

## **UNIMARC standard among ITALE community, the Italian ExLibris users**

The great majority of ITALE members uses UNIMARC standards and only a few special and research libraries uses MARC 21 format.

Trying to resume the ITALE activities related to the implementation and development of UNIMARC standard it is important to mention the results of the **Older monographic publication working group and the Managing electronics resources working group**.

Both of them are formed by librarians coming from different typology of libraries, and they meet frequently to work together.

The older monographic publication w. g. was formally constituted in Florence in 2003 with the aim of realizing a common uniform scheme for cataloguing with UNIMARC format the older publications owned by every institution interested. Till today, the group has realized an analytical scheme and a concise scheme for cataloguing older publications using Aleph 500, and also some proposals for modifying UNIMARC bibliographic format for older publications. After an agreement with the ICCU, the Central Italian Institute for Libraries, those proposals were sent to IFLA in January 2006.

Today the working group is preparing a scheme for cataloguing the different forms of names of older printers and publishers using UNIMARC authorities format.

In December 2004 in Florence, Accademia della Crusca, the working group organized the first ITALE seminar about UNIMARC format and older monographic publications.

All the papers worked out are already published on ITALE web site: [www.itale.it](http://www.itale.it), in the working group section.

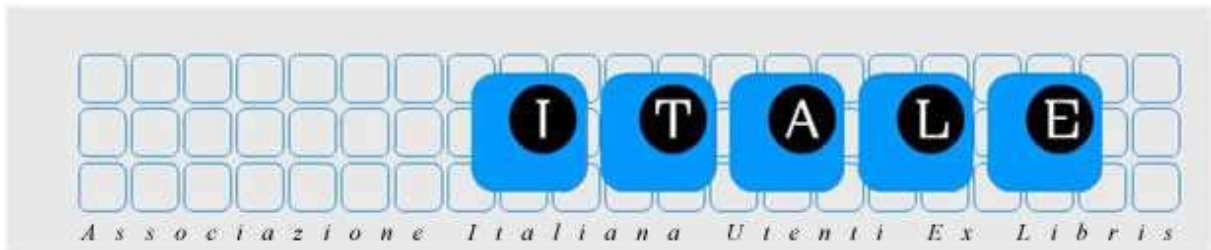
The managing electronic resources working group was constituted in 2004 with the aim of :

- defining the different typologies of UNIMARC schemes useful for cataloguing electronic resources, particularly referring to the differences between local and remote electronic resources;
- preparing templates for cataloguing using Aleph 500;
- preparing a cataloguing guide for librarians.

In December 2007 the working group published the analytical UNIMARC scheme for electronic resources on ITALE web site. This is a complete work about the cataloguing practice of electronic resources, from the defining of their different typologies to the cataloguing and to the analytical and critical scheme of the related UNIMARC fields. We can easily define it as a complete guide to cataloguing electronic resources with UNIMARC using Aleph 500.

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The ICCU, the Central Italian Institute for Libraries, and ITALE have officially agreed on the cooperation about the connection between the ITALE systems and SBN 2, the National Italian library system, and also about the implementation of the ISO-ILL protocol for inter library loan among the ITALE libraries and those related to SBN world. Another important step has been the ITALE participation to the ICCU studies of feasibility for the new Italian cataloguing rules.



Of course, our study has started from the application of UNIMARC standards to the new principles contained in the Code.

Since the beginning of the analysis work it has been clear that using the complete version of both UNIMARC formats would make possible the adoption of the new rules. It will be particularly important the adoption of UNIMARC authorities together with the use of a library software permitting the construction of authority files modules.

At the moment we are studying the relations among UNIMARC bibliographic fields used for the different kinds of uniform titles and the corresponding unimarc authorities fields, in order to evaluate problems and necessities. One of the problem could be eliminating the ambiguity among the same identical titles in a bibliographic database, using the uniform titles in the authority file database. As with the new Rules the use of uniform title will be mandatory for every bibliographic work, we are thinking to manage this change using authority files modules. The problem I am referring to is how to make unambiguous identical uniform titles in an authority file, with a link to some other distinguishing element of the record.

All the proposals related to UNIMARC formats are made in UNIMARC national committee by our ITALE delegate, another important step towards cooperation among different systems.

On its web site ITALE also publishes the list of UNIMARC fields and subfields owned by the Italian ITALE users. The database is divided in different sections frequently updated with the precious help of the members: there is a section dedicated to fields and subfields related to bibliographic materials and electronic resources; there is also a second section dedicated to special materials as archival materials, drawings and prints, audio-visual medias.

The data base will be enriched soon with the section dedicated to the ITALE owner fields referring to the authority files, as there are new incoming announcements coming from our members.

ITALE also publishes a useful database containing the different typologies of formats for cataloguing data owned by its members. Some of them are temporary formats, used in many different ways in working protocols; others, instead, are fixed formats that can confirm the increasing kind of different materials treated in a library context.

On ITALE web site are also published all the news presented by the fifth UNIMARC update. It has been realized a database containing all the news useful to update the help fields on Aleph 500 of every ITALE institution.