LibraryCloud

Harvard LibraryCloud is a metadata hub that provides granular, open access to a large aggregation of Harvard library bibliographic metadata. The public LibraryCloud Item API supports searching LibraryCloud and obtaining results in a normalized MODS or Dublin Core format. LibraryCloud contains records from Harvard’s Alma ILS (over 12.7M bib records), JSTORForum (4M image records), and ArchivesSpace finding aids (2M finding aid components). Alma metadata has additionally been enriched with the Stackscore usage metric, as well as holdings, and LC classification subject headings.

LibraryCloud also contains an alpha release of a Collections API, that is planned for use as a digital collection definition and export service. The Collection API allows a group of LibraryCloud records to be labeled as part of a named collection. The collection may then be harvested through OAI-PMH in order to import metadata into on-line digital exhibit platforms, such as Omeka or DPLA. The full build out of the collection API and a collection builder web application is still a work in progress.

If you have questions or need to report a problem when using LibraryCloud APIs, please contact LTS Support.

LibraryCloud documentation

- LibraryCloud APIs
- LibraryCloud Support

Technical Information

LibraryCloud’s backend is built on a scalable metadata processing pipeline. The technology stack includes:

- Amazon Web Services (including the Simple Queue Service, Simple Notification Service, and Apache camel), deploying up to 10 EC2 servers to quickly update the data from source catalogs 3 times/week.
- A Java RESTful API Service that uses solr/lucene as the search index supporting Item API search functions.
- A Java RESTful API Service that uses a simple Amazon RDS database supporting the Collections API.
- An OAI-PMH data provider

LibraryCloud is open source software that can be downloaded from Github at https://github.com/harvard-library

An overview of the metadata processing pipeline is shown below.
- LibraryCloud APIs
- LibraryCloud OAI-PMH Data Provider
- LibraryCloud FAQ
- LibraryCloud Use Cases