XC NCIP Toolkit

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What is NCIP

• An extensible XML-based protocol for circulation services
• Now in its second version
• Under continuous maintenance by NCIP Standing Committee
What is the XC NCIP Toolkit?

- Part of the larger Extensible Catalog Project
- Open source - MIT license
- Java
- Three components
Toolkit Components

- A core that handles sending/receiving & parsing/validating the NCIP messages
  - Can be extended to support other encodings than XML (e.g. JSON)
  - Can be extended to support other protocols than NCIP
- A framework for ILS connectors which can implement all or some of the services
  - Two connectors currently
- A framework for clients to call NCIP servers
Toolkit

ILS-specific connector

Toolkit API
Toolkit

Client

Toolkit API

NCIP Initiator
How can libraries participate?

• Consider using the toolkit
  • As a library: install it!
    • VuFind and the Toolkit at your Voyager library
  • As a developer: use it!
    • A script that your library's web pages call to display the user's account information.
    • Write a connector for your library’s ILS
  • As a vendor: support it!
    • Expose your ILS’s circulation services so that your customers can write full-features connectors.
    • Incorporate toolkit into your software
Ways libraries can use the toolkit

• **Discovery Tools**
  - Display item availability, holdings, patron information
  - Renew items, Place holds
  - VuFind, Extensible Catalog

• **Resources Sharing**
  - Request Items, Checkout, Check-in
  - Lehigh - Relais
  - Orbis Cascade - Evergreen
Further Resources

NCIP Standard Site
http://ncip.info

XC NCIP Toolkit project site
http://code.google.com/p/xcncip2toolkit/