Two Decades of WISCAT

The statewide library database (WISCAT) began in the early 1980s. Currently, incorporating one of the largest statewide physical union catalogs in the county, the product has undergone many changes in the past twenty years. As the format of the union catalog has moved from microfiche to CD-ROM to online, the focus of the database remained constant. The dual purposes of WISCAT remain a) To provide a source of MARC cataloging records for local libraries and b) To provide a resource sharing tool for interlibrary loan of materials. The current implementation of WISCAT includes a hybrid combination of a physical union catalog and a virtual Z39.50 union catalog.

Year	Product	Size	Budget	Milestones
1980	PLANNING ONLY	NA	NA	➤ DLS appointed an Automation Study Committee to study computerized library services in Wisconsin ➤ Hired consultant (Epstein) with LSCA funds to work with committee. ➤ Consultant report *The effective use of automation in Wisconsin libraries, 1981-1985* recommended creation of statewide union catalog (Oct. 1980) ➤ LSCA grant to write specs for statewide database
1981	PLANNING ONLY	NA	NA	➤ Issued RFP (June 1981) for development & maintenance of database and production of COM. Three vendors responded. ➤ Contract was awarded to Brodart Automation, Inc. (Sept. 1981)
1982	• Database created from available machine-readable records	NA	$200,880 TOTAL	➤ Issued *DPI Policy Statement on Library Automation* which recommended development of statewide database to include all types and sizes of libraries (Mar. 1982) ➤ Hired first WISCAT Coordinator (Bocher) June 1982 ➤ Received OCLC archival tapes (June-Sept. 1982) ➤ Merged files to create WISCAT database ➤ Included 113 OCLC libraries + 3 non-MARC tapeloads (Gateway, UW-O, Oshkosh Sch) ➤ Tested MITINET/retro with 10 test libraries
1983	• Microfiche	1.4 million titles 4.5 million holdings 139 libraries	$397,435 TOTAL $234,729 WISCAT $162,706 Retro Conversion	➤ First microfiche catalog produced March 1983 ➤ Fiche catalogs (225 copies) distributed free to participants & OCLC libraries ➤ Created COM master for Tri-County (Racine area) fiche ➤ MITINET/retro created and released for Apple II computers ➤ LSCA grants for retro conversion to 15 OCLC libraries
1984	• Microfiche	1.8 million titles 5.7 million holdings 244 libraries	$683183 TOTAL $305,000 WISCAT $378,183 Retro Conversion	➤ Fiche catalogs (244 copies) distributed free to participants & OCLC libraries ➤ Released LC fiche for matching with MITINET/retro ➤ Seven non-MARC conversions done (UW-O, UW-RF, Gateway, MATC, Madison Schools, Oshkosh Schools, Milwaukee PL, Appleton PL) ➤ First LSCA grants for retro conversion using MITINET/retro (17 Public Libs/Systems; 4 school districts; 6 academics; 2 state agency libraries) ➤ Decision announced to admit no more Non-MARC records from new libraries not already participating (Sept 1984)

Year	Product	Size	Budget	Milestones
1985	• Microfiche	2.3 million titles 8 million holdings 300 libraries	$762,860 TOTAL $247,692 WISCAT $515,168 Retro Conversion	➢ Fiche catalogs (285 copies) distributed free to participants & OCLC libraries ➢ Produced regional COMS for Door Co. and for Indianhead ➢ Four non-MARC conversions done (Gateway, Oshkosh Sch, Madison Sch) ➢ First extractions of library holdings done for local libraries (2 school libraries) ➢ Released MITINET/retro for IBM PC ➢ Began programming MITINET/marc for original input to WISCAT ➢ Electronic BBS system installed for transmission of interloan requests ➢ Interlibrary Loan Telecommunications Committee began planning for "development or purchase of software to allow for the formatting of interlibrary loan messages and creation of a database" ➢ LSCA grants for retro conversion to 61 MITINET libraries & 8 OCLC libraries (37 public; 23 school; 4 academic; 5 special)
1986	• Microfiche	2.7 million titles 10.5 million holdings 385 libraries	$835,229 TOTAL $411,676 WISCAT $423,553 Retro Conversion	➢ Fiche catalogs (356 copies) distributed free to participants & OCLC libraries ➢ MITINET/marc released for original input into WISCAT ➢ LSCA grants for retro conversion to14 libraries (12 public or systems; 2 school districts)
1987	• Microfiche	3 million titles 12.5 million holdings 468 libraries	$750,130 TOTAL $470,855 WISCAT $263,275 Retro Conversion	➢ Fiche catalogs (539 copies) distributed free to participants & OCLC libraries ➢ COLAND report *Automating Wisconsin Libraries* recommended continuing WISCAT and looking at CD-ROM format (Sept. 1987) ➢ Extractions done for 5 libraries
1988	• Microfiche • CD-ROM (4 discs)	3.2 million titles 14.4 million holdings 528 libraries	$883,826 TOTAL $518,177 WISCAT $249,649 Retro Conversion $116,000 CD-ROM pilot	➢ Libraries first charged for copies of WISCAT fiche ($185) ➢ OCLC libraries still received free microfiche copy of the catalog ➢ Prototype of first CD-ROM catalog delivered June 1988 (projected 3 discs; finalized at 4 discs) ➢ LSCA funds used for purchase of computers & CD-ROM drives for 17 libraries testing CD-ROM catalog ➢ Extractions done for 13 libraries
1989	• Microfiche • CD-ROM (4 discs)	3.5 million titles 16.3 million holdings 691 libraries	$855,827 TOTAL $636,090 WISCAT $168,287 Retro Conversion $ 51,450 CD Drives (Title I)	➢ Distributed first CD-ROM catalog. ➢ Libraries charged for microfiche WISCAT ($250) ; $80 for CD-ROM ➢ OCLC libraries still received free microfiche copy of the catalog ➢ LC Authority Control (Names only) applied to database; $35,000 in LSCA funding added to WISCAT maintenance budget for AC ➢ Created technical specs and began programming for BiblioFile/WISCAT Interface to allow input of full MARC records from BiblioFile users ➢ LSCA grants for retro conversion to57 libraries (40 public or systems; 17 school districts); first time special set aside for conversion of original records at higher rate ➢ First LSCA grants for 4 CD-ROM drives awarded to public libraries ➢ Extractions done for 38 libraries

Year	Product	Size	Budget	Milestones
1990	• Microfiche • CD-ROM (4 discs)	3.6 million titles 17.7 million holdings 770 libraries	$902,883 TOTAL $617,617 WISCAT $179,266 Retro Conversion $106,000 CD Drives (Title I)	➢ 492 fiche users; 83 CD-ROM users ➢ Libraries charged for microfiche WISCAT ($300); $80 for CD-ROM ➢ OCLC libraries no longer received free microfiche; only free CD-ROM ➢ BiblioFile Interface software introduced to allow libraries to submit BiblioFile MARC records ➢ WISCAT Quality Control Advisory Committee first meets ➢ LC Authority Control (Name and Subject) first applied ➢ MITINET/marc version 4.0 developed & released for Wisconsin libraries ➢ LSCA grants for retro conversion to14 libraries (35 public or systems; 57 school; 10 academics; 2 special) ➢ LSCA CD-ROM drive grants to 60 public libraries ➢ Extractions done for 49 libraries
1991	• Microfiche • CD-ROM (5 discs) 4 core + 1 foreign supp	3.9 million titles 19.2 million holdings 840 libraries	$832,091 TOTAL $612,946 WISCAT $119,145 Retro Conversion $100,000 CD drives (Title I)	➢ Last fully cumulated fiche catalog ➢ Libraries charged $350 for Fiche; $100 for CD-ROM ➢ OCLC libraries received fiche or CD free ➢ Added Foreign Language Supp as 5th disc ➢ Published *DLS/COWL Survey on Updating the WISCAT &OCLC Databases* ➢ Developed specifications for WisCon retrospective software ➢ LSCA CD-ROM drive grants to 43 public libraries ➢ Extractions done for 108 libraries
1992	• Microfiche New Titles Supplement only • CD-ROM (5 discs) 4 core + 1 foreign supp	4.2 million titles 20.1 million holdings 924 libraries	$726,781 TOTAL $487,803 WISCAT $105,118 Retro Conversion $100,000 CD drives (Title I) $ 33,860 CD drives (Title III)	➢ Fiche produced only as New Title Supplement to 1991 fiche (Cost $60) ➢ OCLC libraries received CD free ➢ Superintendent's WISCAT Task Force convened ➢ WisCon released in September 1992 ➢ LSCA CD-ROM drive grants to 44 public libraries ➢ First year LSCA grants of 4 CD-ROM drives given to schools (15 schools received drives) ➢ Released RFP for Interloan System; Awarded to Brodart for QuILL ➢ Extractions done for 111 libraries
1993	• CD-ROM (7 discs) 4 core + 1 foreign supp + 1 AV supp + 1 mid-year New Titles supp	4.4 million titles 22.2 million holdings 985 libraries	$663,524 TOTAL $436,759 WISCAT $ 33,884 Retro Conversion $ 75,000 CD drives (Title I) $117,881 CD drives (Title III)	➢ Added AV supplement as 6th disc ➢ Libraries purchased CDs for $140/set ➢ Published WISCAT Task Force Recommendations (January 1993) ➢ LSCA CD-ROM drive grants (4 drives) to 34 public libraries ➢ LSCA CD-ROM drive grants (4 drives) to 53 school libraries ➢ Extractions done for 80 libraries
1994	• CD-ROM (8 discs) 4 core + 1 foreign supp + 1 AV supp + 1 Gov Docs supp + 1 mid-year New Titles supp	4.7 million titles 23.3 million holdings 1057 libraries	$683,182 TOTAL $495,182 WISCAT $ 20,000 Retro Conversion $ 63,000 CD drives (Title I) $105,000 CD drives (Title III)	➢ Government Documents moved to supplement disc ➢ Quarterly New Title Supplement disc added ➢ Libraries charged $100 for CD core + $20 per supp ➢ OCLC libraries no longer get free fiche copies ➢ First local MARC annual snapshot tapeload (Gateway—Unisys) ➢ LSCA CD-ROM drive grants (4 drives) to 43 public libraries ➢ LSCA CD-ROM drive grants (4 drives) to 48 school libraries ➢ Extractions done for 88 libraries

Year	Product	Size	Budget	Milestones
1995	• CD-ROM (8 discs) 5 core + 1 foreign supp + 1 AV supp + quarterly New Title supp • QuILL	4.95million titles 23.7million holdings 1084 libraries	$691,844 TOTAL $446,194 WISCAT $ 20,000 Retro Conversion $159,000 drives (Title I) $ 66,650 drives (Title III)	➢ CD-ROM core increased to 5 discs ➢ Libraries charged $100 for CD core + $20 per supp ➢ Libraries began loading their CDs to large hard drives ➢ Rebid entire WISCAT project (including QuILL) July 1995 ➢ QuILL tested and implemented in 2 PL systems (NWLS, WVLS) ➢ LSTA retro grant to State Historical ($20,000) for Wisconsin material) ➢ Final year for CD-ROM drive grants ➢ LSCA CD-ROM drive grants (4 drives) to 67 public libraries ➢ LSCA CD-ROM drive grants (4 drives) to 23 school libraries + 3 agency libs ➢ Extractions done for 55 libraries
1996	• CD-ROM (9 discs) 5 core + 2 foreign supps + 1 AV supp + quarterly New Title supp • QuILL	5.2 million titles 25.7 million holdings 1116 libraries	$564,982 TOTAL $544,982 WISCAT $ 20,000 Retro Conversion	➢ Foreign supplement increased to 2 discs ➢ Libraries charged $110 for CD core + $20 per supp ➢ QuILL implemented in seven public library systems ➢ LSTA retro grant to State Historical ($20,000) for Wisconsin material) ➢ Added annual MARC snapshot tapeload (SCLS—Dynix) ➢ Extractions done for 55 libraries
1997	• CD-ROM (9 discs) 5 core + 2 foreign supps + 1 AV supp + 1 New Title supp • QuILL	5.6 million titles 26.3 million holdings 1125 libraries	$487,108 TOTAL	➢ CD includes 5 core discs + AV disc, 2 foreign discs, NT discs ➢ Experimented with Telnet (KERMIT) version of online WISCAT ➢ Put up password-protected Web catalog (Feb 1997); $50,000 from TIAPP grant ➢ Added annual MARC snapshot tapeload (NWLS—Library Corp) ➢ Extractions done for 28 libraries
1998	• CD-ROM (10 discs) 5 core + 2 foreign + 1 AV + quarterly New Titles + 1 serials • WWW • Interim Client • QuILL	5.9 million titles 28 million holdings 1137 libraries	$555,767 TOTAL	➢ Serials Union List issued as supplemental WISCAT disc (fall 1998) ➢ Added annual MARC snapshot tapeload (OWLS—GEAC) ➢ Interim Client distributed June 1998 (enhanced version Nov. 1998) ➢ Extractions done for 14 libraries

Year	Product	Size	Budget	Milestones
1999	• CD-ROM (10 discs) 5 core + 2 foreign +1 AV + quarterly New Titles + 1 serials • WWW • Interim Client • Client (ILL) • QuILL	6.1 million titles 29 million holdings 1255 libraries	$535,000 LSTA	➢ OCLC archival tape subscription changed to DLTCL and frequency increased to monthly ➢ Serials Union List incorporated into masterfile & issued as 10th CD ➢ Client software tested ➢ New QuILL server & Processing Center set up, tested and moved outside DPI firewall ➢ Client software distributed for Interlibrary Loan Module (Nov-Dec 1999) ➢ Added annual MARC snapshot tapeload (Winnefox—DRA) ➢ Extractions done for 34 libraries
2000	• WWW OPAC • Client (ILL Module) • Interim Client • QuILL	6.5 million titles 30 million holdings 1270 libraries	$639,700 LSTA	➢ Begin monthly catalog updates in August 2000 ➢ Begin to cumulate of full database semi-annually rather than annually ➢ Decision not to continue development of Interactive Holdings Client due to performance issues ➢ Work with Library Technology Advisory Committee (&WISCAT subcommittee) to review WISCAT updating and cost issues ➢ Extractions done for 5 libraries
2001	• WWW • Client (ILL Module) • Interim Client • QuILL	6.9 million titles 30 million holdings 1274 libraries	$575,329 LSTA	➢ Re-bid entire WISCAT project; Selected Auto-Graphics and Fretwell-Downing for joint union catalog/ILL project. Signed contracts Summer 2001 ➢ Combined WISCAT project with Linked System Project ➢ Converted database & migrate users to new system ➢ Moved & began operating WISCAT servers from Wisconsin for optimal performance ➢ Extractions halted during 2001 transition period.
2002	• WWW OPAC • Holdings Update (WWW) • ILL Management (WWW) • Z39.50 Gateway	7.1 million titles 30.9 million holdings 1255 libraries	$741,400 LSTA (WISCAT & Linked System Projects Combined)	➢ Interactive holdings update implemented January 2002 ➢ WISCAT ILL implemented March 2002 ➢ WISCAT became Z39.50 compliant ➢ License fees waived for 2002 until implementation is complete ➢ Configured Fretwell-Downing software to allow for Z39.50 searching of linked catalogs (4 local catalogs + WISCAT available via Z39) ➢ Implemented patron checking for ILL status ➢ Began WisLine Web-based training sessions (September 2002) ➢ Presented 67 training sessions for approx. 1308 attendees ➢ Implemented new Web union catalog interface from Auto-Graphics (November 2002) ➢ Extractions done for 15 libraries

Year	Product	Size	Budget	Milestones
2003	• WWW OPAC • Holdings Update (WWW) • Bib Maintenance Client for R&L • ILL Management (WWW & Win Client for R&L • Z39.50 Gateway	6.9 million titles 33 million holdings 1200 libraries	$730,651 LSTA $105,000 Local reimbursement	➤ Libraries charged $150 for staff login ➤ Ceased OCLC archival record subscription; maintained WULS subscription ➤ BETA test of patron-initiated (mediated) interloan (one month/five libraries) ➤ Implemented email patron notification ➤ Z39.50 hosts for Gateway increased from 4 hosts to 29 hosts ➤ Identified difficulty in accessing Dynix IPAC catalogs via Z39.50 protocol ➤ Implemented email alert messages for low-responder interloan participants ➤ Began testing of ISO interface between VDX and OCLC ➤ Produced extensive interloan statistics from VDX ➤ Created collection development lists from VDX ➤ Implemented UDMM for distributed quality control of union catalog ➤ Presented 35 training sessions for approx. 554 attendees ➤ Extractions done for 4 libraries
2004	• WWW OPAC • Holdings Update (WWW) • Bib Maintenance Client for R&L • ILL Management (WWW & Win Client for R&L • Z39.50 Gateway •	6.9 million titles 33 million holdings 1210 libraries	$643,200 LSTA $115,500 Local reimbursement	➤ Libraries charged $150 for staff login ➤ Conducted six mo. pilot test of mediated patron-initiated ILL with 25 libraries ➤ Hired consultant to conduct WISCAT Needs Assessment survey & focus groups ➤ Preliminary testing of ISO compatibility of VDX with OCLC ➤ Z39.50 hosts for Gateway increased from 29 hosts to 38 hosts
2005	• WWW OPAC • Holdings Update (WWW) • Bib Maintenance Client for R&L • ILL Management (WWW & Win Client for R&L • Z39.50 Gateway	7 million titles 34.5 million holdings 1211 libraries	$657,700 LSTA $115,500 Local reimbursement	➤ Libraries charged $150 for staff login ➤ Implemented password protection for Z39.50 service on WISCAT ➤ Mediated patron-initiated ILL continued & expanded with 27 libraries (including 1 sch & 5 tech colleges) ➤ Implemented VDX version 2.7.3 & patron ZPortal (Jan 2005) ➤ Interlibrary loan work group held meetings to review statewide ILL guidelines ➤ Z39.50 hosts for Gateway increased from 38 hosts to 41 hosts ➤ Testing SIP2 for patron authentication in VDX ➤ Testing rota filtering by shelf status availability and media type
2006	• WWW OPAC • Holdings Update (WWW) • Bib Maintenance Client for R&L • ILL Management (WWW & Win Client for R&L) • Z39.50 Gateway	7.1 million titles 34.9 million holdings 1202 libraries Virtual 41 Z39 hosts	$662,100 LSTA $115,500 Local reimbursement	➤ Libraries charged $150 for staff login ➤ Mediated patron-initiated ILL continued & expanded with 34 libraries (including 3 sch & 7 tech colleges) ➤ New statewide ILL guidelines published ➤ Tested ISO borrowing between VDX and OCLC ➤ Implemented ISO lending for Reference & Loan between OCLC & VDX ➤ RFP for WISCAT project (four vendors responded) ➤ Single contract for union/virtual catalog and Resoure Sharing System awarded to Auto-Graphics, Inc.

Year	Product	Size	Budget	Milestones
2007 Projected	• WWW OPAC • Holdings Update (WWW) • Bib Maintenance Client for R&L • ILL Management (WWW) • Z39.50 Gateway	Physical 7.1 million titles 35 million holdings 1205 libraries Virtual 40 Z39 hosts	641,200 LSTA $118,000 Local reimbursement	➢ Libraries charged $200 for staff login ➢ Implemented availability and policy filtering for resource sharing ➢ Implement ISO lending between OCLC & WISCAT ➢ Implement ISO lending between MINITEX (VDX) & WISCAT