Alma Administration – Resources
External Search Resources

Hello, through the MDE catalogers can search for records within external resources Such as library of congress, and then import them or merge them into the Alma catalog. In this session you'll learn how to configure the external resources, which are external repositories available for search. To configure a new resource for the external search you need to first configure an external resource, and then configure a search profile.

Go to Alma Configuration🡪Resources🡪Search Configuration🡪External Search Resources. On the Setup Page, select Add External Resource. Enter one or more of these Criteria to locate a resource: Name, or part of a name, Name search type – the way in which you want the search word or string to be matched against the resource names- Contains, exact or start with, Resource type or Publisher. And Find Resources. Alma will now look for matching resources in the list. You can find the Alma External Search Resources list at the online help in the knowledge Center.

Here are the results. You can click on the resource name to view the description. If you want to make it available to your institution, from the row actions list, choose select resource. Modify the Resource Name if you want the institution to refer to the resource in a different name, select the Normalization Process and merge Method if you want – you can read about Normalization rules and about these merge methods, in the Online help. Add credentials if the resources have them - many repositories are free to add and search, but some require subscriptions and credentials to enter. When done click save. Here it is, added to our list.

Note, that it's possible to have multiple connections to the same resource, if they have, for example, different record formats, like Marc21 versus KORMARC. In that case, you need to repeat these configuration steps for each connection.

If you wish to edit or delete your resource, go the row actions list and choose to delete or edit. Make your changes and save.

After you've added the resource to the list of available external resources, you need to create a search profile to define the order in which the external resources are searched and the search conditions. Still in the Configuration, go to Resources🡪Search Configuration🡪Search Profile and Add Search Profile. Enter the name and Description of your new profile, and Next. On the second page of the Search Profile Details wizard there are 2 resources pools you can choose from, Internal Resources and external. Check the resources in which you want Alma to search and select Add to selection. You can choose from both pools, and you cannot leave the Resources Selected area empty.

Note, if you select several resources here, they will appear as several tabs in the search results. And Save.

If you wish to edit or delete your profile, go the row actions list, and choose to delete or edit.

Now, back in the Metadata editor, in the Search Resources pane, you can search for records in the Search Cataloging Profile you've just created.

With this, we complete this external search resources session.

Thanks for watching!