

Endorse

Interoperable Ebook Standards

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CNI Fall 2024
December 9, 2024

Goal: Adopt Interoperable Ebook Standards

As library leaders and institutions, we affirm the importance of interoperability and the shared standards that enable us to provide the best possible reading experience and long-term management and sustainability of library collections.

Challenges:

- **Fragmented** ebook publishing and aggregation landscape relies on multiple vendors with different standards, limiting the ability of libraries to provide a consistent reading experience for students and faculty.
- **Proprietary technologies** (including proprietary readers, platforms, and DRM solutions) create a needlessly complicated series of systems for students and faculty to learn and use.
- **Lack of standardized metadata** formats, protocols, and API create excess complexity, error and costs for libraries, publishers, and readers, hindering the discovery and use of ebooks.

We Need to Foster:

- **Ease of Discovery** - consistent open metadata using open, universal standards such as OPDS to facilitate discovery, access and use. OPDS allows publishers to syndicate (update regularly) information about available titles in a way that current metadata protocols handle only with difficulty.
- **Ease of Use** - innovation in developing and employing DRM systems, such as Radium LCP, that use open standards to facilitate interoperable, systematic integration and delivery when access control is necessary
- **Easier to Buy** - growth of the overall library marketplace and increased author impact by simplifying the acquisition and use of ebooks
- **Accessible for Every Reader** - options for ebook accessibility through interoperability with accessible readers and accessibility tools

The Ask for Library Leaders:

We seek an academic ebook market that provides a consistent, non-fragmented user experience, and we request vendor development that utilizes open standards in order to allow for innovation in the marketplace. Content should be platform independent – we want to grow the marketplace and increase usage by encouraging the highest level of interoperability, integration, and aggregation of digital content for all our users.

Library Leaders, Endorse Interoperable Ebook Standards!

Sign up here:

<https://www.libraryfutures.net/interoperable-ebook-standards-statement>