Changes to MDS-Serials File

Due to transitions in the processing environment of CONSER records exported from the OCLC WorldCat database to the Library of Congress, subscribers to MDS-Serials will notice some minor changes, beginning no earlier than the March 1, 2016 weekly distribution:

1. Codes in MARC field 040 (Cataloging source) found in serial and integrating resource records will now reflect OCLC member symbols rather than MARC organization codes. OCLC provides a searchable directory of OCLC members in order to identify institutions represented by OCLC symbols (http://www.oclc.org/contacts/libraries.en.html). OCLC symbols are already found in field 040 of bibliographic records derived from OCLC in other MDS bibliographic distribution products.

2. There will be an increase in the number of records distributed each week, as more categories of updated CONSER records will be candidates for export from OCLC. This will allow the MDS-Serials file to be more closely synchronized with the CONSER database.

3. Subscribers will find that some records will be larger than versions distributed under the older environment that had more stringent limitations on record length.

Comments and questions may be sent to the Policy & Standards Division at policy@loc.gov

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For more information about CDS Products, contact:
Library of Congress   ●   Cataloging Distribution Service   ●   Customer Services
Washington, DC 20540-4910 USA   ●   Phone: (202) 707-6100   ●   Fax: (202) 707-1334
Email: cdsinfo@loc.gov   ●   Web: www.loc.gov/cds