BrowZine

What Is It?

Developed as a subscription service by Third Iron, Inc., BrowZine provides access to thousands of scholarly journals in a unique, visually immersive browsing environment. Journals are arranged by subject, and can be keyword searched by title or subject, allowing for serendipitous discovery. Researchers can discover new titles they didn't know your library offers and stay up to date by browsing tables of contents, while novice researchers can readily browse titles in their field to get ideas for a research paper and explore new areas. Also available as an app download for Android and Apple mobile devices (go to http://thirdiron.com/download/).

How Might It Relate to SFX?

BrowZine needs a complete list of journal holdings data (including title and ISSN) from which to build its service for your library. A logical source for this data is the SFX KB. A key aspect to this need is that it is ongoing, not just a one-time initial setup, to ensure that the journal data presented through the service is kept current.

How Can SFX Be Integrated with BrowZine?

There are two ways in which SFX can be integrated with BrowZine: manual load, and automated load. The latter option is what is preferred because it is less effort, and CARLI is prepared to enable this process upon request. Each week, Third Iron accesses a zipped output file of journal holdings from SFX and recreates the data it uses to power BrowZine for your library. In this way, all of the data upon which BrowZine is based is kept current for library users.

Are There Pros and Cons for Integrating SFX with BrowZine?

Yes, definitely.

Pros
- If your library subscribes to the BrowZine service, it makes sense to figure out a way to ensure that journal holdings data in that service is as complete as possible, and SFX is a logical source for that data.
- The ability to set this data load process between SFX and BrowZine to work automatically ensures accuracy and efficiency.
- BrowZine support is well versed in how to make this process work and is quite responsive to any support needs.

Cons

- BrowZine does not yet support all possible journals made available through SFX. This is not a limitation of SFX but of the way in which BrowZine works. In Wheaton College's case, as an example, this means that only about 40% of journals available via SFX actually get represented in the BrowZine service. Third Iron provides a [clear explanation](#) of why this happens.
- Your library needs to work with CARLI Support to enable the automated process. Once that's in place, however, it just works.
- The data sync happens weekly. In some cases this may not be quick enough.

Where Is More Information?

General information about BrowZine is available at http://thirdiron.com. A support knowledgebase is available at http://support.thirdiron.com/knowledgebase.

Information about how to set up data syncing between SFX and BrowZine is available at http://support.thirdiron.com/knowledgebase/articles/360185-sfx-self-hosted-automatic-sync. You will also need to create a support ticket with CARLI Support to get this working as desired.