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Batch Withdrawing Items in Alma

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Batch Withdrawing Items in Alma

This workflow is used for the UCF Libraries' deaccession project to batch withdraw single and/or multiple items and volumes in records in Alma.

Part I. Create to-be-withdrawn List and Consider Different Scenarios

In general scenario, the to-be-withdrawn items will be divided by call numbers or call number ranges. The lists can be created using Alma Analytics. The items on the lists can be arranged into mixed records set which contain both single item/volume records and multiple item/volumes records, and they can also be divided as single item/volume set and serial (multiple volumes) set.

Compile information in spreadsheet for to-be-withdrawn items, and some essential bibliographic information includes Title, Publisher, Publication Date, Edition, Permanent Call Number, Barcode, MMS Id, and OCLC Control Number. Columns can also be added to indicate withdraw status, such as "Withdrawn?Y/N", "Found on Shelf?Y/N" and "Notes".

Analyze the To-be-withdrawn List

If the set is a mixed record set, in analyzing the spreadsheet, first highlight duplicate MMS Ids for the "MMS Id" column via the following steps:

Select the cells you want to check for duplicates, in this case, it is "MMS Id";

Select Home > Conditional Formatting > Highlight Cells Rules > Duplicate Values;

In the box next to "values with", pick the formatting you want to apply to the duplicate values, and then select OK.

Now the records with more than 1 occurrence under MMS Id are highlighted, and these are multiple item/volume records. In other words, this title has more than one barcode to be withdrawn.

									multiple		
		Publication		Permanent Call			OCLC Control	Withdrawn	(count	Withdrawn?	Found on
1 Title (Complete)	Publisher	Date	Edition	Number	Barcode	MMS Id	Number (035a)	subsets	MMS Ids)	Y/N	Shelf? Y/N
472 Books designed by Bruce	New York Public L	1955.		Z232.R67 B66 1955	32103011154378	990302718740306596	2666586	1	1	Υ	Υ
473 Written by hand / Aubrey	George Allen and	1951.		Z43 .W467 1951	32103011337536	990303333630306596	1488997	1	1	Υ	Υ
474 The complete	Dover Publication	1999.		Z43 .W9 1999	32103011011990	990303389390306596	41185085	1	1	Y	Υ
475 Digital color and type /	RotoVision	2002.		Z258 .C37 2002	32103011590449	990303810170306596	51528156	1	1	Y	Υ
476 Typography now two :	Trade distributors	1998, c1996.		Z246 .T97 1998	32103011397175	990304340340306596	40434131	1	1	Y	Υ
477 Introduction to digital	Thomson/Delmar	c2002.		Z286.E43 B47 2002	32103011522046	990304362480306596	49874367	1	1	Y	Υ
478 New markets for printed	Common Ground	2002.		Z533.3 .N48 2002	32103011554882	990304534260306596	50629871	1	1	Υ	Υ
479 Apart from the text /	Oak Knoll Press; P	1998.	1st ed.	Z151.5 .R68 1998	32103009265111	990204677380306596	40691631	1b	2	Υ	Υ
480 Apart from the text /	Oak Knoll Press; P	1998.	1st ed.	Z151.5 .R68 1998	32103009796644	990204677380306596	40691631	1b	2	Υ	Υ
481 Historia de la imprenta	Fondo Histórico y	1958-		Z212 .M47 1958 v.1	32103008899167	990217689300306596	511536	1b	2	Υ	Υ
482 Historia de la imprenta	Fondo Histórico v	1958-		Z212 .M47 1958 v.2	32103008899175	990217689300306596	511536	1b	2	Υ	Υ

Adding the Withdrawn Number to the Local Stats Field

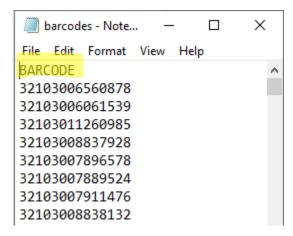
Next, count the occurrences of the MMS Ids for each record, for example, if your MMS Id is in column G, type "=COUNTIF(G:G, G2)" to count the occurrence of the first MMS Id in the column. Sort this column by "A-Z", and the count outcome with value "1" will be on the top. Meanwhile, you'll need to exclude the ones which are not on shelf in the counting. This information is collected for adding the withdrawn copy number for each title in the local statistics field 996.

You can create a single item/volume set for the records with MMS Ids count equals to "1", and create a set for the remaining records and call it "multi-vol" set. The original whole set can be withdrawn together, or separately as two sets. To have the separate sets will help you to edit the MARC records for the statistics information.

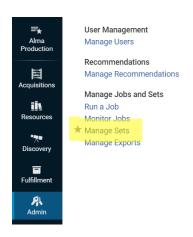
First, we'll describe withdrawing single item/volume and multiple volumes separately.

Part II. Batch Withdraw items in Alma

Create a text file of barcodes for multiple volume items in records that you want to withdraw. Give the list a header of "BARCODE".



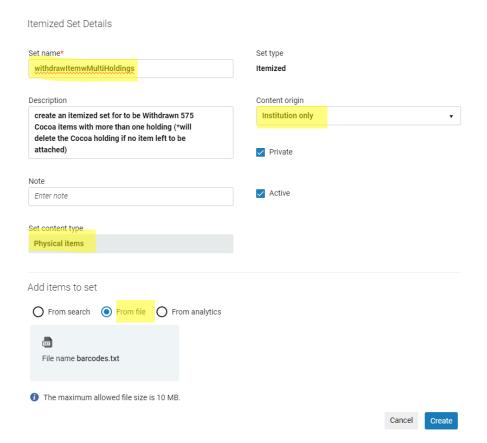
Go to Alma Admin - Manage Sets.



Select "Create Itemized Set"

Manage Sets (1 - 20 of 82)

Create Itemized Set Create Logical Set



Create an itemized set to be withdrawn.

Name your set

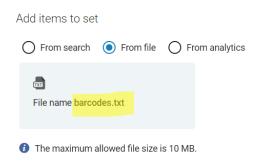
Optional: Add a description or note

Set the content type to Physical Items

Set Private=Yes

Set Status=Active

Set Content Origin=Institution only



Under "Add Contents to Set"

- Select "From File"
- Add your file by selecting the folder icon, load the file "barcodes.txt"

Select "Save"



An itemized set is created.

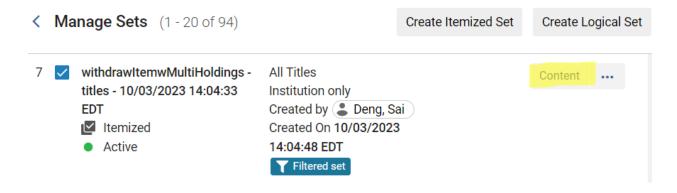
Before you run the withdraw, you'll want to create a titles list from the itemized list to export the MARC bibliographic records for editing.

Create A Titles Set

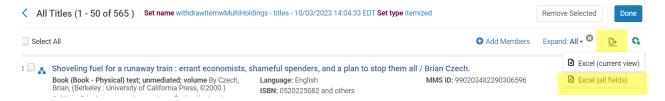
On the Manage Sets page, click ... in the itemized set, choose "Create titles set":



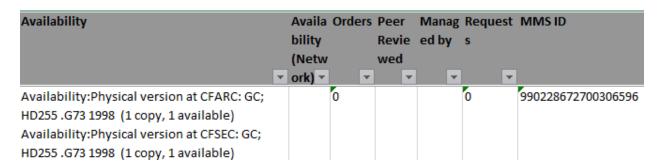
Check the titles set, click "Content":



After clicking "Content" on the right side of your set name under "Manage Sets", it'll open a new screen with all titles in the set. You can export the whole set as a spreadsheet. Click the export icon on the top right of your screen, choose "Excel (all fields)":



This will export a spreadsheet with full fields for the set. The "Availability" field provides the holding and item information. Later, after the withdraw, export the same title list, and check the "Availability" status again.



On the Manage Sets page, select Admin - Run a Job.



Search "withdraw" and find the "Withdraw physical items" job. Select the "Withdraw Physical items" job, click "Next".



Select your set and click "Next".

*If you don't see your set, search for your set from the Name search on the "Run a Job – Select Set" page.

Cancel Next Run a Job - Enter Task Parameters Task Parameters: Withdraw items 0 How to handle Keep holdings and bibliographic records holdings without items and O Delete holdings; delete bibliographic records that have no other holdings bibliographic records? * O Suppress holdings from publishing; suppress bibliographic records that have no other holdings from publishing Delete holdings; suppress bibliographic records that have no other holdings from publishing Do not withdraw items with active requests Do not withdraw items with nonactive requests in the queue Do not withdraw items with work orders Send work order cancellation letter to operator

Select the following task parameters:

- "Delete holdings; suppress bibliographic records that have no other holdings"
- "Do not withdraw items with active requests"
- "Do not withdraw items with non-active requests in the queue"
- "Do not withdraw items with work orders"

Select Next.

Confirmation Message

You are about to run a job which will affect 571 members of the set. This cannot be reversed. Do you want to continue?



Review and Confirm your job.

Select Submit.

Confirm your job.

You will be taken to the Monitor Jobs page, you can refresh the page to see your job status, or go to the History tab and search for your job name.

Set name:

withdrawItemwMultiHoldings

Total added to set: 571

Non-matched Records: 4

Total failed for technical reasons: 0

Download error file: sets-11295572610006596.csv

Please note that the 4 non-matched records are records with items already withdrawn in the previous single item under single holding test.

When your job completed successfully, it will have a status with a green checkmark.



You can check one or two records from the set in Alma to verify if the physical items indicated by the above barcode set have been withdrawn. In this case, the Cocoa holding will not display anymore or display with less items.

After withdrawing, click the titles set, click "Content" to open it.

Export a spreadsheet with full fields for the set. Check the "Availability" field again. If the "Availability" field has become blank, it means that there are no holdings, no items or electronic portfolios left for the title and the records should have been suppressed. Copy the MMS IDs for these records out, and create a set. These records will need to be unlinked from the NZ after the bibliographic records update and have their OCLC holdings deleted. For serial records with retained items, their holding statements will need to be updated.

Run the same withdraw steps for records with single volumes. Some people prefer to run the withdraw jobs for single item/volume and multiple item/volumes separately for clarity. However, the whole set can be withdrawn together in one withdraw job, but they'll need to be batch edited as different sets in MarcEdit because the stats information for the 996 field is different.

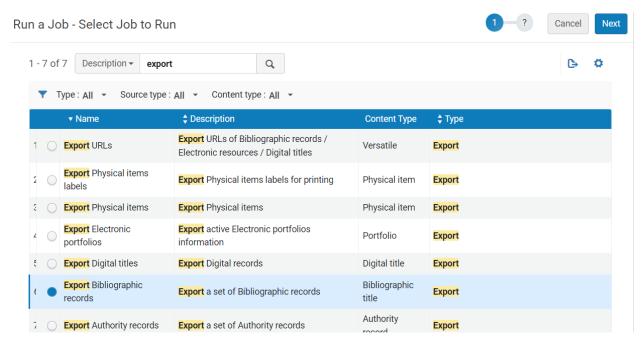
Part III. Batch update 996 (Stats field) in the bibliographic records

You can export the title set as described in part II. Single item/volume set, and multiple items/volumes set can be exported and updated separately.

For records with multiple item/volumes withdrawn, its MMS Ids count in the spreadsheet will equal to "2", "3" or more; you can create individual sets for them for batch update in MarcEdit. If the number of records is small, you can create one set called, for example, "multi-vol" and update them individually in MarcEdit.

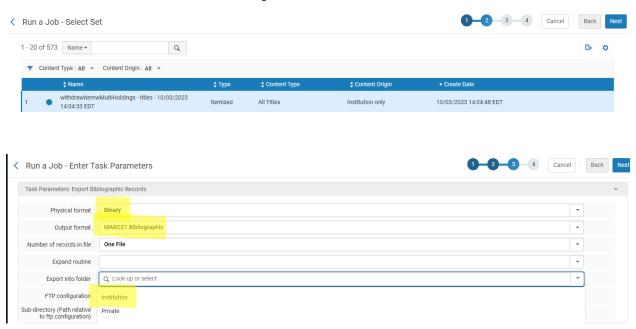
Go to Alma Admin – Run a job.

Select "Export Bibliographic records". Search "export" to find the job name. Click "Next".

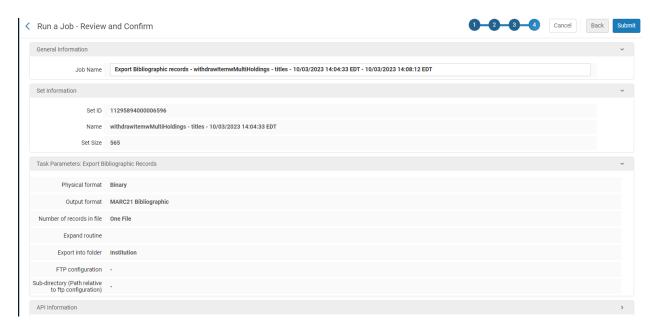


If you don't see the withdrawn set, you'll need to turn the itemized set into titles set first.

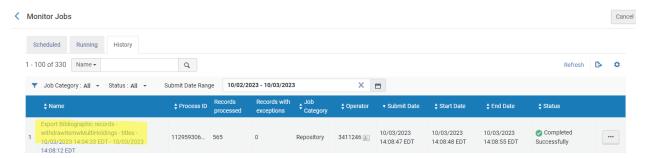
Check the set "withdrawltemwMultiHoldings - titles", click "Next".



Enter task parameters, and click "Next".



Submit the job.

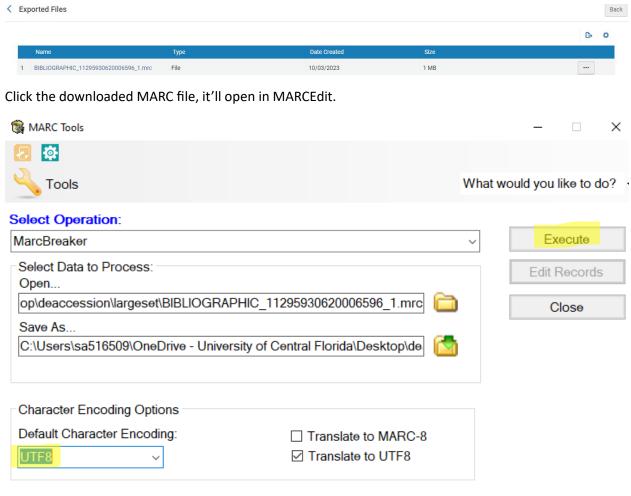


The "Monitor Jobs" screen indicates that the job is completed.

Click the job name on the left and download the exported file.

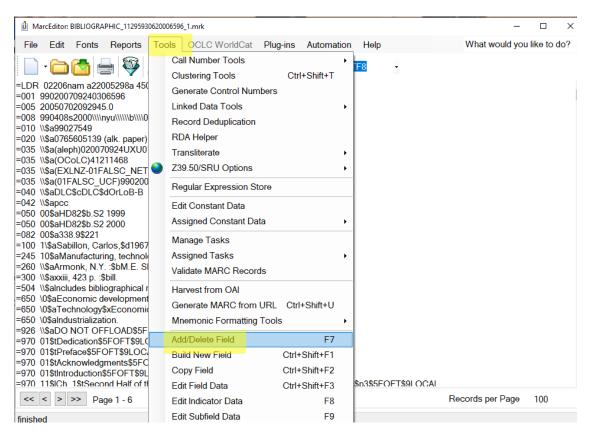


Download the bibliographic file.

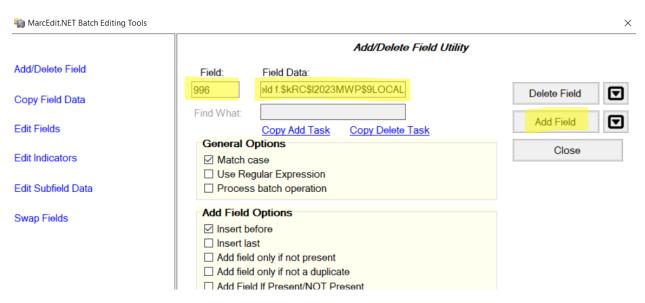


Results:

Click "Execute". Now the MARC file is transformed to MARC text file. Click "Edit Records" to open the file.



Click "Tools – Add/Delete Field" to open the "Add/Delete Field Utility" screen.



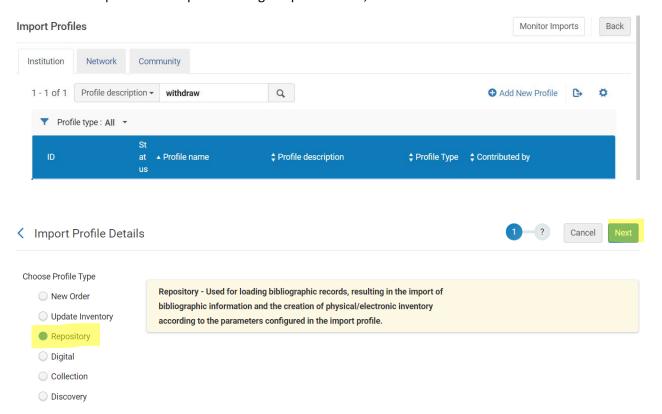
Add "996" under "Field", add field values, for example, "\\\$a2024-01-31\\$b3411246\\$cw\\$dw\\$ew\\$f1\\$gc\\$h0\\$i0\\$jWithdrawal. Enter # of volumes in subfield f.\\$RC\\$|2023MWP\\$9LOCAL" under "Field Data". Click "Add Field".

Save the MARC text file and compile it to MARC file.

Part IV. Create the Batch Import Profile

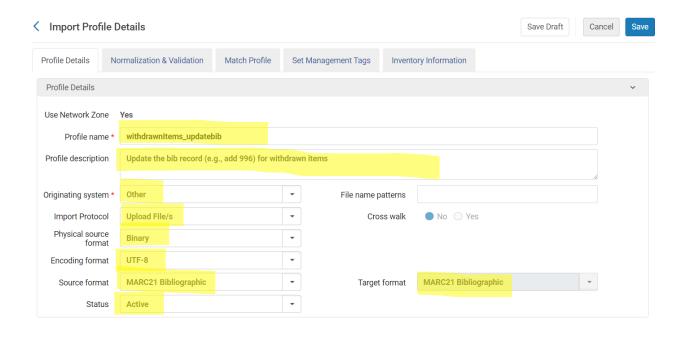
To add the edited records back, you will need to run the Batch Import Profile. It only needs to be created once.

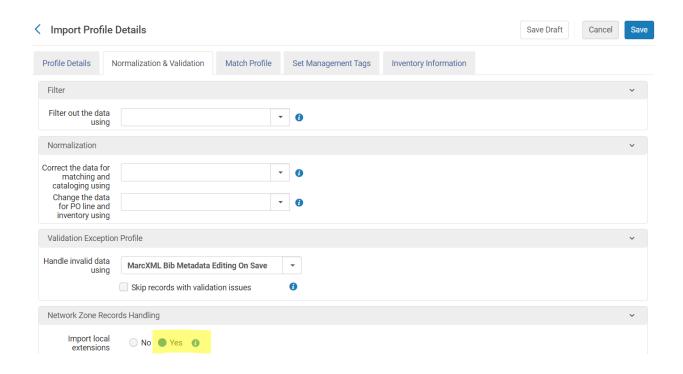
Go to Alma Acquisitions - Import - Manage Import Profiles, click "+ Add New Profile".

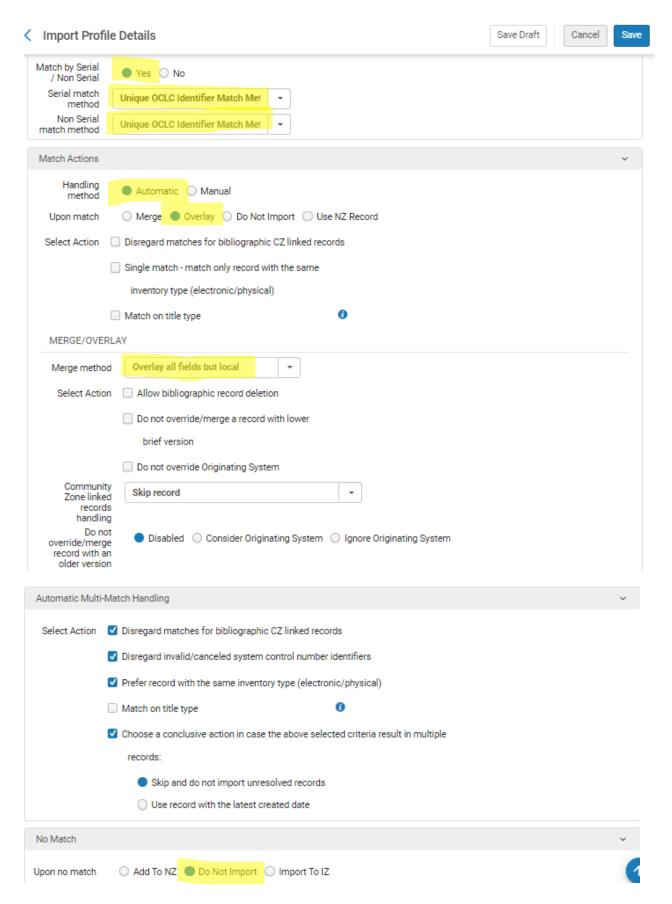


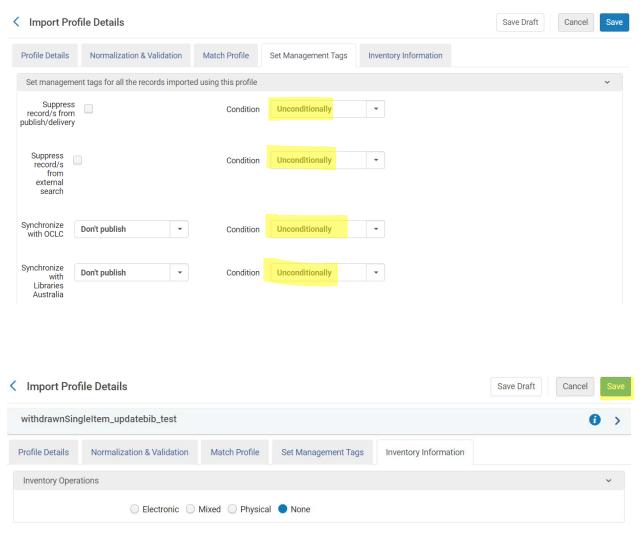
Choose "Repository", click "Next".

Follow the steps to set up the profile. Refer to the printscreens below for details.





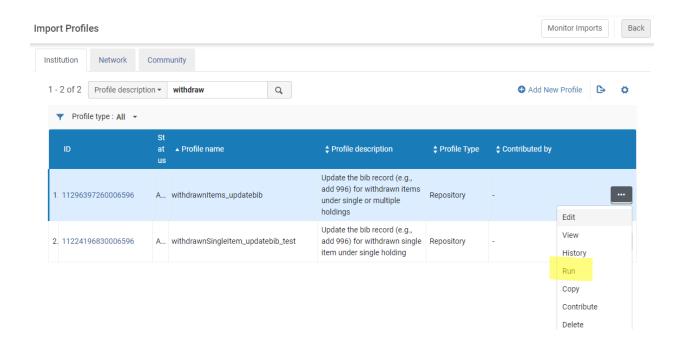




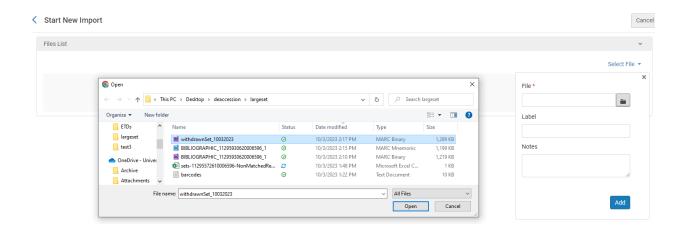
Click "Save".

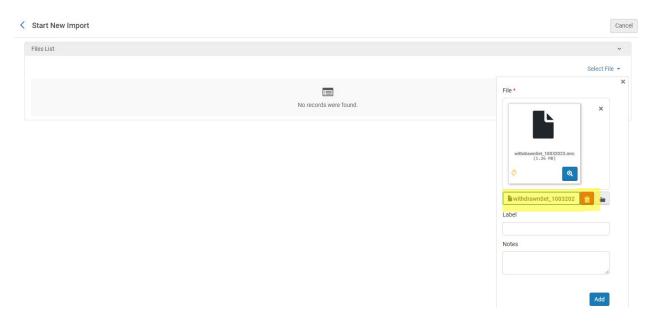
Part V. Import the Updated Records

Run the import profile to import the updated metadata records.

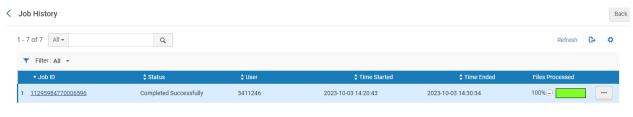


Click "Select File" to choose the updated MARC file.

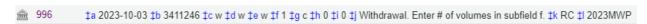




Load the updated MARC file, and click "Submit".



This shows that the records have been updated successfully.



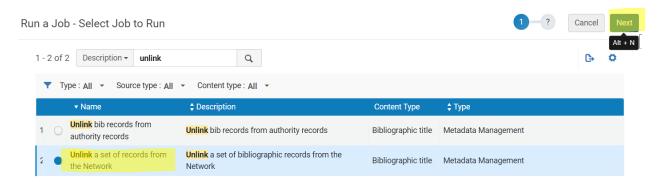
A 996 field is added to each record in the titles set in Alma.

If you run all the records as one set, the 996 field will be uniformly added to each record in the titles set, with the number of volumes specified as "1". You'll need to update the number in 996 field further, either manually or via small batches. If you run records with different MMS Id counts separately, you are now all set.

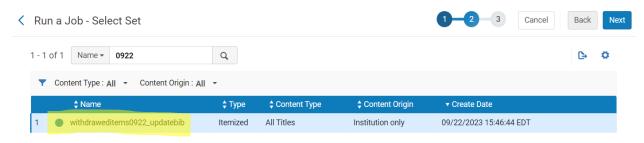
Part VI. Unlink Bibliographic Records from the Network Zone

For records with single item/volume only, they still need to be unlinked from the network zone, and their holdings need to be deleted from OCLC Connexion. Be sure to unlink after all the updates for the records are performed. If you update the records after unlinking, when you load the set again, the records will be loaded to NZ by default, which creates duplicates records in the system.

Go to Alma Admin – Run a job.



Choose the job "Unlink a set of records from the Network", click "next". You may search "unlink" to find it first.



Choose the record set.

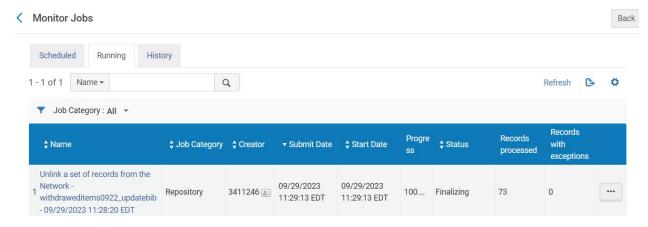


Confirmation Message

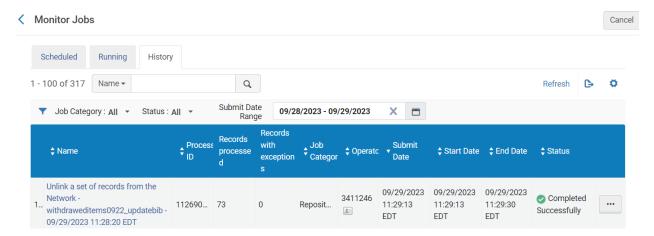
You are about to run a job which will affect 73 members of the set. This cannot be reversed. Do you want to continue?

Cancel

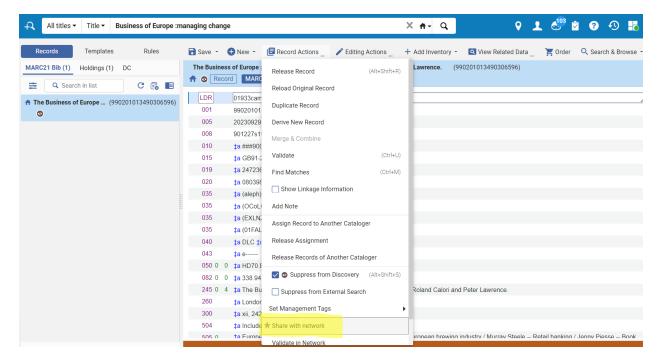
Confirm



Run the job.



This indicates that the job is completed successfully.



Check a record in the set, you can see that it has moved to local catalog. The drop-down menu shows "share with network" which indicates that the record is in the local catalog, and you have the option to share it with network.

Part VII. Copy all the 035 (OCLC number) for Connexion update

Open the downloaded title list in spreadsheet after the withdraw job, for the "Availability" field value as empty ones, copy their 035 OCLC number out. This information can be extracted from "Record number", for example, (aleph)021687692UXU01;(OCoLC)01602234. Use a formula to extract the OCLC number from "Record number" filed, e.g, =TEXTBEFORE(TEXTAFTER(R2,"oLC)"),";",,,,TEXTAFTER(R2,"oLC)")).

Log into OCLC Connexion, click "Batch – Holdings by OCLC Number", this will open a window. Copy the list of extracted OCLC numbers to the big blank box on the bottom left, check "Delete Holdings" under "Action", and click "OK". Please note that there is a limit of 2,500 items for batch deletion in OCLC Connexion.

Workflow tested by Jeanne Piascik, Sai Deng, Robin Chan and Burak Ogreten September 2023 - January 2024