

Migration Update

August 23, 2017

I had a lengthy discussion this morning with Lorrie Butler who is head of product development at Carl. Our current four letter (plus delivery number) agency codes are not supported by Carl, and we required the necessary changes to support our current agency codes in the contract. Their original plan had been to create our test database with temporary agency codes and replace them with the current codes once the programming changes had been completed, but they are farther along in the process than expected and the programming changes will be completed by November. Rather than starting with temporary codes and changing to the permanent codes partway through the process, they feel it would be better to delay the start of the project by six weeks and begin the data conversion with the agency codes we will be using in the live database. The data in the test database will look exactly as it will in the live system and it will be easier for TLN staff to see problems and have them corrected. TLN staff has discussed the recommendation and we feel that this makes a lot of sense. Some of you may remember the problems we had when SirsiDynix changed our agency codes to include the delivery numbers and you will probably agree that this is a logical decision.

Once the data conversion is started, we need approximately six months for system design, testing, and training, so we will plan to do the final data extract and conversion over Memorial Day weekend. There will be no system available for use Saturday May 26, Sunday May 27, and Monday May 28 and libraries will begin using Carl for daily activities on Tuesday May 29. None of the shared system libraries are scheduled to be open on Sunday or Monday, and only about half planned to be open on Saturday, so this should minimize the inconvenience to the libraries and their patrons.

We estimate that staff training will take place in early April so weather should not be a major concern for travel.

I cannot offer a 100% guarantee that May 29 will be our live date, but the more I learn, the more confident I become that our predictions are accurate. We will receive a new detailed timeline from Carl next week, but for those who are planning their 2018 calendars now, I want to keep you updated with our most accurate and current information.

Please contact me with any questions.

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