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For Immediate Release

Western Regional Consortia Share Library Resources across the Divide

Emeryville, CA, Grand Junction, CO, and Denver, CO —The Marmot Library Network signed an agreement with the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries and Innovative Interfaces that allows Marmot to join the Prospector regional union catalog and interlibrary loan system (<http://www.coalliance.org/prospector>). “The addition of the Marmot libraries continues to demonstrate the value that Prospector has to library staff and patrons alike,” says George Machovec, Associate Director of the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries. “It’s great to see Prospector continuing to grow and evolve.”

The addition of the Marmot libraries will also enhance the Prospector offering as they will be adding their holdings to the Prospector catalog. The current catalog includes approximately 27 million items (10 million titles), which supports interlibrary lending among 26 public, academic, and special libraries located in the metropolitan "Front Range" of Colorado and Wyoming. Marmot will add records of approximately 3 million items (1.2 million titles) held by 15 public and academic libraries mainly on the rural "Western Slope" of Colorado. “It’s very cool that Marmot libraries will be able to offer over 30 million items,” states Jimmy Thomas, Director of the Marmot Library Network. “Thanks to library cooperation, a federal grant will benefit not only rural readers but also urban readers all over Colorado.”

Prospector is based on INN-Reach software by Innovative and hosted by the Alliance in Denver, CO. Tom Jacobson, Director of Strategic Accounts for Innovative Interfaces states: “Reciprocal borrowing, enabled by INN-Reach, is a powerful and inexpensive way for libraries to enhance what they offer their patrons.”

Interlibrary loans between Marmot and Prospector libraries—across the Continental Divide—are expected to increase substantially. The statewide courier service operated by the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC) already routes library materials within Prospector and Marmot service areas.

This project is substantially funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) through a Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) allocation to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and the Colorado State Library (CSL). This largest LSTA 2010 grant in Colorado is reminiscent of the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) because of its direct benefits for rural and remote areas.

About the Marmot Library Network

The Marmot Library Network (<http://www.marmot.org>), based in Grand Junction, CO, is a non-profit organization providing information technology services to public, academic, and school libraries. Marmot hosts software and a database shared by 20 institutions comprising 90 library sites in Colorado; and provides internet, hardware, and software support services for libraries.

About the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries

The Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries (<http://www.coalliance.org>) is a non-profit consortium of thirteen libraries in Colorado and Wyoming. It is a long term partnership of academic, special, and public libraries with a history of working in concert to share resources through cooperative purchasing, online services, systems management, and consulting. The major initiatives of the Alliance include the Prospector union catalog, Gold Rush (a locally developed A-Z/linker/ERM system), and the Alliance Digital Repository.

About Innovative Interfaces

Innovative Interfaces (www.iii.com) dedicates its energies to meeting the needs of libraries and the challenges of library automation. The company has fulfilled this mission with first-rate services and products such as the Millennium integrated library platform, INN-Reach resource sharing, Electronic Resource Management, and the Encore discovery services platform. Today, thousands of libraries of all types in over 50 countries rely on Innovative's products, services, and support. The company is located in Emeryville, California with offices around the world.

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