TALKING ABOUT STANDARDS...

Standards give us a set of tools that enable us to span the broad array of activities in our personal and working lives, ranging from frameworks to navigate abstract decisions, to codes that guide practical actions. Standards are instrumental in all aspects of our work – from organising knowledge via ontologies to identifying best practice for stock management and materials handling.

Many standards-based conversations in our sector focus on description and arrangement (for example cataloguing and classification schemas); discovery (such as accessibility and web standards); data management (such as data exchange standards and privacy regulations); systems (such as system interoperability standards); and services (such as guidelines for services to young people).

I am taking an alternative approach to the standards conversation in this issue of *INCITE*, by starting with three questions to readers about the guidelines and standards you use to support your materials handling, stock management, storage, and logistics processes:

What resources, tools, experts, policies, and procedures do you use in your organisation to manage the way you move materials in, out, and around your building?

Have you engaged the services of space planners, quantity surveyors, or logistics experts to help navigate the formidable task of moving large quantities of resources?

Have you used such resources or services to reorganise spaces, or to maximise your materials handling workflows?

Please get in touch to share your insights and experience of these often invisible 'back-of-house' activities. It would be particularly interesting to hear from library vendors and industry partners who manage the movement of materials to multiple sites daily. Please let us know what standards you use.

This column highlights the breadth of activity in the standard as space. Please get in touch to connect or promote standards activities.

Supporting system interoperability for ILL and resource sharing

An update on activities towards setting up the New ISO protocol for resource sharing: ISO 18626.

This new standard is intended to improve interoperability between systems that support ILL and resource sharing. The editors of the standard would like to get a better overview of what is happening in the resource sharing community. To this end, they have published a survey to gather information and understand where changes or improvement in the standard are needed. The editors are also interested in understanding the level of interest among the community to form an implementer's group.

Calling all individual libraries, library consortia, and system vendors! If you are planning for the implementation of ISO 15626 or considering doing so, complete the survey and ensure that your requirements are captured. The ISO 18626 survey is a mere one page long. For additional information regarding ISO 18626 and a link to the survey please visit this webpage. ↻

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