



Ex Libris Joins ProQuest FAQ

General Information

About Ex Libris

Ex Libris is a leading global provider of cloud-based solutions for higher education and for research, public, and national libraries. The company offers SaaS solutions for the management and discovery of the full spectrum of library materials, as well as mobile campus services for driving student engagement and success. Ex Libris serves over 5,600 customers in 90 countries, with solutions deployed at 43 of the top 50 universities worldwide and more than 40 national libraries.

In close collaboration with its customers, Ex Libris develops innovative solutions that greatly enhance the user experience and enable libraries and academic institutions to maximize productivity and efficiency.

About ProQuest

ProQuest connects people with vetted, reliable information. Key to serious research, the company's products are a gateway to the world's knowledge, including dissertations, governmental and cultural archives, news, historical collections, and ebooks. ProQuest technologies serve users across the critical points in research, helping them discover, access, share, create, and manage information.

The company's cloud-based technologies offer flexible solutions for librarians, students, and researchers through the ProQuest®, Bowker®, Coutts® information services; Dialog®, ebrary®, EBL™, and SIPX® businesses; and notable research tools such as the Summon® discovery service, the RefWorks® citation and reference management platform, the MyiLibrary® ebook platform, the Pivot® research development tool, and the Intota™ library services



platform. The company is headquartered in Ann Arbor, Michigan, with offices around the world.

What is the rationale for the Ex Libris and ProQuest agreement?

Libraries worldwide strive to increase their value to their users and the institutions that the libraries serve. They want their content to be more discoverable and better integrated in their systems, and they want great choices that will help them improve productivity, increase their relevance, and foster collaboration.

Bringing ProQuest and Ex Libris together is an important step toward a future that offers libraries these robust choices. The companies will capitalize on their combined capabilities and expertise to accelerate investment in innovation, enhance the development of solutions and their deployment and support, and bring all-new solutions to customers more quickly and effectively.

Ex Libris will contribute to the combined group an expertise in providing software solutions to libraries of all kinds, as exemplified by the growing success of the cloud-based Ex Libris Alma® unified resource management solution, which has been implemented in hundreds of institutions worldwide, including numerous consortia. ProQuest offers extensive content solutions, a comprehensive knowledge base, and workflow solutions for research and discovery.

ProQuest and Ex Libris have each enriched libraries with many important innovations. These include OpenURL linking, discovery services, unified resource management solutions (library services platforms), and content developments such as ProQuest Ebook Central. Together, we will continue to break new ground in helping libraries meet their evolving needs.



Customers

Why is this agreement good news for customers and for libraries in general?

The joining of Ex Libris and ProQuest brings many benefits to our customers and to libraries in general. The combined talent, resources, and global presence of ProQuest and Ex Libris will further enhance the development, deployment, and support of the companies' solutions and accelerate innovation in the market.

ProQuest and Ex Libris will continue to offer and support their broad portfolio of products. Customers will have the choice of solutions that they know and trust from both organizations, including Alma, Aleph®, the bX™ recommender, Intota, Primo®, Rosetta, the Summon service, 360 Link®, SIPX®, SFX®, Voyager®, and the newly launched Leganto reading-list solution and campusM™ mobile campus solution. We will identify opportunities for delivering the best of what both companies offer and expanding features in resource management, knowledge base management, and discovery services.

There will be no change to Ex Libris products' road map, development, or support, nor will our policies regarding the openness of our solutions and content neutrality change. Furthermore, we will be able to share our expertise to provide innovative solutions in the future; Ex Libris will be able to use ProQuest's extensive knowledge base and content offerings to enhance our leading cloud-based SaaS solutions and offerings such as the Alma Community Zone.

Through these combined capabilities and expertise, investments in innovation will increase, enabling us to bring products to customers more quickly and efficiently. We will continue to introduce new solutions and services that assist customers in making their environment more productive, reducing their operating costs, providing higher levels of service, and expanding their institution's research capabilities.



Will this agreement have any impact on existing partnerships with other vendors?

Both Ex Libris and ProQuest have a record of openness and collaboration. For the benefit of customers, both companies are committed to maintaining their longstanding relationships with other organizations in the industry, such as OCLC®, Google (Google Scholar™), Gale Cengage, HARRASSOWITZ, and YBP/EBSCO. Ex Libris will continue to work on extending its current vendor partnerships as well as developing new relationships. There will be no impact on existing third-party collaboration agreements. We will continue to work on extending Alma integrations with third-party vendors and on indexing more data from additional content providers to maintain Primo content neutrality.

What about Primo and Summon?

Primo and Summon are each successfully deployed in thousands of libraries worldwide and offered as cloud-based SaaS, providing access to hundreds of millions of articles and other scholarly content from hundreds of publishers. Ex Libris and ProQuest are committed to continuing the success of these products and to further developing and supporting them. Over time, using the combined knowledge and expertise of the teams, we will identify opportunities to enhance both products to the benefit of our customers.

Primo has established a strong identity in terms of content neutrality in discovery services, in keeping with the recommended practices of the National Federation of Advanced Information Services (NFAIS)¹ and NISO Open Discovery Initiative (ODI)². There will be no policy change regarding the Primo solution's content neutrality or the Ex Libris team's active involvement in industry activities that strive toward openness and collaboration.

¹ https://nfais.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/BestPractices/recommended_practices_final_aug_2013.pdf

² http://www.niso.org/apps/group_public/download.php/14820/rp-19-2014_ODI.pdf



Organization and Management

How will the combined company be structured?

When the transaction closes, a distinct business unit called *Ex Libris, a ProQuest company*, will be formed and will report directly to the ProQuest CEO, Kurt Sanford. The new business unit will be led by Matti Shem Tov and will be supported by the Ex Libris management team along with ProQuest Workflow Solutions management.

When will the actual acquisition take place?

At this stage, ProQuest and Ex Libris have signed an agreement of mutual understanding with respect to the acquisition. However, the transaction is subject to certain regulatory approvals and will close when such approvals are granted. In the interim, the two companies will continue to operate exactly as they have been operating until now.

Business Continuity

Will this acquisition have any impact on Ex Libris customers?

Ex Libris customers will benefit from the joining of the two companies. We will continue to develop, offer, and support our full product range. There will be no change to Ex Libris products' road map, development, or support, nor will our policies regarding the openness of our solutions and content neutrality change. The Ex Libris staff will continue to provide customer support and other services in the same format as the teams do today.

ProQuest believes in the value that Ex Libris brings to libraries and is very excited about continuing to enrich Ex Libris, extend its innovative services, and introduce its solutions more widely.



Should Ex Libris customers continue to call Ex Libris for customer support and other services?

Yes. Ex Libris customers should continue to use their Ex Libris contacts for support and professional services.

Will there be a change in the location of the Ex Libris offices?

No change is anticipated in the location of Ex Libris offices worldwide. The Ex Libris headquarters and R&D center will continue to be in Jerusalem, and our regional branches will continue to operate under the leadership of the Ex Libris regional managers. The ProQuest Seattle-based development center will also be part of the business unit.

Will there be an impact on the current Ex Libris products or support?

Ex Libris will continue to offer and support its full product range, and there will be no change to Ex Libris products' road map, development, or support. We expect this union to result in the enhancement of our products and the development of innovations for our customers at a more rapid pace.

Will Ex Libris user groups continue to operate?

Yes! Both Ex Libris and ProQuest benefit from strong, active, and forward-thinking global customer bases and user groups. Ex Libris user groups, primarily IGeLU and ELUNA, are key to our ongoing success. We plan to continue our important collaboration with our user groups and customer communities.

Will the acquisition affect current service contracts, support, or upcoming renewals?

No. All agreements, including those for product and service offerings, remain in effect without any interruption.