

## Resource Description & Access (RDA) and Polaris Library Systems

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***How has Polaris prepared for RDA?***

Since Polaris version 4.0 we have been adding the new MARC tags and vocabulary elements that have been created in support of RDA as they have been approved by the appropriate national committees. The new fields and other changes are included in the MARC validation tables. You can enter the new elements into cataloging records on bibliographic and authority record workforms, and you can use them in templates. You can receive the new elements in imported records or in records obtained through Z39.50.

***Am I required to use RDA when I'm cataloging in Polaris?***

Polaris does not require you to follow RDA cataloging practices within Polaris products. You can continue to catalog according to AACR2, or you can catalog according to RDA, or you can have a mix of RDA and AACR2 records.

***Will Polaris continue to accept AACR2 records?***

Yes.

***Why do validation errors appear when I edit records that have the new RDA tags?***

The changes to MARC evolved over time and were released over a period of several years, so some versions of Polaris have more of the MARC changes than others. Your version of Polaris may not have all the changes. Your site manager can help you determine the best way to update your MARC validation tables to avoid the errors (for example, upgrade to a later release of Polaris; edit the MARC validation tables through System Administration; run an alter script, etc.)

***Do I have to use a 264 field now instead of the 260?***

This is a cataloging policy decision that can be made at your institution. Polaris does not require you to use a 264 or to convert 260 tags to 264.

***The 264 tag is not showing up in the publisher field in PAC displays.***

The 264 tag is included in the display of the publisher field beginning with Polaris release 4.1R2. In 4.1 and earlier releases, Polaris does not include the 264 tag in the publisher field by default. However, if you are on version 4.1 you can use the Title Display Configure dialog to add the 264 tag to the existing publisher display entities, or you can create a new entity. If you are unsure how to go about this, please contact your site manager.

***Can I add the 264 tag to the publisher index?***

Yes. Please contact your site manager.

***The 336 / 337 / 338 tags appear at the bottom of the MARC editor workform instead of in order by tag number. I want them to appear in tag number order.***

When new tags are added to the MARC validation table, they are automatically placed at the bottom of the table, which affects the display of the tags in the bibliographic record workform. You can move them up by changing their position in the MARC validation table (using the arrow keys). If you are unsure how to go about this, please contact your site manager.

***Do the 336 / 337 / 338 tags display in PowerPAC?***

Not by default, but if you are on version 4.1 you can use the Title Display Configure dialog to add them to your bibliographic record displays if you would like. If you are unsure how to go about this, please contact your site manager.

***Can I display terms from the 336 / 337 / 338 tags in the GMD position, where the 245\$h appears?***

Unfortunately, it is not possible to mix fields from two different tags in a single display entity.

***My library wants to continue to put GMDs in the 245 field. Does Polaris allow this?***

You can continue to add GMDs to your records.

***Does Polaris automatically convert 336 / 337 / 338 tags to GMDs (general material designation or 245\$h).***

Polaris does not convert the 336 / 337 / 338 tags to GMDs. The two are not easily mapped, and with the national libraries and OCLC moving away from GMDs, this doesn't seem all that desirable.

***Does Polaris use the 336 / 337 / 338 tags to generate TOM icons?***

No. Polaris will continue to rely on the leader, 006, 007 and 008 tags to determine the primary TOM (type of material) and the icon for a bibliographic record. This is true for records that are coded according to either AACR2 or RDA.

***What about multiple 336 / 337 / 338 tags? When resources have more than one carrier type, for example, a book with a CD-ROM, and the RDA record has multiple 336/7/8 tags, how does Polaris keep the fields straight so the user knows which ones go together? Does Polaris use the \$8 subfield to link fields that go together?***

Polaris does not use the \$8. This is a problem we're still working to solve.

***Does Polaris automatically flip abbreviations in headings to the spelled-out form, for example, Dept. to Department?***

If you receive a revised authority record containing the spelled-out form from an external source, and the incoming record matches an authority record in your database, the headings in the linked bibliographic records can be automatically updated when the incoming authority record replaces the existing one. Many authority records with the Dept.-to-Department revision were changed in the LC/NACO authority file and distributed via the ZMARC / Authority Weekly update service earlier this spring.

***When will Polaris implement FRBR displays in the PACs?***

Polaris currently offers a FRBR display of browse search results in PowerPAC, based on a proprietary algorithm. We have not done any significant development to generate FRBR displays based on the work/expression/manifestation/item model as it is encoded in RDA. This is not to say it will never happen. We are considering whether additional FRBR development efforts should take into account the work of the Bibliographic Framework Transition Initiative and a possible transition away from MARC (which would be in itself a long-term, industry-wide effort).