

BIC REALTIME FOR LIBRARIES REVIEW GROUP – Meeting Notes

Location: GoToMeeting / Conference Call

Date and time: Thursday 24th September 2020, 10am

Meeting notes taken by: Alaina-Marie Bassett

Present

Alaina-Marie Bassett, BIC
 Alastair Campbell, BDS
 Francis Cave, Consultant
 Niamh Doran, Civica (Chair)
 Graham Jones, Askews & Holts
 Fiona Petherick, ProQuest Coutts
 David Thomas, SirsiDynix
 Karina Urquhart, BIC
 Anthony Whitford, Capita (Deputy)

Apologies

Colin Carter, Innovative
 Paul Clements, British Library
 Catherine Cooke, Westminster Libraries
 Matthew Dovey, Ceridwen
 Hazel Edwards, Bucks County Council Libraries
 Gwyneth Morgan, Nielsen
 Alan Oliver, Ex Libris
 Connie Young, Infor UK
 Ian Young, Axiell ALM Ltd

1. Welcome and apologies

- Group welcomed. Apologies delivered.
- Welcomed: AC, ND and CY as new members; HE and IY (in absentia).
- New Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson appointed: ND and AW.
- Resigned: Graham Barke, BDS; John Garrould, Bertram's; Richard Hurrell (RH), Bertram's; Ian Manson, Infor; William Scott, Bertram's; Heather Sherman, Dawson Books; and Phillip Sykes, Bibliotheca. The Group especially thanked the Bertram Group for its continued support and dedication to the *BIC Realtime for Libraries (BRL)* standard over the past 3 years.

2. Competition Law – Conduct Reminder

<https://www.bic.org.uk/149/BIC-Competition-Law-Policy/>

3. Follow-up on actions from the previous meeting

- Notes from previous meeting approved.
- Version 1.0 *BRL* API specifications published in September 2019; all documents updated as per the minutes from the previous meeting.
- *BRL* BIC Bite not referred to in press release as document was unavailable at the time.
- RH was not able to review FC's adapted / simplified API documentation on GitHub; FC believes the documentation to be sufficient.

ACTION	OWNER	DUE DATE
Consider how best to use GitHub for <i>BRL</i> .	KU/FC	ASAP

4. Update on the implementation of any / all BIC Library APIs (v1.0) and any progress made by the organisations represented on this Group

- Majority of organisations confirmed limited progress made; development not high priority at present due to current circumstances including administration of Bertram Group and COVID-19; limited demand for *BRL* from customers.
- Askews & Holts and Civica: *BRL* on agenda; may partner with one another on development.

- BDS: implemented *BRL*'s Retrieve MARC Product Information API – is used internally but not implemented with customer at present.
- Capita: no active work delivered; investigating future of acquisitions flow in 2021; willing to partner with any suppliers on *BRL*.
- SirsiDynix: no projects ongoing in relation to *BRL*; has EDI functionality covered via EDIFACT.
- ProQuest: implemented proprietary APIs (from Ex Libris and Innovative) for eBook ordering (giving trade customers instant access to their order).
- Libraries may not understand value of *BRL*; could be impacting on level of demand.
- A previous staff member of the Bertram Group now works at Peters Ltd.
- Organisations continuing use of proprietary APIs because they're implemented at present; can't justify adoption of *BRL* until evidence of industry demand obtained.
- Buckinghamshire County Council: staying abreast of Askews & Holts and Civica's intended joint *BRL* development.
- Nielsen Book: no live *BRL* implementations currently; Order Message developed for use within [PubEasy](#) but there has been minimal take-up; intends to build fuller support for *BRL* into the subsequent development of PubEasy 2.0.
- Ex Libris: will develop when customers express requirement for *BRL* APIs; see Ex Libris' Open Platform (details can be found on Ex Libris' Developer Network).

DECISIONS	OWNER
Increased awareness of <i>BRL</i> and benefits statement required; to increase demand within libraries.	ALL
Promotional to focus on <i>BRL</i> functionality that is not fulfilled by other standards.	ALL
Future <i>BRL</i> development to focus on areas that are not fulfilled by other standards (including eBook ordering).	ALL
Emphasis required on the ability to pick and choose which APIs to implement, i.e. libraries don't have to implement all <i>BRL</i> APIs.	ALL
Use previous feedback on need for <i>BRL</i> in upcoming promotion.	ALL

ACTIONS	OWNER	DUE DATE
Circulate <i>BIC Realtime</i> benefits statement to this Group for comment.	AMB	28/09/2020
Adapt <i>BIC Realtime</i> benefits statement for <i>BRL</i> .	KU	ASAP
Liaise with Peters Ltd regarding joining this Group.	KU	Next meeting
Look to create a case study and/or hold a BIC Brunch on <i>BRL</i> once further adoptions obtained.	ALL	2021
Existing statements of endorsement to be updated in future to reflect any specifics on benefits / reduction in costs that each organisation experiences (once <i>BRL</i> APIs implemented).	ALL	2021
Consider development of further APIs upon increased adoption.	KU	2021

5. Update on sign-up to the [BIC Realtime for Libraries APIs Policy](#)

- List of endorsers on the BIC website, [here](#); 18 organisations in total.

ACTIONS	OWNER	DUE DATE
Update list of endorsers (removing the Bertram Group).	AMB	28/09/2020

ACTIONS (continued)	OWNER	DUE DATE
Where possible, libraries to include <i>BRL</i> in requirements for tenders.	ALL	ASAP
Follow-up with endorsers to establish their level of commitment to adopting <i>BRL</i> , development intent, what would help adoption, etc.	KU	ASAP

6. Questions (5 maximum) that BIC should send to its subscribers regarding implemented APIs, intended implementations, etc.

- BIC carried out similar exercise for *BIC Realtime* (trade) APIs previously.
- Important to understand whether the benefits of the *BRL* standard are clear to the industry.
- General feedback on *BRL* is positive; responses similar to those detailed in Item 4, above.
- Getting infrastructure and budget in place for API development is difficult within organisations; easier and far less costly to implement subsequent APIs following initial project.

ACTIONS	OWNER	DUE DATE
Circulate existing <i>BIC Realtime</i> questions to this Group.	AMB	28/09/2020
Provide feedback / additions to the circulated questions via email.	ALL	28/10/2020
Incorporate feedback from Group and adapt questions for <i>BRL</i> .	KU	11/11/2020

7. Promotion of *BIC Realtime for Libraries*

- [BIC Bite](#) published January 2020.
- Feedback from questions (see Item 6, above) will inform promotion.
- Reluctant to hold BIC event without case studies / evidence of adoption.

8. Update on NISO FASTEN Group and opportunities for partnership

- NISO review process underway; expected to publish FASTEN Group's final documentation in coming weeks; using LCF for communications between libraries and e-content platforms.

ACTION	OWNER	DUE DATE
Ensure this item remains on agenda for next meeting.	AMB	Next meeting

9. A.O.B.

- All published APIs (v1.0) have review date of 1st October 2020.

ACTION	OWNER	DUE DATE
Update v1.0 specifications to show review date of 1 st October 2021.	AMB	01/10/2020

10. Date of next meeting

- March 2020 – date TBC.

ACTION	OWNER	DUE DATE
Any member who is unable to attend the next meeting should provide an update on their organisations' implementations / intended implementations of the <i>BRL</i> APIs via email to KU and AMB.	ALL	Next meeting