SOUL 3.0
Software for University Libraries

INFLIBNET

Software for University Libraries (SOUL 3.0)

The Software for University Libraries (SOUL) is a state-of-the-art integrated library management software developed by the INFLIBNET Centre to meet the requirements of college, university, and other academic libraries. It operates in a user-friendly client-server environment and complies with international standards for bibliographic formats and circulation protocols. Designed after extensive consultations with senior professionals, SOUL automates all housekeeping operations of libraries, catering not only to academic libraries but also to libraries of various sizes, including school libraries. The initial release, SOUL 1.0, debuted during CALIBER 2000, followed by SOUL 2.0 in January 2009. The latest edition of SOUL 3.0, was unveiled by Honourable Chairman, University Grants Commission, on February 24, 2021.

Major Features and Functionalities

☞ Dashboard provision on Start Page to know the basic statistics of various transactional data;

☞ UNICODE-based multilingual support for Indian and foreign languages;

☞ Compliant to International Standards such as MARC21, AACR-2, MARCXML, ISO-2709;

☞ Compliant to NCIP 2.02 and SIP 2 protocols for RFID for electronic surveillance and self-check-out & check-in;

☞ Client-server based architecture, user-friendly interface that does not require extensive training;

☞ Provides freedom to users for generating reports of their choice and format;

☞ Provides facility to send reports through e-mail, allows users to save the reports in various formats such as Word, PDF, Excel etc.;

☞ Highly versatile and user-friendly OPAC with simple and advanced search. OPAC users can export their search results into PDF, MS Excel, and MARC XML format;

☞ Supports authority files of personal name, corporate body, etc.;

☞ Single-window operation for all major circulation functions;

☞ Device independent responsive theme and touch compatible user interface with language selection;

☞ Camera integration for capturing member photo;

☞ SMS and email alerts services;

☞ Provision for self-entry (online) by members;

☞ Lucene index for fast searching of records and facets in OPAC;

☞ Companion Android application which offers all features of Web based OPAC; and

☞ Strong online and offline support by email, web chat and through dedicated telephone line.

Modules

❖ **Acquisition**

❖ **Catalogue**

❖ **Circulation**

❖ **Serial Control**

❖ **Administration**

❖ **OPAC / Web-based OPAC**

Each module has further been divided into sub modules to cater to functional requirement of libraries:

Acquisition

Acquisition Module facilitates automating the process of ordering, receipt, payment and budget control. The module enables library staff to handle all major functions related to acquisition, such as

➢ Suggestions management

➢ Order processing, cancellation and reminders

➢ Receipt, Payment and budgetary control

➢ Auto accessioning

➢ Auto generation of letter number

➢ Master files such as currency, vendors, publishers etc.

➢ Reports

Catalogue

Catalogue module is used for retrospective conversion of library resources. It also facilitates library staff to process the newly acquired library resources. The salient features of catalogue module are:

- ➢ Allows cataloguer to create their own templates for data entry for different types of library resources;
- ➢ Different templates for leaders and fixed fields of MARC21 records;
- ➢ Allows user-generated customized reports;
- ➢ Facilitates authority database of person name, corporate body, subject headings and series name;
- ➢ Supports copy cataloguing in MARC 21 format by using ISO-2709 standard;
- ➢ Multi-lingual database by using Unicode character set;
- ➢ Facilitates generation of catalogue card, spine label, barcode & book card;
- ➢ Provides facility to export accession register in TSV (tab separated value) format;
- ➢ Supports global search and replace functionalities; and
- ➢ File attachment with bibliographic record.

Circulation

This module addresses all aspects of circulation comprehensively. Meticulous attention was given to its design, integrating essential functionalities seamlessly. It fully adheres to the NISO Circulation and Interchange Protocol (NCIP) version 2.0 and the SIP 2 protocol for electronic surveillance and RFID-based transactions of items. The key functions of the circulation module include:

- ➢ Membership, Transaction, Inter-library loan, Overdue charges, Reminder;
- ➢ Stock verification, Book bank/Group issue and Customize member card;
- ➢ Facility to send email/SMS for various circulation transactions e.g., issue, return, reminder;
- ➢ Maintenance of the items such as binding, lost, replace, missing, withdraw, etc.;
- ➢ Report generation based on the various requirements; and
- ➢ Import members from Excel worksheet.

Serial Control

Managing serials is the most complicated job for a library. The module keeps track of serials in the library effectively and efficiently. The module incorporates the following functions:

- ➢ Suggestions & Subscription Management;
- ➢ Article indexing of journal/book articles;
- ➢ Cataloguing of electronic journals;
- ➢ Check-in of individual issues of journals;
- ➢ Payment, reminder, binding, and history;
- ➢ Keeps track of the history changes of the journals;
- ➢ Export / import using ISO 2709 bibliographic exchange format; and
- ➢ MARC21 entry/edit option.

Administration

The module is divided into three major sub-modules, namely User management, System Parameters and Masters. The Administration Module offers following features:

➢ Grouping of users based on the policy;
➢ Transactional rights over the systems;
➢ Transaction level security to users;
➢ Various configuration settings such as labels, e-mail, sms and other parameters; and
➢ Common master databases being used in modules.

OPAC / Web-based OPAC

SOUL offers two types of major attractions: a client-server application-based Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), and a web-based OPAC. The web-based OPAC provides users with a search interface to access bibliographic data, and it can be hosted on either an intranet or the internet. It offers the following features:

➢ Simple search, boolean search and advanced boolean search;
➢ Search support for the items that are in the acquisition process in the library;
➢ Provides simple search, boolean search, advanced search, free-text search and alphabetic browse facility;
➢ Search support for the items that are in the acquisition process in the library;
➢ Provides facility to add records into cart as well as logged in user can make records as favourite;
➢ Provides facility to export records as MARC, MARCXML, BIBTEXT and ENDNOTE format;
➢ Facilitates member self-entry registration module;
➢ Member can view privileges, items borrowed and fine charged;
➢ Member can request an item online; and
➢ Entered URL (for each record) can be accessible from the result page.

SOUL Helplines

Helpline: 079-23268300 (9:30AM - 6:00PM) | (Office hours from 9:30am to 6:00pm, Monday to Friday)

ZONE	States Covered	Email	Phone
Zone-1	Gujarat, Daman, Rajasthan and All North Eastern states	soulhelp01@inflibnet.ac.in	079-23268301 / 06 / 08
Zone-2	Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Orissa and West Bengal	soulhelp02@inflibnet.ac.in	079-23268305 / 04 / 00
Zone-3	Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Delhi, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Punjab, Jharkhand, Bihar and Uttarakhand	soulhelp03@inflibnet.ac.in	079-23268307 / 03 / 09

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