visually seamless, patrons will just see the added data from the enhancements. Patrons are never taken outside your site.

How much of our collection will LTFL enhance?

Total number of ISBNs.

- With the Review Enhancement package, every item in your online catalogue is available for review. Reviews coming from other libraries and LibraryThing require an ISBN.
- The Catalogue Enhancement package uses ISBN association, as well as title/author matching.

Overlap. Overlap is the percentage of books that your library and LibraryThing have in common. When LibraryThing for Libraries started in the late spring of 2007, it was common for a public library to have a 50% overlap. As of March 2009, the average is around 75%.

- Public Libraries - overlap is extremely good for public libraries because of the common popular titles. To know more about how LTFL works in public libraries, read the section 'Why should my public library buy LTFL?'
- Academic, special, and foreign libraries tend to have a lower overlap, because of things like the nature of the subjects, or editions of their books. Read about research-based libraries in the section 'Why should academic libraries buy LTFL?' or if your library is outside the U.S., 'My library is outside the U.S. - can I use LTFL?'

The future. As Tim says, 'a rising tide raises all boats', and as LibraryThing members continue to add data, the overlap will continue to increase for all libraries.

Does LTFL work with other media in my OPAC?

The Review Enhancement package provides reviewing for every item in your catalogue, including CDs, DVDs, and anything else with a MARC record. Reviews coming from other libraries and LibraryThing will only appear for items with ISBNs, limiting them generally to books and audio books.

The Catalogue Enhancement package is based on ISBNs, therefore primarily for books and audio books.

Can I see a live example of LibraryThing for Libraries in an OPAC?

The Danbury library in Danbury CT has become the first library in the world to put LibraryThing for Libraries on its live catalogue. Play with their catalogue (complete with LibraryThing for Libraries' other editions and translations, similar books, and tags and tag browser), and read our blog post.

Other libraries that have gone live with LibraryThing for Libraries:

Bedford Public Library (catalogue) in Bedford TX (blog post).

Waterford Institute of Technology (catalogue) in Waterford in South East Ireland (blog post).

Deschutes Public Library (catalogue) of Deschutes County in Oregon (blog post).

Is there a list of all the libraries participating in LibraryThing for Libraries?

Yes! Go and check it out.

The Catalogue Enhancement package

Similar Titles (recommendations)

How are recommendations made?

Recommendations are based on data collected from the over 41 million books on LibraryThing - what books members of the site own, how they rate them, and how they tag them. Library cataloguing data, including subject headings and call numbers, are also used to improve the recommendations.

Tag-based Discovery

What are tags? What is a tag cloud?

Tags are key words and labels used by people to describe a book. Read more about tags. A tag cloud is a visual organisation of tags - the larger the text, the more people have tagged that item with that specific word.

How do tags work with my catalogue?

Any time you look at the bib page of an item that we have data for, you see tags about the book.

Does LibraryThing for Libraries use all the tags in LibraryThing?

LibraryThing librarians have approved preselected LTFL tags for usefulness and appropriateness. Highly personal tags (to read, gift from mom) have been excluded. As for risqué words as tags, we have a rating system with three levels - each library can choose to include them or not. So far, most libraries have not chosen to limit their tags.

How does the 'Tag Browser' work?

You can use the Tag Browser as another way to find books in your library. Click on any tag - this pulls up the tag browser. The space on the right shows you the items that also have the tag. These items are not sorted alphabetically, but by their relevance to the tag. You also see a cloud of tags for the item you are looking at, and a cloud of tags that are similar to the tag you clicked or searched for.

Can I add my own tags?

No. Currently, all tags come from LibraryThing.com.

Other Editions

Where does the 'other editions' data come from?

All 'other editions' information comes from LibraryThing, a book-cataloguing website. Recommendations come from LibraryThing members who combine different editions (and their ISBNs) to form one work. Combinations can include different editions of the same language, or other languages as well.

The Review Enhancement package

Is it hard to add reviews if you already have the Catalogue Enhancements?

Not at all! Half the work is have already done. In fact, we have a feature that just requires you to tick a box - and the reviews installation is done. If you are interested in adding reviews to your OPAC, e-mail Peder.Christensen@bowker.com.

Patron reviews

Can patrons review items other than books?

Yes! Any item in your online catalogue can be reviewed, including (but not limited to) DVDs and CDs.

How does a patron review?

To be able to rate and review, patrons sign up for an account. This is so they can keep track of all the reviews they have done, and be able to do nice things (like link a review to their blog). Patrons can sign up for accounts when they click on any 'see reviews/add a review' link, which is found on results and bib pages. This is also where patrons write their reviews, so the patron needs to search for the item they want to review to be able to write a review for the item. They choose the item, sign in, review it, and submit it all within the OPAC.

Can I moderate reviews?

Absolutely. A moderation panel is built into LTFL. If you wish, you can designate others with limited administration accounts to help moderate reviews, as well. You can have an e-mail sent to notify you when there are reviews to moderate.

Reviews from other libraries

Are reviews coming from other libraries moderated?

Librarians at the home library moderate all reviews that come from other libraries.

Reviews from LibraryThing

How did you vet the reviews?

We have vetted all the reviews coming from LibraryThing for a number of criteria - if they have a URL (because it would take you away from the catalogue), copyright infringement, and 'reviewiness', meaning that they have evaluated the item, not just said 'it stinks'.

Are reviews moderated for bad words?

Content is not moderated. The standard 'bad' words are st*rred. (That's starred, not stirred.)

LTFL Review Enhancement: Facebook Application

The LTFL Facebook application 'At My Library' gives your patrons the opportunity to share the reviews they write in your catalogue with their friends on Facebook. The application gives patrons the option to add a sidebar to their Facebook page called 'At My Library' to list recent reviews, and to have new reviews that are written for your catalogue show up in their Friend Feed. All branding and links in At My Library refer to your library and catalogue pages. Your patrons can change where and how their reviews are displayed.

The Facebook application stands alone (within Facebook.com), and any patron of yours who signs up to review in your catalogue can then go and add the application (signing up using the same LTFL username and password). The link to the application is here - but you have to be a member of Facebook to see it. See screenshots of At My Library here.

LTFL Review Enhancement: Blog Widgets

The blog widgets let you show off reviews for items in your collection, and let your patrons show their reviews - and their love for your library - where they 'live' online.

You can promote your collection, your patrons, and your reviews on your library's site, blog, MySpace, Facebook, or anywhere else you care to add it. Newly added categories allow you to create widgets that show your summer reading reviews on your children or teen page, your

One Book, One City reviews on your front page, what your book clubs are reading on your book-club page, or anything else you care to promote, anywhere you want to put it.

Your patrons can proudly display reviews they write on any website they can edit. The easy cut-and-paste format gives them the opportunity to add the reviews they write to their website, blog, MySpace, or any other web presence.

You can read Tim's blog post about the blog widgets here.

Customising the Enhancements

Can I brand LTFL to my library?

Absolutely! Here are some specifics:

- The enhancements appear in your catalogue without reference to LibraryThing.com.
- You can choose to change the wording on the headers. Example: Similar Titles to your own text like Recommendations.
- The Review widgets give patrons the ability to add their reviews to their blog or Facebook profile. The name on the widget has your library name, and links in the widgets are URLs to your catalogue, bringing more eyes to your catalogue pages.

Pricing and accounts

What does LTFL cost?

We charge a yearly subscription fee. For pricing information, contact us. We have a partnership with Bowker to help us with the sales of LTFL, so pricing questions go to peder.christensen@bowker.com. If you have technical questions, please e-mail sonya@librarything.com.

You can test the LTFL enhancements in-house, for 30 days. We offer live testing of the catalogue enhancements as well, so you can get feedback from patrons.

For testing, you can use your own development server, or you can use a bit of clever code to simulate a testing environment without needing any special equipment.

We charge no fees for setting up and testing LTFL.

Can I get a rundown of how the enhancements are installed?

But of course.

- To start, use the LibraryThing for Libraries form to get pricing information or a trial account.
- Once you have requested a trial account with your Bowker representative, we will e-mail you with your account information. You will also get installation instructions along with an invitation to the Google Group we use, to discuss the enhancements, and keep you up-to-date on current enhancements like new features, and for the enhancements we are working on next.
- To set up the installation, you first do three things:
 1. Export a file of your MARC records.
 2. Set your ISBN-based URL. This points you to another bib page using an ISBN, so patrons can follow links to other items.
 3. Paste the code we give you into your OPAC.
- We have instructions for you on how to do all of this.

- Once you have added the HTML, your catalogue will automatically connect to our servers to display all the LibraryThing properties. Add the ISBN-based URL (which we help you determine) and you start getting links to other items in your catalogue.
- You can use Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) to adapt the enhancements to look like your site, or we can help you with that.
- That's it!

Can I test the enhancements before I commit myself to adding them to my catalogue?

Absolutely. You can test LibraryThing for Libraries without your patrons noticing any changes, even if you do not have a separate testing server. You can turn it on or off at any time as well.

Public Libraries

Why should my public library buy LTFL?

The benefit is incredible - data from the #1 book site means powerful results, making you, like Amazon, easy to implement, even for non-technical people.

- Recommended reads - like an in-catalogue readers advisory.
- Other editions - know what your options are without having to switch back to the search screen.
- Tags - full tag browsing brought into your OPAC, complete with the creme-de-la-creme tags from LibraryThing.

Academic Libraries

Why should academic libraries buy LTFL?

The application of the LTFL enhancements is inherently different for an academic or special library.

- Recommended reads - the items suggested are generally connected in deeply meaningful ways, and can provide research suggestions otherwise untapped.
- Other editions - know what other versions of the text are in your collection.
- Tags - describe each item in certain ways.

LTFL gives you many additional methods for searching your existing collection in an inexpensive way, considering how much data you are getting.

Consortia Libraries

Will LibraryThing for Libraries work with a library consortium?

Yes - in fact, we offer a 20%-or-better discount to consortia, because it makes implementing LTFL easier (than it naturally is).

My library is part of a consortium, but no one else is interested - can I still use LTFL?

It depends on how your consortium is set up, and whether you share an OPAC. You must have access to the HTML of your OPAC, or a consortia representative who is willing to put the code in

for you (which needs to be done only once). You also need to be able to export your records in either tab delimited or MARC format. This action is something that needs to happen on a regular basis - generally libraries update their records once a month.

Several libraries in my consortium are interested, but not everyone - how does that affect pricing?

Pricing will be done for each individual library.

What if our consortium does not share information within our OPAC?

Depending on your preferences, each individual library can keep its data separate, or together, within the consortium.

Non-American Libraries

My library is outside the U.S. - can I use LTFL?

Yes - many libraries outside the U.S. are using LTFL - see the list (of all libraries) using LTFL [here](#).

My library's catalogue is not in English - will LTFL still work?

Yes. The enhancements may, however, work differently:

- Other Editions and Recommendations always retrieve items that are in your library, so any items (in any language) that LibraryThing has data for will show up.
- Tags also work, but the words will be in English.

The best thing to do if you are interested is to e-mail sonya@librarything.com for an account. You can apply the enhancements to your OPAC and see what comes up. One of the first indicators you will have is on the main LTFL account page - your overlap with the LibraryThing data. Since you can test LTFL for as long as you need, setting up an account is the easiest way to see how the enhancements work with your data.

Can I change the words that appear in the catalogue to my preferred language?

You can change the names of the enhancements. How you do this is in the [Technical FAQ](#).

The tags will appear in English, as well as any text in the Tag Browser.

Questions that do not fit in elsewhere

Can I use LibraryThing for Libraries as my online catalogue?

No. If you are interested in using LibraryThing to catalogue your small library's books, check out our organisational accounts. These accounts are general LibraryThing accounts, and do not support item circulation or patron accounts. If you are looking for a complete online library system, consider using the search terms 'open source ILS' with your favourite search engine, for freely available options.

Do the LibraryThing for Libraries enhancements work for non-ISBN books?

Indeed - we now match author and title information as well as ISBN, covering even all those pre-ISBN era books.

The Review Enhancement requires an ISBN or title/author match to show the reviews coming from other libraries or from LibraryThing.com, but your patrons can review any item in the online catalogue - not just books.

I am not part of a library, so can I use LibraryThing for Libraries?

At present, no. If you are interested in licensing LibraryThing data for bookselling, e-mail tim@librarything.com.

Are there any free LibraryThing widgets I can use for my library?

Yes, we have a book cover widget popular with libraries. Read more about it [here](#).

Are there any privacy issues?

We respect the privacy of individual LibraryThing members, LibraryThing for Libraries libraries, and library patrons. When a patron browses your OPAC, their browser's JavaScript interpreter sends the LibraryThing server the ISBN they are looking at and (depending on the circumstances) the tag. But LibraryThing is completely de-coupled from your OPAC's patron data. No library patron data is transferred, and no other personal information is sent to or received by LibraryThing. The data included in our enhancements are based on anonymous, aggregated user content. For more information, please refer to our [privacy policy](#).

Are the book covers part of LTFL?

Covers (front cover book art) are not part of LTFL. Book covers are freely available (that's right, freely available) with minor restrictions. You can read more [here](http://www.librarything.com/wiki/index.php/Free_covers): http://www.librarything.com/wiki/index.php/Free_covers

Annex 2. Examples of libraries and other organisations with a collection in LT

1)

Library name	Zentralbibliothek
Country	Switzerland
Library type	Academic
Specialisation	Social sciences and humanities
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.de/profile/Zentralbibliothek_ZH
Type of collection, purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in March 2009 - 55 items - Many tags - Currently used
Other comments	See annex 6
Other uses of LT	Public groups
Official website	http://www.zb.uzh.ch/index.html?http://www.zb.uzh.ch/presse/recherchen/recherche2009.htm
Official catalogue	NEBIS
Contact	Marcus Kohout marcus.kohout@zb.uzh.ch

2)

Library name	Biblioteca de l'ETSAV. Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya
Country	Spain
Library type	Academic
Specialisation	Architecture
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile/bibliotecaETSAV
Type of collection, purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New acquisitions - Recommended reading lists
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in February 2009. It will be publicly launched next September. - 589 items - Many tags - New acquisitions widget on the official website - RSS of new items - Currently used
Other uses of LT	
Official website	http://bibliotecna.upc.edu/bib290/
Official catalogue	http://cataleg.upc.edu/
Contact	Lluisa Amat Lluisa.amat@upc.edu

3)

Library name	Quatrefoil Library
Country	USA
Library type	Special
Specialisation	Gay, lesbian...
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile/Quatrefoil_library
Type of collection, purpose	Testing an alternative to the library catalogue.
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in July 2009. - 11,153 items - Many tags - Currently used
Other uses of LT	Public groups
Official website	http://www.quatrefoillibrary.org/
Official catalogue	http://www.quatrefoillibrary.org/catalog/

4)

Library name	Greenfield Public Library
Country	USA
Library type	Public
Specialisation	
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=greenfieldlibrary
Type of collection, purpose	Specific booklists
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in June 2008. - 120 items - 3 tags - Currently used
Other uses of LT	LTFL (C/W MARS consortium)
Official website	http://www.greenfieldpubliclibrary.org/
Official catalogue	http://wmars.cwmars.org/search/a
Contact	Jessica Pollock librarian@greenfieldpubliclibrary.org

5)

Library name	Cancer Care Research Centre (CCRC), University of Stirling
Country	UK
Library type	Academic
Specialisation	Cancer Care Research
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile/CCRC
Type of collection, purpose	(?)
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in January 2009. - 234 items - Many tags - Currently used.
Other uses of LT	
Official website	http://www.cancercare.stir.ac.uk/
Official catalogue	http://libcat.stir.ac.uk/

6)

Library name	Dakota Writing Project, University of South Dakota
Country	USA
Library type	
Specialisation	
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=dwp
Type of collection, purpose	Collection of documents owned by a specific project
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is a specific project, not the academic library - Collection opened in July 2006 - 243 items - 11 tags - Currently used
Other uses of LT	
Official website	http://www.usd.edu/dwp/
Official catalogue	LT

7)

Library name	Reference and Research Services Department, Robarts Library, University of Toronto
Country	Canada
Library type	Academic
Specialisation	
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=referencerounds
Type of collection, purpose	Professional reading shelf in the Reference and Research Services Department

Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in April 2007 - 28 items - 40 tags approximately - Currently used
Other uses of LT	
Official website	http://www.library.utoronto.ca/home/
Official catalogue	http://www.library.utoronto.ca/home/

8)

Library name	Syracuse University Science & Technology Library
Country	USA
Library type	Academic
Specialisation	Sciences and technologies
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=suscilib
Type of collection, purpose	Bookshelf
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in April 2007. - 11 items - 40 tags, approximately - Currently not used.
Other uses of LT	
Official website	http://library.syr.edu/information/scitechlib/index.html
Official catalogue	http://summit.syr.edu.libezproxy2.syr.edu/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?DB=local&PAGE=First

9)

Library name	Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science at Portland State University
Country	USA
Library type	Departmental library
Specialisation	Civil and Environmental Engineering
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=cee-psu
Type of collection, purpose	The whole departmental collection (textbooks, research materials, student theses and dissertations)
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in July 2007. - 238 items - 10 tags - Currently not used.
Other uses of LT	
Official website	www.cee.pdx.edu
Official catalogue	http://library.pdx.edu/

10)

Library name	Ohio State University Libraries
Country	USA
Library type	Academic
Specialisation	Sciences
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=OSULibraries
Type of collection, purpose	Leisure and reading collection
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in August 2007. - 1,242 items - 1 tag
Other uses of LT	
Official website	http://library.osu.edu/
Official catalogue	http://library.osu.edu/

11)

Library name	Queen Mary Careers. University of London
Country	UK
Library type	
Specialisation	Information resources of a careers service
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=queenmarycareers
Type of collection, purpose	Catalogue of printed information resources
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is the collection of an Information Point specialised in QM Careers, provides careers information, advice and guidance to students on everything from choosing a career to finding work. - Collection opened in July 2009. - 176 items - Many tags - Currently used
Other uses of LT	
Official website	http://www.careers.qmul.ac.uk/
Official catalogue	

12)

Library name	Biblioteca di Scienze - Università di Firenze
Country	Italy
Library type	Academic
Specialisation	Sciences
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=Bibscienze
Type of collection, purpose	New acquisitions (?)
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in November 2008. - 76 items - About 25 tags - Currently used
Other uses of LT	
Official website	http://www.sba.unifi.it/biblio/scienze/scienze.htm
Official catalogue	http://opac.unifi.it/F

13)

Library name	Resource Centre and Enquiry Service. Scottish Centre for Information on Language Teaching and Research (Scottish CILT). University of Strathclyde. Glasgow
Country	Scotland, UK.
Library type	Academic
Specialisation	Languages
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile/ScottishCILT
Type of collection, purpose	Entire collection
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Scottish CILT Resource Centre's Academic collection has been absorbed into the main library at the University of Strathclyde, Jordanhill Campus. This is an ongoing process, and so please bear with us until it is complete. Some sections of the old catalogue will remain until the new online catalogue is complete.</i> - Collection opened in November 2008. - 1,198 items - 30 tags approximately - Currently used.
Other uses of LT	
Official website	http://www.strath.ac.uk/scilt/
Official catalogue	
Contact	Mandy Reeman mandy.reeman-clark@strath.ac.uk and Anna Hvass (currently working in the Open University)

14)

Library name	Pacific University - School of Pharmacy
Country	USA
Library type	
Specialisation	Pharmacy
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=pusop
Type of collection, purpose	Entire collection of a school. School library (?)
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in June 2009. - 51 items - About 30 tags
Other uses of LT	Private group
Official website	http://www.pacificu.edu/pharmd/index.cfm\$
Official catalogue	

15)

Library name	Wilmington University Library
Country	USA
Library type	Academic
Specialisation	Social sciences, business, management, information technologies, nursing...
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=WilmULibrary
Type of collection, purpose	New acquisitions (?)
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in June 2009. - 179 items - Many tags -
Other uses of LT	Public groups
Official website	http://www.wilmu.edu/library/
Official catalogue	http://webcat.wilmu.edu/uhtbin/cqisirsi/x/0/0/49

16)

Library name	Amnesty International UK Resource Centre
Country	UK
Library type	Special library
Specialisation	
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=AIUK_ResourceCentre
Type of collection, purpose	Entire collection
Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection opened in June 2009. - Two collections: periodicals and topics. - 107 items - 3 tags - Currently used.
Other uses of LT	
Official website	http://www.amnesty.org.uk/content.asp?CategoryID=10597
Official catalogue	LT

17)

Library name	Delaware Division Libraries
Country	USA
Library type	Network of academic and public libraries
Specialisation	
Link to the collection in LT	http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=delawaredivision
Type of collection, purpose	Special reading lists.

Other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Collection opened in July 2008.- 609 items- A few tags- Not used any more
Other uses of LT	LTFL
Official website	http://lib.de.us/
Official catalogue	http://lib.de.us/
Contact	Richard.james@state.de.us

Annex 3. Complete list of libraries using LTFL

There are 139 libraries using LTFL.

See

[http://www.librarything.com/wiki/index.php/LTFL:Libraries_using_LibraryThing_for_Libraries] for up-to-date information.

Note: CE = Catalogue Enhancements; RE = Review Enhancements

Library Name	Library type	Enhancements	Country	Catalogue Vendor	Example
Chisholm Institute	Academic	CE	Australia	iBistro	no example
St Patrick's College - Mary MacKillop Library	Academic	CE	Australia	Horizon	The Songlines
Universidad Nacional Abierta y a Distancia	Academic	CE RE	Colombia	iBistro	no example yet
Bibliothèque Universitaire Université d'Angers	Academic	CE	France	Aleph	Programmer pour l'intelligence collective
University of Hong Kong	Academic	CE	Hong Kong	WebPac Pro	The Lovely Bones
Waterford Institute of Technology	Academic	CE RE	Ireland	WebPac Pro	The Victorian Internet
ITT Dublin	Academic	CE	Ireland	WebPac Pro	Understanding Media
University College Cork	Academic	CE	Ireland	WebPac Pro	Dubliners
University of Utrecht	Academic	CE	Netherlands	Aleph	Het laatste raadsel van Fermat
Library, Institute of Social Sciences	Academic	CE	Netherlands	Adlib	The Embarrassment of Riches
Universitat Oberta de Catalunya	Academic	CE	Spain	WebPac Pro	no example yet
Malmo University	Academic	CE	Sweden	WebPac Pro	Berättelsen om Pi
Halmstad University Library	Academic	CE	Sweden	Self-created	Den själviska genen
Leeds Metropolitan University	Academic	CE	UK	iBistro/iLink	An Outline of European Architecture
Open University	Academic	CE	UK	Voyager	The Wisdom of Crowds
Keele University	Academic	CE	UK	WebPac	no example yet
Higher Colleges of Technology	Academic	CE	United Arab Emirates	WebPac Pro	Night Sky Atlas
Art Center College of Design	Academic	CE RE	USA	WebPac Pro	Visual Explanations
Camden County College Library	Academic	CE RE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Age of Turbulence
Brigham Young University - Idaho	Academic	CE RE	USA	Horizon	Wikinomics

Defense Acquisition University	Academic	CE RE	USA	iBistro	The Utility of Force
Montgomery College	Academic	CE RE	USA	WebVoyage	no example yet
Touro College Libraries	Academic	CE RE	USA	WebPac	Organic Chemistry
Cornerstone University Library Network	Academic	CE RE	USA	WebPac Pro	Sanctifying the World
Claremont Colleges	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Failed States
Bowdoin College	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Bowling Alone
Cal State University Channel Islands	Academic	CE	USA	Voyager	How the Mind Works
San Francisco State University	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Periodic Kingdom
Andrews University	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Google Hacks
California State University, Northridge	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac	Architecture, Ambition, and Americans
SWITCH Library Consortium	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac	Of Mice and Men
Cleveland State University	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Spook
Western Washington University	Academic	CE	USA	Innovative	The Boxer Rebellion
Saint Mary's College of California	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Cybercultures Reader
The University of Texas at Austin	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Pacific Crest Trail
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire	Academic	CE	USA	Voyager	Nature's Perfect Food : How Milk Became America's Drink
Colorado State University	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Guns, Germs, and Steel
Mt. Hood Community College	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Norton Anthology of Literature by Women
Simmons College	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The librarian
Tri-College Libraries (Bryn Mawr, Haverford, and Swarthmore Colleges)	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Law Lit : From Atticus Finch to The Practice
Virginia Military Institute	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Charlie Wilson's war
Washington University in St. Louis	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Your Inner Fish
CONSORT - Denison University, Kenyon College, Ohio Wesleyan University and The College of Wooster	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Ambient Findability
Dowling College Library	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The World is Flat
University of Mississippi	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Gödel, Escher, Bach
University of Nebraska	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Emotional Intelligence (tags only)

University of Wisconsin-Stout	Academic	CE	USA	Webvoyage	Cultural Literacy
Virginia Tech	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Discovery of Being
Waubonsee Community College	Academic	CE	USA	Web2	Chemistry & Chemical Reactivity
Gettysburg College	Academic	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Structure of Scientific Revolutions
Mansfield University	Academic	CE	USA	Voyager 7	no example yet
YTI Career Institute	Academic	CE	USA	Koha	Management Information Systems
[www.naz.edu/dept/library Nazareth College]	Academic	CE RE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Woman in White
C/W MARS	Academic, public, special. Network	CE RE	USA	WebPac Pro	Sojourn
NOBLE (North of Boston Library Exchange)	Academic, public, special. Network	CE	USA	WebPac	Sense and Sensibility
LOGIN - Libraries of Gloucester and Salem Information Network	Academic, public. Network	CE RE	USA	iBistro	no example yet
Alexandrina Library Service	Public	CE RE	Australia	iBistro	Blue Shoes and Happiness
Moonee Valley Library Services	Public	CE RE	Australia	Horizon	Ender's Game
Adelaide City Council Library	Public	CE RE	Australia	Horizon	Twilight in the Desert
Kingston Information & Library Service	Public	CE	Australia	AmLib InfoVision	The Road
Yarra Plenty Regional Library	Public	CE	Australia	e-Library	Oscar and Lucinda
State Library of Tasmania	Public	CE	Australia	TalisPlus	Teach Yourself Visually HTML
Brisbane City Council Library Service	Public	CE	Australia	iBistro	Echo Park
Lockyer Valley Libraries	Public	CE	Australia	Spydus	Oyster
Wollondilly Library & Information Service	Public	CE	Australia	Spydus	Beyond the Brink
City of Burnside	Public	CE	Australia	Amlib	Last Orders
Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library	Public	CE	Australia	Spydus	My Life as a Fake
Mandurah Library	Public	CE	Australia	Spydus	The Historian
Burdekin Library	Public	CE	Australia	e-Library	In the Shadow of Man
City of Stonnington	Public	CE	Australia	Spydus	In a Sunburned Country
Glenelg Libraries	Public	CE	Australia	Spydus	Eucalyptus
West Vancouver Memorial Library	Public	CE	Canada	WebPac Pro	You'll Never Eat Lunch in This Town Again

North Vancouver City Library	Public	CE	Canada	Horizon	Don't Panic
Pelham Public Library	Public	CE	Canada	Horizon	Like Water for Chocolate
Nelson Public Library	Public	CE RE	New Zealand	Horizon	Rise of the Heroes
Stavanger Public Library	Public	CE	Norway	Aleph	Charlie og sjokoladefabrikken
Malmö Stadsbibliotek	Public	CE	Sweden	WebPac Pro	Hannas Töchter
High Plains Library District	Public	CE RE	USA	Horizon	The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay, New Moon
Los Gatos Public Library	Public	CE RE	USA	Horizon	The Kite Runner
Mount Laurel Library	Public	CE RE	USA	Horizon	The Corrections
Randolph County Public Library	Public	CE RE	USA	Horizon	Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
Cass District Library	Public	CE RE	USA	Horizon	Pillars of the earth
Seattle Public Library	Public	CE RE	USA	Horizon	The Master & Margarita
East Brunswick Public Library	Public	CE RE	USA	Horizon	The Omnivore's Dilemma
Arlington Heights Memorial Library	Public	CE RE	USA	WebPac Pro	One Foot in the Grave
Great River Regional Library	Public	CE RE	USA	Horizon	Phantom Prey (compact disc)
Lackawanna County	Public	CE RE	USA	iBistro	Maximum Ride
Delaware Division of Libraries	Public	CE RE	USA	iBistro	Drood
Westport Public Library	Public	CE RE	USA	Horizon	The Uncommon Reader
Libraries Online, Inc.	Public	CE RE	USA	WebPac Pro	Dewey
City of Hayward	Public	CE RE	USA	WebPac Pro	Stitch 'n bitch
Rangeview Library District	Public	CE RE	USA	iLink/iBistro	no example yet
Kent County Public Library	Public	CE RE	USA	Evergreen	no example yet
Frankfort Public Library	Public	CE RE	USA	WebPac	no example yet
Carnegie-Stout Public Library	Public	CE RE	USA	Horizon	no example yet
Milwaukee County Federated Library System	Public	CE RE	USA	WebPac	no example yet
New Haven Free Public Library	Public	CE RE	USA	WebPac pro	A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's court
Danbury Public Library	Public	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Bridget Jones's diary
Bedford Public Library	Public	CE	USA	WebPac	The Hobbit
Deschutes Public Library	Public	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Atonement
Richland County Public Library	Public	CE	USA	Horizon	The House of Mirth
Salt Lake County Library System	Public	CE	USA	Horizon	A People's History of the United States
Irving Public Library	Public	CE	USA	EPS/Rooms	The Other Boleyn Girl

High Plains Library District	Public	CE	USA	Horizon	The secret
King County Library System	Public	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Red Tent
Aurora Public Library	Public	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Tallgrass
Altadena Library District	Public	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Suspense and Sensibility
Mountain Library Network	Public	CE	USA		Appalachia: a History
Richardson Public Library	Public	CE	USA	Horizon	Sisters
Williamsburg Regional Library	Public	CE	USA	Horizon	Requiem for a Nun
Murray Public Library	Public	CE	USA	Horizon	The Tipping Point
Lincoln Trail Libraries System	Public	CE	USA	Horizon	Blueberries for Sal
MORE/Indianhead Federated Library System	Public	CE	USA	WebPac	The Trumpet of the Swan
Trumbull Library System	Public	CE	USA	Horizon	Water for Elephants
Davidson County Public Library System	Public	CE	USA	Horizon	The Vampire Files
Portland Public Library	Public	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Kite Runner
Allen County Public Library	Public	CE	USA	e-Library	Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
Glendora Public Library	Public	CE	USA	Polaris	Thursday Next: First Among Sequels
Wake County Public Library	Public	CE	USA	Horizon	North by Night: a Story of the Underground Railroad
Delaware County Library District	Public	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio
Central Rappahannock Regional Library	Public	CE	USA	Horizon	The Audacity of Hope (large print)
Suffolk Cooperative Library System	Public	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Fearless Change
Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenberg County	Public	CE	USA	Horizon	Technopoly
West Bloomfield Township Public Library	Public	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Yiddish Policemen's Union
Canton Public Library	Public	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	Fool Moon
Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLSnet)	Public	CE	USA	WebPac Pro	The Perks of eing a Wallflower
Highland Park Public Library	Public	CE	USA	Koha	Year of Wonders (hidden behind tabs)
Metropolitan Library System	Public	CE	USA	Self-created	Hobo: a Young Man's Thoughts on Trains and Tramping in America
Boyd County Public Library	Public	CE	USA	Polaris	no example yet
Lee County Library	Public	CE	USA	Polaris Powerpac	Skinny Dip
Cranbury Public Library	Public	CE	USA	Mandarin M3	no example yet

Bibliomation	Public, school. Network	CE	USA	Horizon	Professional Web Design
La Jolla Country Day School	Public, school. Network	CE	USA	Mandarin	The Two Towers (click Details)
Alliance Library System	Public, school. Network	CE	USA	e-Library	[no example yet]
Bibliothèque de Toulouse	Public, special. Network	CE	France	Web2	Veronika decide mourrer
Cooperative Information Network (CIN)	Public, special. Network	CE	USA	Voyager	The Horse Whisperer
Grossmont Union High School District	School	CE	USA	iLink	The Westing Game
Australian Tax Office	Special	CE	Australia	EPS/Rooms	intranet
Moody Bible Institute - Crowell Library	Special	CE	USA	Horizon	God : a Biography

Annex 4. Prices

Organisational account in LibraryThing:

Individuals and institutions can open their own accounts free for up to 200 book entries, and then \$15/year for up to 5,000 books.

LibraryThing for Libraries:

The annual subscription fee is based on the number of English language titles in the library collection.

LT charge no fees for setting up and testing LTFL.

Annex 5. List of libraries and stakeholders contacted

Opinions and comments from different libraries and stakeholders were compiled through e-mail, interviews and comments written in the LT group *Librarians who LibraryThing*. All were taken into account in order to analyse the product.

Below is the list of libraries and stakeholders contacted:

Referring to LT, the following libraries were contacted:

- Zentralbibliothek. Universität Zürich (Switzerland)
- Biblioteca de l'ETSAV. Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (Spain)
- Greenfield Public Library (USA)
- Careers Service. Queen Mary, University of London

Referring to LTFL, the following libraries and stakeholders were contacted:

- Delaware Division of Libraries (USA)
- C/W MARS (USA)
- Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (Spain)
- David O. McKay Library (USA)
- LION - Libraries Online (USA)
- Leeds Metropolitan University (UK)
- Waterford Institute of Technology (Ireland)
- Malmö University Library (Sweden)
- LibraryThing. Bowker, regional sales

Referring to Primo, the following libraries were contacted:

- University of Minnesota Libraries (USA)
- University of Iowa Libraries (USA)

LIBRARYTHING IN THE ETH-BIBLIOTHEK: ASSESSMENT SERVICE.



What is it?

- LT is an online personal cataloguing tool people use to organise personal book collections.
- As a social network, LT offers different Web 2.0 functions: tag books, book reviews, see other users' collections, etc.
- LT has 782,058 members and 4,887,920 books catalogued, corresponding to 4,746,979 works.

But...

LT has two services to offer to libraries:



1. Creating an account and having a collection in LT.



2. LibraryThing for Libraries: enhancements in library OPAC.

1

25.08.2009

ETH-Bibliothek
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

1. HAVING A COLLECTION IN LT

- Who is using it?** There are 2,750 organizational accounts.
- Purposes:** To show off and promote: new acquisitions, reading lists, bibliography related to specific events, etc.
- Budget:** Free till 200 books; \$15/year for up to 5,000 books.

Possibilities in ETH-Bibliothek:

A. To promote a literature collection as Max Frisch Archive



B. To display selected books: new acquisitions or "the book of the month"



Biblioteca de l'ETSAV.
Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

← 2 →

25.08.2009

LibraryThing in the ETH-Bibliothek:
assessment service.

ETH-Bibliothek
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

2. LIBRARYTHING FOR LIBRARIES: ENHANCEMENTS IN LIBRARY OPAC (I)

- What is it?** LTFL is an overlay for the OPAC which integrates in the OPAC new content from LT: tags clouds, book recommendations, users' reviews...
- Who is using it?** A total of 139 libraries, of which 53 are academic.
- Purposes:** New way to search and find resources: increase the collection visibility, retrieval and serendipity.
- Budget:** The annual subscription fee is based on the number of English language titles in the library collection.
 Catalogue Enhancements package (tag browsing, book recommendations and other editions and translations) + Review Enhancements package (patrons reviews, reviews importation from LT, rates and widgets)
 GBP 7,026.67

Why implement it in ETH-Library?...

3

25.08.2009

LibraryThing in the ETH-Bibliothek:
assessment service.

ETH-Bibliothek
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

2. LIBRARYTHING FOR LIBRARIES: ENHANCEMENTS IN LIBRARY OPAC (II)

➔ To have tags and reviews from the start of Primo's launch and encourage our users to use these tools.

Requirement:
Tag and review system from LTFL and Primo must be viewed by users as a single system at the front end (in searching, browsing and visualisation functions).

4

25.08.2009

LibraryThing in the ETH-Bibliothek:
assessment service.

ETH-Bibliothek
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

EXAMPLES AND OPINIONS

Having a collection in LT:

- **Ohio State University Libraries** <http://www.librarything.com/profile.php?view=OSULibraries>
- **Biblioteca de l'ETSAV. Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya**
<http://biblioteca.upc.es/bib290/inici.asp>

LibraryThing for Libraries:

- **Waterford Institute of Technology** <http://witcat.wit.ie/>
- **Malmö Stadsbibliotek** <http://www.malmo.stadsbibliotek.org/>

“Claremont users are happy and enthusiastic about LTFL tags, and many students say they are helpful in searching for and finding related items” (Libraries of The Claremont Colleges)

“My global assessment is entirely positive. The tool is very affordable (...) and simple to implement (...) The content is extremely useful and patrons respond it well” (Delaware Division of Libraries)

Questions?

Thank you very much



5

25.08.2009

LibraryThing in the ETH-Bibliothek:
assessment service.

ETH-Bibliothek
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich