



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CARLI's 89 I-Share Libraries Go Live on Alma Primo VE Library Services Platform**

On June 24, 2020, the libraries of the eighty-nine institutions participating in I-Share, the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois' shared library platform, went live on Ex Libris' Alma Primo VE. The successful migration of the I-Share libraries concludes a multi-year process of product selection, planning, data migration and review, configuration testing, and training. This shared system will provide an intuitive search and delivery interface for users, improve library collaboration and resource sharing across all institutions, and streamline the management of physical and electronic collections.

The new Primo VE library catalog allows users discovery and access through a single search interface to full-text resources, including e-journals, e-books, online streaming audio and video, conference literature, technical reports, and other electronic and physical collections. Each I-Share library can provide a customized Primo VE experience that provides access to their own collection as well as the collections of the other I-Share libraries. Students, faculty and staff of the I-Share institutions will continue to be able to borrow materials from any I-Share library, onsite, or remotely with quick library-to-library delivery through Illinois' Illinois Library Delivery Service (ILDS).

The cloud-based Alma platform replaces an Ex Libris Voyager system that CARLI has operated since 2002. It supports a variety of library services including acquisitions, collection management, fulfillment, resource sharing, powerful reporting and analytics, and supports single sign-on, so patrons will be able to use their institutional login credentials to access their library account and request materials instead of a requiring a separate library-specific ID and password.

"We look forward to Alma helping CARLI extend and expand the resource sharing and collaborative programs that our consortium has offered our members for 40 years," said CARLI Senior Director Anne Craig. "I am tremendously grateful to the staff of our 89 I-Share libraries, the Ex Libris project staff, and to the CARLI staff, who went above and beyond in completing the seemingly endless tasks involved in an implementation of this size and complexity. They all share the credit this major milestone—bringing 89 libraries all online at one time. Their efforts are representative of the kind of collaborative work that continues to make CARLI a successful and thriving library consortium."

CARLI I-Share library patrons have easy access to a consortial collection that ranks among the world's largest research libraries, including over 38 million items, and serves over half a million students, faculty, and staff at 89 participating institutions. For more information about I-Share, visit <https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/i-share>.



#### **About the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois**

The Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI) provides library services and support to 128 Illinois public universities, community colleges, private colleges and universities, and special libraries. CARLI fosters cooperation among Illinois academic and research libraries, and encourages innovation and excellence in the development of collaborative programs, products and services. For more information, visit <http://www.carli.illinois.edu>.