PLUS newsletter

all about Knowledge Base+

January 2016

About the KB+ newsletter

The newsletter will keep you updated with information related to KB+, details of events we are running and aspects of KB+ functionality.

Please let us know what type of information you find useful and would like to see included by emailing us at: knowledgebaseplus@jisc.ac.uk

About Knowledge Base+

Knowledge Base+ (at jisc-collections.ac.uk/KnowledgeBasePlus) is a Jisc service within the Digital Resources Directorate.

Knowledge Base+ is a shared service which aims to help UK libraries manage their e-resources more efficiently by providing accurate publication, subscription, licence and management information.

News

We are pleased to welcome a new Data Manager to KB+, Anita Martin from the University of Nottingham.

As highlighted in our September KB+ Newsletter you are now able to mark a title as core within KB+ and this information is then shared with the JUSP service on a regular basis. We have recorded two webinars to help institutions understand how this new functionality works

The core titles webinars are available to view at jisc-collections.ac.uk/KnowledgeBasePlus/Help/User-guides

If you have any further questions or comments please contact us at knowledgbaseplus@jisc.ac.uk

KB+ one-day workshops

We are continuing our popular free KB+ one-day workshops, through 2016, in venues across the country. Following the positive feedback from last year's workshop, attended by over 80 librarians from different institutions, we will continue updating attendees with information about the new developments from our latest release, offer practical exercises on using KB+ and provide an opportunity to answer any of your queries.

» **10th February** – Sheffield (11:00am – 3:30pm)

» **20th April** – Birmingham (11:00am – 3:30pm)

» **22nd June** – London (11:00am – 3:30pm)

» **14th September** – Dundee (11:00am – 3:30pm)

» **9th November** – Bristol (11:00am – 3:30pm)

Please see jisc-collections.ac.uk/KnowledgeBasePlus/News-and-events/Events-and-training/KB-training-workshop for further details and to book a place.

KB+ monthly webinars

Watch out for our new KB+ monthly webinars. Each webinar will focus on a different area of KB+ and give the opportunity to ask questions, comment and provide feedback. Further details will be available on our website, mailing list and Twitter account. Our first hour long monthly webinar focusing on the "Titles" module is on the 27th January at 2.00 pm

Saving Time Populating your KB+ Account

Whether you are adding data to KB+ for the first time, or you want to add new information from reports or records you already have locally, the KB+ team are available to make populating and managing your KB+ data as easy as possible.

Over the last 2 years the KB+ team has gained substantial experience in helping institutions populate their account with licence and subscription information.

To give some examples:

We have helped institutions extract information from reports from their subscription agent, and used this data to create subscriptions within KB+. In undertaking this we enhance the information provided by the institutions with valid ISSNs, ensure all the titles are in KB+ and then upload the information based on any specific requirements from the institution – for example, annotating each subscription with the name of the vendor for ease of identification.

We have also worked with institutions adding licence information. We are currently working with an institution to automatically create licences for packages where there is no current licence in KB+. Based on a spreadsheet supplied by the institution the licences

and licence properties will be created.

We have taken lists of core titles supplied to institutions by publishers, and used this to ensure all maintained title list information in KB+ is correct and up to date. Core titles only ever need editing when there is a change – there is no need to update Core titles each year when there are no changes.

These examples have had a positive impact to the KB+ community:

1. Working with institutions to automatically populate their accounts has helped us gain a better understanding of how KB+ is being used and how it can be improved.

2. Where new titles and packages are added to KB+ this benefits the whole KB+ community as they immediately get access to the same information.

Please contact us at knowledgebaseplus@jisc.ac.uk if you need help populating your KB+ account with information about your subscriptions, core titles and licences. If you already have key information, for example in a spreadsheet, we can use this to automatically add the information to KB+ saving you time and resource.

KB+ release 5.0

In October 2015 we launched a new release of KB+ with further enhancements and new functionality based on valuable feedback from the user community. The knowledge base has also continued to grow with the addition of more licences, titles and packages, as well as information on open access and hybrid titles.

An enhancement is the ability to easily locate relevant information. For example, when looking at a licence you are now presented with the properties table first, showing you exactly what the licence permits. The navigation on our public exports page has been greatly improved, allowing easier access to all the title lists in KB+ as well as providing an export of the list in the latest KBART standard.

We have also expanded functionality, especially with regards to licences. New exports have been introduced, enabling you not only to search across your licences based on a property, but also to export a list of packages/titles associated with those licences. For example, you could use KB+ to generate a list of titles which allow walk-in access.

The licence comparison tool has also been improved, with the addition of more detail and further expansion on the terms of the licence providing a much greater breadth when running the comparison. You can also now compare your own licences as well as the template licences in the knowledge base, using the simpler KB+ licence properties table.

Other new features include the ability to unlink a package from a subscription in order to easily rectify any errors made when creating a subscription or reflect changes to the subscription. We have also introduced the ability to link to a subscription from the licence screen and to copy a licence directly from the licence screen.

More developments are scheduled for 2016, especially regarding the inclusion of financial information in KB+, and we look forward to sharing these with you in our future newsletters.

Find out what **Knowledge Base+** can do for your library today

Contact us:

Support: **knowledgebaseplus@jisc.ac.uk**   Mailing list: **KBPLUS_UPDATES** (Jisc Mail)

Twitter: **@JISCKBPlus**

Blog: **knowledgebaseplus.wordpress.com**

Screencasts: **jisc-collections.ac.uk/KnowledgeBasePlus/Help/Video-screencasts**

User guides: **jisc-collections.ac.uk/KnowledgeBasePlus/Help/User-guides**

For more information about the Jisc Digital Resources Directorate: **jisc.ac.uk/content**

Our next newsletter will be sent out in May 2016. If you have any comments on this newsletter, or would like to contribute to the next one, please contact us.

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