
UX, Accessibility, Infrastructure & LibOW

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User Experience, Accessibility, Infrastructure & Library Open Workflows

Overview

User Experience

Alma is designed to have a modern and intuitive interface. We aim to allow the user to be efficient and to ensure that workflows are as simple as possible. We also take accessibility into consideration, with the goal of enabling people with disabilities to easily use the software.

Accessibility

At Ex Libris, we make every effort to ensure that Alma can be used by everyone. Alma is designed and developed to meet Level A and AA of the W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.2 AA) and Section 508 of the US Rehabilitation Act for features and functions. See the [Alma Accessibility Statement](#).

Library Open Workflows (LibOW)

[Library Open Workflows \(LibOW\)](#) is a no/low code tool for automating processes and creating custom integrations via a drag-and-drop interface within Alma. This subscription solution allows Alma users to easily leverage the Library Open Platform capabilities – creating connections between elements like APIs, Webhooks, Cloud apps, Forms, external systems, even AI models and AI agents – without the need for deep coding knowledge or development tools. Roadmap outlines enhancements for improved and seamless integration with Alma. See [Developer Network - Library Open Workflows](#).

Roadmap

2026 H1	2026 H2	2027 H1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LibOW: Unlimited Retrieve Bibs Operation LibOW: Consortia Member Can Trigger Network-Level Workflows Accessibility: Annual Conformance Report (VPAT) Menu Search Enhancement: Support 'Similar Terms' Functionality in French Language Enhanced Audit Trail: Tracking Staff IDs for Manual Jobs and Key Acquisition Workflows 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LibOW: LibOW Usage Analytics in Alma LibOW: Workflow Execution Tracking Add NOT Operator to Advanced Search Support Catalog Fuzzy Search Support Alert Sounds for Notification Messages (Success, Info, Warning, Error) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keyboard Shortcut Personalization - Standardized Behavior and Configurable Shortcuts

2026 H1



LibOW: Unlimited Retrieve Bibs Operation

What's New	Highlights	Impact
<p>The Retrieve Bibs API via the Alma API node will support handling unlimited number of bibliographic records.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply any number of IDs in one call. Aggregated results returned as a single dataset. 	<p>Simplifies workflows for large scale bibliographic retrieval, eliminating manual batching and boosting developer productivity.</p>

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LibOW: Consortia Member Can Trigger Network-Level Workflows

What's New	Highlights	Impact
<p>Consortia members will be able to use form-initiated workflows created by LibOW of the Network zone, from within their Alma institution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central Workflow Publishing: Network institution will create and manage form initiated workflows for members Cloud App Integration: Workflows list both local and network-provided 	<p>Consortia benefit from centralized workflow expertise, empowers consortium libraries to leverage shared automation, reducing redundant configuration and fostering collaboration, while maintaining clear governance and security across all member institutions.</p>

What's New	Highlights	Impact
	<p>workflows for easy selection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permission Controls: Only authorized members' users can see and execute designated network workflows • Unified Execution: Consortia members trigger central workflows without leaving their own Alma environment • Audit Logging: All consortia wide workflow runs are tracked in the execution history 	

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Accessibility: Annual Conformance Report (VPAT)

What's New	Highlights	Impact
<p>An updated Conformance Report on the newest compliance with WCAG 2.2 Levels A and AA, covering the new layout.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new Conformance Report for WCAG 2.2 AA based on a third-party leading accessibility company audit. • Update compliance after enhancements. • Report on existing exceptions. • Covers the new layout. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparency regarding accessibility compliance. • Easier to use by individuals with disabilities.

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Menu Search Enhancement: Support 'Similar Terms' Functionality in French Language

What's New	Highlights	Impact
<p>Support "similar terms" functionality in French language.</p>	<p>Search-matching capabilities for non-identical terms in French language. Note: The additional languages will be coordinated with the relevant Alma user community.</p>	<p>The librarian will be able to find relevant entries in the menu based on a standard term in the same language as the interface language.</p>

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Enhanced Audit Trail: Tracking Staff IDs for Manual Jobs and Key Acquisition Workflows



CERV Enhancement (ID #36485)

What's New	Highlights	Impact
Alma will now capture and display the Primary ID of the staff member who initiates manual jobs and selected acquisition workflows (Initiating packaging and sending POLs), replacing the generic "System" attribution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Manual jobs record initiating user's Primary ID in audit fields ("Created by," "Modified by," "Updated by").Packaging and POL sending workflows attribute actions to the staff Primary ID.Exact details scoped to manual and acquisition workflows for reliable delivery.	Customers gain precise workload metrics for rostering and trend analysis, and can rapidly contact the responsible staff for troubleshooting, improving operational efficiency and support responsiveness.

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2026 H2



LibOW: LibOW Usage Analytics in Alma

What's New	Highlights	Impact
A new subject area in Alma Analytics will provides reporting on Library Open Workflow usage, enabling insights into frequency, operators, and efficiency metrics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Filter and group data by department, workflow type, or time periodCombine LibOW metrics with other Alma data for integrated reporting	This enhancement allows institutions to evaluate the impact of workflow automation, demonstrate time savings, and support data-driven operational decisions.

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LibOW: Workflow Execution Tracking

What's New	Highlights	Impact
<p>A new monitoring interface will provide real-time visibility into all Library Open Workflow executions. Each run will be logged with user attribution, timestamps, and status.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View detailed execution history for each workflow • Includes initiating user ID (where applicable) • Filter by workflow name, status, and date range • Exportable logs for audit or analysis purposes 	<p>Customers will gain transparency into workflow usage, enabling easier debugging, auditing, and tracking of automation patterns over time.</p>

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Add NOT Operator to Advanced Search



CERV Enhancement (ID #36492)

What's New	Highlights	Impact
<p>Libraries will be able to exclude a group of search conditions using the NOT operator in Advanced Search.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enables group-level Boolean logic, allowing entire groups of conditions to be excluded with a single toggle. • New UI elements will indicate when groups are excluded, with easy toggle controls. 	<p>Provides more accurate search results with less effort, especially for complex queries.</p>

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Support Catalog Fuzzy Search



CERV Enhancement (ID #36332)

What's New	Highlights	Impact
<p>The Basic Search will be able to offer fuzzy search suggestions using a "Did you mean?" feature.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The system will automatically detect likely typos and propose corrected terms to the user. • Suggestions will be linguistically appropriate, aligned with the interface language. • Users will be able to dismiss the "Did You Mean?" suggestion and proceed with their original search. 	<p>Enhances search accuracy and user experience by reducing failed searches, supporting multilingual environments, and allowing flexible configuration.</p>

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[Support Alert Sounds for Notification Messages \(Success, Info, Warning, Error\)](#)



Idea Exchange

What's New	Highlights	Impact
<p>Alma will introduce a unified sound configuration framework that allows institutions to manage notification and alert sounds from a single location. Administrators will be able to define institution-level defaults, while optional user-level settings provide individualized control when enabled.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Sound Configuration page under Configuration Menu > General > User Interface Settings • Institution-level management of system sounds, including fly-in messages (success, error, info, warning) • Dedicated controls for fulfillment alert sounds integrated into the new configuration page 	<p>This enhancement simplifies how institutions manage audible notifications, improving consistency and reducing administrative overhead. Libraries gain a clearer and more flexible framework for controlling system and fulfillment sounds, while end users benefit from optional personal customization. A unified design streamlines workflows and supports a more accessible and predictable user experience.</p>

What's New	Highlights	Impact
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optional user-level sound management, controlled by an admin permission toggle • Support for default sounds, sound previews, and a Reset to Default action • Removal of the legacy Fulfillment sounds configuration page, migrated into the new unified interface • Full accessibility support 	

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2027 H1

Keyboard Shortcuts Personalization - Standardized Behavior and Configurable Shortcuts

What's New	Highlights	Impact
<p>Enhancement to the keyboard shortcuts framework to deliver consistent shortcut behavior, clearer structure, and improved customization options.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shortcut actions will trigger only after releasing the Alt key, aligning pages with the NG interaction model. • Additional shortcuts will be introduced, for the various functional areas of Alma. • Users will be able to customize shortcuts within the provided list. 	<p>The updated framework ensures predictable shortcut behavior and a structured way for institutions to manage and optimize keyboard workflows. Users benefit from greater clarity and customization.</p>

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