

Crosswalks to The European Library Application Profiles

If the national library is using Z39.50 and (standardized) MARC 21, the gateway can convert automatically to TEL AP. But if a library is using local fields for something that needs to be included in the TEL AP - for example a link to an on-line document or a link to a display of the original catalogue record - some simple tailoring may be necessary. This type of tailoring and testing takes from a couple of hours to a day or so. Also the character should be Unicode if possible.

If the library is using Z39.50 and UNIMARC, the gateway can convert automatically to The European Library Application Profile (TEL AP)

However the conversion for UNIMARC is not as "good" as the one for MARC 21. It needs more work.

If the library is using Z39.50 and MARCXML, the gateway can pass the records, so output is also MARCXML. That should be possible in the gateway, although it has not been tested.

At the moment the gateway cannot convert MarcXML to TEL AP but here under follows an explanation for non-Marc formats. The current conversion is from ISO 2709 to the TEL AP.

Non - MARC formats

The gateway can handle other local (non-MARC) formats by writing custom code for it. For example the British Library has conversions for their sound catalogue which uses a strange, local format based on MARC. Writing the code isn't usually the difficult part. However, producing a good crosswalk between the local format and the TEL AP and testing with live data are more critical.

So if there are local formats it might represent a couple of week's of work to develop a tailored gateway depending on the quality of the MARC records. For example: providing the gateway for the Slovenian National Library took about two weeks largely because there were some errors in the records.

At this moment the gateway can also handle (via Z39.50) :

- SUTRS format : the British Library ETOC database is accessed using this format.
- XML/DC format : ISTC, ICCU and at first the DDB catalogue. If necessary the gateway changes to DC data to make it fit the TEL AP.

Using http/XML the gateway can handle :

- Google Search Appliance
- PubMed Entrez databases

All the above gateways will require some tailoring to local requirements.