

Introduction to BFProd

Lesson 4 Transcript

Hello, and welcome to the BIBFRAME video tutorial series, presented by the Cataloging Policy Specialists in the Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division at the Library of Congress. The scope and purpose of this series is to provide training on using BIBFRAME.

This video tutorial is Lesson 4, Introduction to BFProd.

By the end of this tutorial, participants will understand how metadata descriptions move between Voyager and Marva. They will learn how to preview the converted MARC record in Marva, and they will learn how to review and complete the converted MARC record in Voyager. Finally, they will learn where to find documentation on BFProd and on cataloging policies and practices.

In August 2024 BFProd, or BIBFRAME in Production, was launched with five catalogers from the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access directorate. They were selected from among the participants in the earlier BIBFRAME pilots, and they were tasked with describing bibliographic resources for monographs in the newest BIBFRAME linked data editor, called Marva Quartz.

BFProd is a project to put BIBFRAME into production at the Library of Congress, using Marva Quartz as the tool that allows catalogers to create, edit, and update linked data.

This means that working in Marva Quartz will become part of the daily cataloging process for participants in this project. Additionally, BIBFRAME metadata descriptions created in Marva Quartz will be converted into MARC records in Voyager and then distributed to the Library's partners.

The BFProd cataloging process begins with an initial bibliographic control record (or stub record) in Voyager. In this tutorial, I am using a bibliographic record for a fully cataloged resource.

For the next step, we will need to copy or make note of the Library of Congress control number in the 010 field.

We then navigate to Marva Quartz, where we will enter the LCCN in the search box and open the metadata description using the appropriate profile.

In this case, we are looking at a monograph.

We will review and update the data in the fields in the Work and Instance, just as we would with a MARC bibliographic record in Voyager. Check, correct, edit, and add data as necessary. Is the creator's name in the authorized form? Is the pagination correct? Are the subject strings correctly formed? Does the classification number fit into the Library's shelf list?

When complete, we will save and post the metadata description. We can also preview the MARC bibliographic record that will be converted from this BIBFRAME description.

To do this, we will add the MARC preview to our screen by clicking on View and then Preview MARC.

We can adjust the window frames as desired to see the converted MARC bibliographic record. It is important to take a moment to review the converted MARC record, making sure that data elements display as expected.

When we are satisfied with the converted MARC record, we will copy the BIBFRAME record id, or local identifier. This number is used in the macro that pushes the BIBFRAME description into Voyager, converting it into a MARC record.

To activate the macro, use the keyboard combination Alt + Shift + M.

In the Voyager cataloging module, we will click on Window and then Tile to display a split screen showing the converted MARC record beside the original MARC record.

At this point, we can follow our usual procedures for completing, validating, and saving or boating our bibliographic record.

We will save the converted MARC record and use the Replace/Merge function to overlay the original record.

Edit the 906 field to indicate that the record is ready for distribution. Run Validator, save the record, and add holdings and items if appropriate.

As we just saw, we can review the converted MARC records in Marva Quartz and in Voyager. Regardless of what platform is used to view the records, it will be immediately evident that these MARC records look a little different.

The Network Development and MARC Standards Office at the Library of Congress has coined the phrase “Modern MARC” to describe this new formatting.

All Modern MARC records should include an 007 fixed field. Some data elements that would normally appear in the 008 field have been relocated or replicated in other MARC fields. For example, coding for bibliographies and indexes will appear in the 008 field and in the 353 field.

Color content and illustrations are in repeatable 340 fields.

Perhaps the most obvious enhancement is the addition of URIs to many data elements.

Additionally, most final and some medial ISBD punctuation has been intentionally removed. For example, the 264 field retains its medial and final punctuation, while the 300 field lacks both. Metadata about the converted record will appear in 758, 884, and 985 fields.

Documentation on BFProd, including cheat sheets, information on the macros, and more, are available at the BFProd Confluence site. Simply open Confluence and search for “BFProd 2024.”

The Network Development and MARC Standards Office is continually working to improve the Marva Quartz linked data editor and the BIBFRAME-to-MARC conversion. Even if these tools change, your cataloging knowledge and experience remains. Nothing in BFProd replaces your understanding of the Library’s cataloging practices and policies. Please remember that original RDA, the Subject Headings Manual, Classification and Shelflisting Manual, the Descriptive Cataloging Manual, and PCC documentation should always take precedence when working in BFProd.

Thank you for watching this video tutorial. You can find more training, information, and support online at the Library of Congress.