Repositories, “Plugins” & the REF

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Current Research Information Systems

- A CRIS pulls together information from all the research-relevant databases

- Repositories should support the CERIF standard to co-operate as components of a CRIS environment
CERIF Information

Broad, but not necessarily DEEP.
CRIS Revisited

CRIS components attempt to provide service to management and researchers

Repository attempts to reach researchers and public, and provide a service to management
Admin View of A Project

- Grant ID / Funder / Amount
- Start date, End Date
- Investigators
- Budget breakdown

“To support Business Analytics”
K Jeffry, Workshop on CRIS, CERIF & Institutional Repositories, June 2010
CERIF Import/Export Plugins

Export 3 results as Cerif XML 2008


Researchers’ View of A Project

- Project name
- Project aims / objectives
- Project Logo / Website / Blog
- Press releases, news clippings
- Funding
Repository / CRIS combo

- Bring new perspective to CRIS
  - Researcher-oriented
  - Publicity-oriented
  - Marketing-oriented
- Descriptive, narrative
- Complementary to administrative perspective
EPrints / CRIS

- EPrints internally accommodates CERIF data
  - Not just publications but projects and organisations
  - Allows data interchange with external CRIS systems
  - Allows EPrints to act as a simple CRIS, or to provide CRIS-style functions

- CERIFed repositories have many separate datasets, all linked together via explicit relationships
  - A paper doesn’t have a project property, it is related to project objects
Projects and funding organisations were just names typed into the paper’s metadata record.

EPrints Before (sans CERIF)
Now they are objects in their own right

A paper links to its affiliated projects, instead of just mentioning them.
Concluding Remarks

- Available from EPrints v3.3 (summer 2011)
- Repositories have a history of engagement with grassroots / public
  - providing services (portfolios, collections, reports)
  - collecting/managing/preserving information and knowledge products
- These engagements can enrich CRIS products
- CRIS ontological breadth can enrich repositories
- Distinction between CRIS / repository starts to blur.
PS What is a Repository?

- A repository is not just a piece of information management software.
- It is a socially embedded technological phenomenon that promotes new relationship to research information.
  - International programs of ‘advocacy’
  - Institutionally embedded, with teams of librarians trained to use, and to train researchers to use, repositories
  - Personal engagement with end-users