

## Key to symbols:

- tested and appears to work correctly. Could be used by SCLS libraries
- X - not currently used by SCLS libraries
- not currently used by SCLS libraries (but may be used in the future)
- feature is not functioning in an ideal way
- Y - used by SCLS staff to administer Library Online

# LibOnline Release Notes

## Release 3.9

**Last Revised by ActiveNetwork: July 29, 2009**

**Additional notes added by Kerri: May, 2010**

## Introduction

These Release Notes provide an outline of the new features added to Active LibOnline Version 3.9. You should place these notes inside your System Administrator's Manual or other LibOnline manual as a reminder.

If your agency is upgrading to LibOnline Version 3.9 from an earlier version, we suggest you read through all the Release Notes that have been published since the version of LibOnline Version you are upgrading from to familiarize yourself with the additions and changes in the software.

## Administration

### **Number of advance booking days to exclude closed days**

Advanced booking days functionality has been enhanced so that days on which the branch is closed are not counted. In prior versions closed days were counted in the number of advanced booking days, so in situations where a branch had a policy to allow bookings 2 days in advance and is closed as usual on Sunday followed by an occurrence of a statutory holiday on the following Monday patrons would not be able to book a PC on the Tuesday till that day. This change will now alter the logic to follow a business day format.

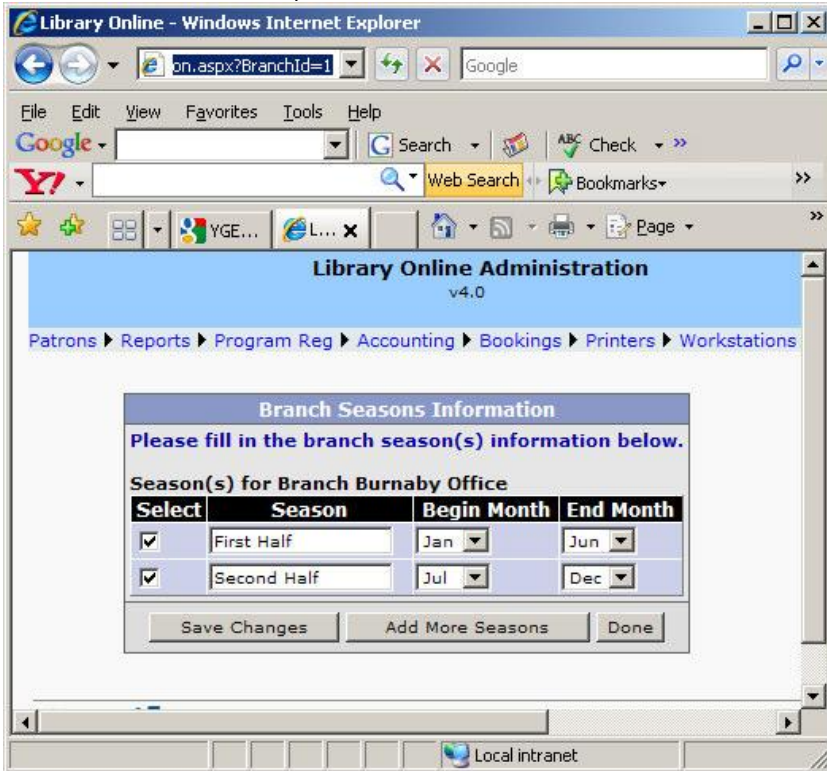
**SCLS Notes:** Appears to work as described.

**☑ Seasonal booking schedule by Branch**

In this version the branch scheduling functionality has been enhanced to allow each branch to have different hours specified based on the season.

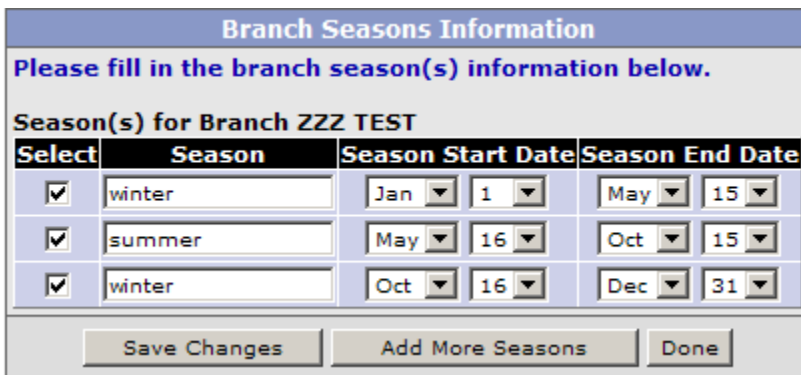
e.g. Season 1: Jan 01 – Jun 30 open 8 AM – 8 PM

Season 2: Jul 01 – Dec 31 open 6AM – 10 PM



**SCLS Notes:** This feature has actually been patched since the release of 3.9 so that seasonal schedules may begin mid-month (they no longer have to start and stop at the beginning and end of months). This feature allows libraries to set “seasonal schedules” that have different open/closed hours for different times of the year (nice!). Especially nice for libraries that have Sunday hours during certain times of the year.

**Things to note:** A “season” cannot span years. Ex. If you have a “winter” season and a “summer” season, it may well look like this when you enter it:



**(NOT** Winter Oct 16 – May 15 ← spans years! Won’t work!  
 Summer May 16 – Oct 15 )

## Delete branches

With this version you now have the ability to delete Library Branches to suppress their appearance on associated reports.

**SCLS Notes:** This feature is used by SCLS staff to administer Library Online.

## Limit Auto Extension Time

With this latest version you now have the ability to limit the amount of auto time extension time that a user is able to extend. The maximum time option is set at the workstation type level.

**SCLS Notes:** We are not currently able to use the auto time extension feature. This is a feature that we will look at again and implement when:

1. Clients have been upgraded to version 3.9
2. PCs are on the SCLS network (necessary for the network traffic that makes this feature work)

This will most likely occur in 2011.

## Give the ability to allow multiple open and close times for an exception scheduled date

A daily schedule can now have multiple open and close time slots. This will give the library the ability to close during the middle of the day and to reopen later in the day.

**SCLS Notes:** Let's say you have an in-service in the afternoon but want to be open in the morning and evening--- this feature would allow you to set this in your booking exception date.

Here's another example of multiple open and close times:

### In Booking Schedule Exception Dates

Booking Schedule Exception Date Time Slots Information					
Booking Schedule Exception Date: May 11 2010					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Schedule	Open Time	Close Time	Branch	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open	7 : 00 am	12 : 30 pm	ZZZ TEST	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open	1 : 00 pm	3 : 00 pm	ZZZ TEST	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open	4 : 00 pm	6 : 55 pm	ZZZ TEST	

### And here's what it looks like in Time Slot Manager (we can easily see the open and closed times)

Time Slots Manager					
Please click on a time slot to view its detail.					
Tuesday, May 11, 2010 <span style="float: right;">Next Day &gt;&gt;</span>					
Not Available		Available		Booked(In Use)	
Booked(Pending)		Time Extension			
Workstation Name	Time Slot(s)				
pretend workstation #1	12:28PM - 12:30PM	12:30PM - 1:00PM	1:00PM - 3:00PM	3:00PM - 4:00PM	4:00PM - 6:55PM

## **Support Microsoft SQL 2008**

Lib 3.9 will now support the use of the Microsoft SQL Server 2008 Database platform.

**SCLS Notes:** This applies to SCLS staff who support Library Online.

## **Increase flexibility of Authentication Process**

With this version Administrators of the Lib system will be able to change the order of authentication on the fly. This can be useful if the ILS server goes down during the middle of the day. The authentication can then be switched to validate against the local Library Online database automatically.

**SCLS Notes:** This applies to SCLS staff who support Library Online.

## **Multiple Internet Filter Proxy Servers**

Specification of Proxy server for access to the internet is now controlled at the branch level. This will allow branch timeout clients to use different proxy servers.

**SCLS Notes:** SCLS does not currently use the Internet Filtering component of Library Online.

### Extend patron time for future dates

This new functionality will allow administrators to extend the time of a library patrons booking on any date, not just the current date.

**SCLS Notes:** As described.

#### Patrons->Extend Time Limit For Today

Search for patron will reveal any previous Time Extensions.

### Patron Time Extension Search Listing

Click **Create New** to add a new Patron Time Extension.  
Edit to edit an existing Patron Time Extension.

Patron: LIBONLINE A TEST (████████████████████) Create New

Date	Branch	Edit
There are no records available.		

Records: 0 - 0 of 0 - Pages: ⏪ ⏩ ⏴ ⏵


Done

#### Create a new Patron Time Extension

### Patron Time Extension Information

Please enter the number of minutes and/or number of bookings to extend.

Patron: LIBONLINE A TEST (████████████████████)

Extend Patron's Time for:   Select date for time and/or booking extension here

Extend Patron's Time by another  minutes

Extend Patron's Time by another  booking(s)

Branch:

For these Workstation Types:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Workstation Type	Minutes Extended For Date	Bookings Extended For Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	Language	60	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	MPL test workstation type	60	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	Multimedia	60	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patron Spare 04	60	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	Quickie type	60	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	SCLS test workstation type	60	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	ZZZ Laptop test	60	4

Save Changes Done

#### Things to note:

A time or booking extension cannot be deleted after it is entered.

## **Copy Workstations**

In order to improve the speed of the workstation creation process administrators will now have the ability to copy the setup of an existing workstation and then paste these parameters into a newly created workstation so as to eliminate the need to repeatedly specify options that are shared among multiple stations.

**SCLS Notes:** This change will affect SCLS and select library staff who create workstation profiles in Library Online. No more creating each workstation from scratch—now you can create one with all the desired settings and copy (“clone”) it to create additional workstations. Cloning a workstation also copies the applications associated with the original workstation.

## **Lengthen PIN field**

The Pin field has been extended to 20 characters in length, to accommodate the use of long last names as PINs.

**SCLS Notes:** This may have an effect as LINK libraries move to Koha (not sure yet).

## **✗ Reverse the order of the card number and PIN on the One Time Patron printout slip**

An option has now been added to the AppTools settings to allow reversing the order of the card number and pin on the patron printout slip. If the TimeoutClientSettings -> Reverse BarcodePIN Order is set to 1 then the order of these two fields will be reversed.

**SCLS Notes:** There appears to be no need for SCLS libraries to do this.

## **Reassign Patron booking to the current workstation**

In previous versions of the Lib product if a patron attempted to log onto a PC at the time of a valid booking but not on the PC they had booked they were presented with a message stating that they have a conflict booking with another workstation. With version 3.9 they are given option to cancel the conflict booking and to book the workstation they are currently at.

**SCLS Notes:** This seems like what we already see in 3.7, unless I’m mistaken about something.

## **Re-order the patron search listing screen**

The Patron Search Listing Screen has been re-ordered to move the action column from the last to the first column of the report. The reason for this is so that librarians will not have to scroll to the right to see the action columns.

**SCLS Notes:** This had been a problem in some previous versions of Library Online. It should not be a change for us moving from our version of 3.7 to 3.9.

## PC Reservation / Time Management

### ⚑ Option to not go into standalone mode

In previous versions of Lib the client PC would go into standalone mode allowing the patron to use the PC when a connection to the server cannot be established. Lib has been changed to allow the option to not go into this standalone mode when a connection cannot be established to validate the patron logging in. This can be set in AppTools->Settings->TimeoutClientSettings->Logons Allowed (max).

**SCLS Notes:** Good option. We most likely won't use it (because we WANT to be able to still get out to the internet if there are Library Online server problems).

### ✗ Show today's future booking only on timeout client

The timeout client has been modified so that the option exists to now only show the additional bookings that a patron has for the current day, rather than showing bookings out into the future. This can be set in AppTools->Settings->TimeoutClientSettings->ShowFutureBookingForTodayOnly.

**SCLS Notes:** I've left this setting as-is (to show ALL future bookings) for now, so this will not affect us. If anyone feels strongly about this, please let Kerri know.

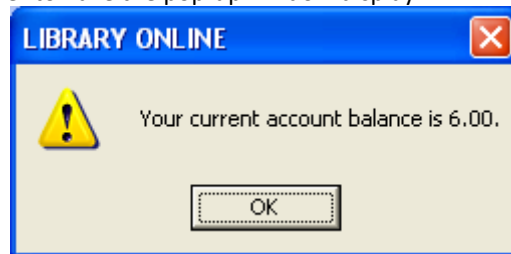
### ☑ View Account balance on login

The timeout client has been enhanced with this version so that the patron is presented with their current account balance on login, thus confirming the amount they have available for printing.

**SCLS Notes:** The setting that controls this is a per-branch setting and is located at:

Branch Administration-> <your lib> ->Printing: -> "Show Patron Balance Popup Message on Timeout" (Yes or No)

If set to "yes", a popup window like this will appear after the patron logs in. The 3.9 client must be installed on the PC and the setting must be set to "yes" in order to have the pop-up window display.



### ✗ Session Extension

The extend booking session process has been modified so that in the event that all PC's are in use and a patron requests to extend their session the PC that has been in use the longest will be used for the extension. This ensures that PC's cannot be monopolized by individual clients going into extension mode.

**SCLS Notes:** We are not currently able to use the session extension feature. This is a feature that we will look at again and implement when:

1. Clients have been upgraded to version 3.9
2. PCs are on the SCLS network (necessary for the network traffic that makes this feature work)

This will most likely occur in 2011.

## **✘ Allow PC booking to span midnight**

The timeout client & booking process have been modified to allow bookings to extend beyond midnight. On the second warning the Timeout Client will ask the patron whether he/she would like to automatically logon to his/her booking directly after midnight. If the patron answers yes then the Timeout Client will not logoff the patron off at midnight and instead will log the patron into the next booking automatically. Previously the patron would have to log off & back on if their booking extended past 12 AM.

**SCLS Notes:** Doesn't apply to SCLS libraries because we're not open at midnight!

## **⚡ Timeout Client monitor application**

We have become aware of the occurrence of patrons being able to "Crash" the lib timeout client & thus eliminate the timeout client expiring their session. While the exact steps to accomplish this have not been identified we have created a utility that can run in the background and reboot the PC if the timeout client is bypassed down in this manner. This utility is available for Timeout Client Versions 3.7.0.10 and any Timeout Client version 3.9 or greater.

**SCLS Notes:** Hopefully this will make the Library Online client more stable. (There have been reports in the past of a "disappearing clock" on some Library Online PCs – if this was because the Timeout Client crashed, this enhancement should remedy the problem).

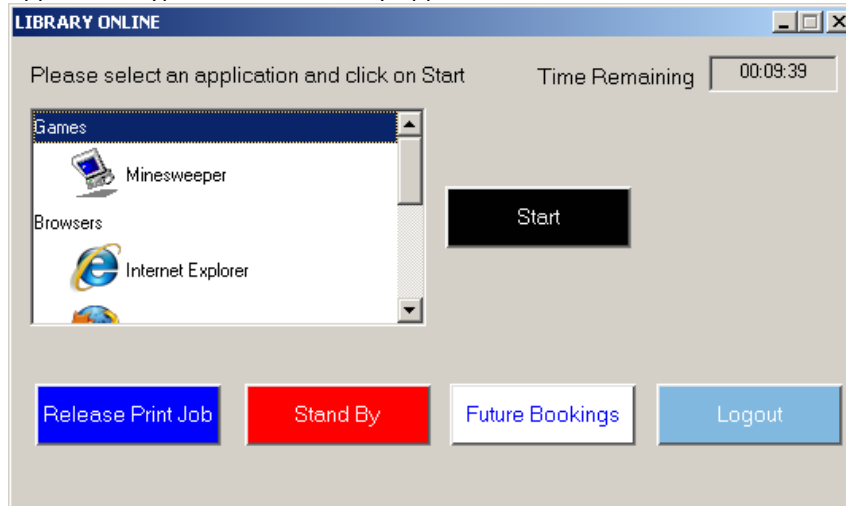
## **✘ Keep the Timeout Client Login Screen in forefront**

In Previous versions of Lib it was possible for the login screen to become hidden behind the screens for other applications running on the PC (e.g. the internet browser). This caused confusion for the next patron to use the PC as the PC appeared to be logged in, but in fact was not and it was not obvious that the patron needed to login to begin using. As of version 3.9 the login screen can remain in the forefront so the patron knows they need to login to use the PC. The setting can be found in AppTools > Settings > TimeoutClientSettings -> KeepLogonScreenAsTopMost.

**SCLS Notes:** Because of the way that SCLS configures Library Online on public PCs, this was not an issue for us.

## Rank applications on the Timeout Client

As of version 3.9 lib administrators can now set the display order of the applications shown on the time out client order by Application Type and then order by Application Order.



**SCLS Notes:** If anyone feels strongly about this feature, please let Kerri know.

### Show reason for library closed on timeout client

The reservation status on the timeout client has been enhanced to show the reason that this PC is not available for use to ease the administrator effort in identifying why a PC is not available for use when the library is open. E.g. if a workstation has not be defined in the Library Online database the Status text will say so instead of displaying workstation is not available.

**SCLS Notes:** Appears to work, though if the reason is long it is cut off in the login window.

### Show workstation status on the timeout client

To ease the process of identifying available (or booked) workstations the timeout client has been enhanced to provide a visible clue as to the status of the workstations availability. If a workstation is available the status section will be highlighted green. If workstation is not available it will be highlighted red.

**SCLS Notes:** True. Lime green for available. Red for unavailable. This is true ONLY on the 3.9 client (so will not take effect until public PCs are also upgraded to version 3.9).

### Limit the amount of Auto Extended Time granted to patrons

A new workstation type attribute has been added to limit the amount of auto extended time that can be granted on a particular workstation type. This will eliminate the monopolization of certain PC's by library patrons & serve to make the utilization process more equitable.

**SCLS Notes:** We are not currently able to use the auto time extension feature. This is a feature that we will look at again and implement when:

1. Clients have been upgraded to version 3.9
2. PCs are on the SCLS network (necessary for the network traffic that makes this feature work)

This will most likely occur in 2011.

## Payment Processing

### ✕ Updated PayPal Payment Processing Engine

The Payment processing engine for Lib has been enhanced to utilize the latest changes made by PayPal.

[www.paypal.com/gatewayupdate](http://www.paypal.com/gatewayupdate)

**SCLS Notes:** SCLS does not currently use any Library Online payment features.

## Public Access

### ⌵ Public Site re-write

The Internet Self serve components of the Lib application have been rewritten on the Microsoft .Net platform. As such there have been a number of aesthetic changes made to the layout and look of the Lib Public site.

**SCLS Notes:** This affects SCLS staff who maintain Library Online.

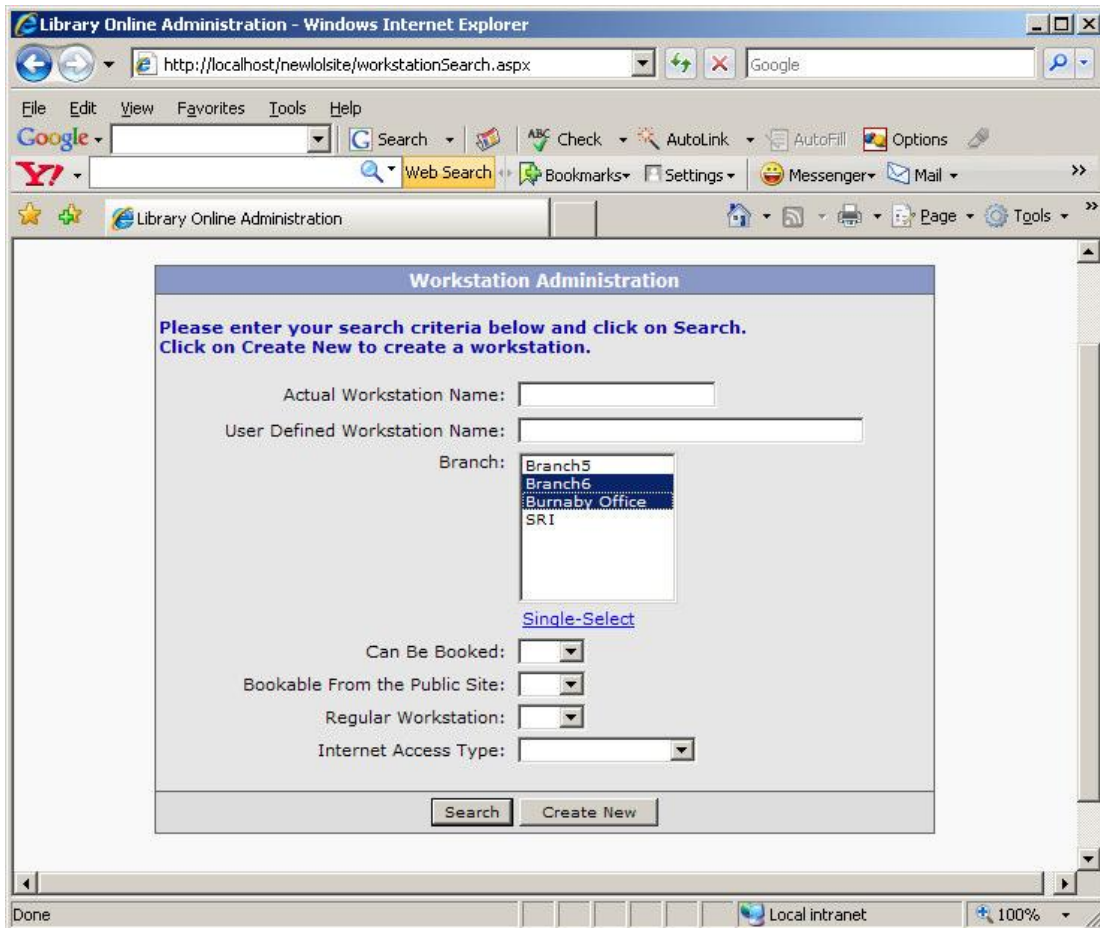
## ☑ Reports

### Report criteria multiple Branches

The criteria screen for the following reports have been modified to allow the selection of multiple branches (as opposed to having to run a report multiple times for all branches in your library system):

- Workstation Administration
- Average Booking Duration Report
- Booking Source Statistics

**SCLS Notes:** Seems to work as described. Most libraries will not be able to use this feature, but libraries with branch locations (Madison PL) and users with access to all libraries (SCLS staff) will benefit.



**SCLS Notes:**

### **Modify report generation to support PDF**

With the upgrade to .net the crystal report viewer now supports an export to PDF option.

**SCLS Notes:** SOOOOOO slick! In the past, if I wanted an electronic copy of a Library Online report, I'd have to "print" it to PDF (using CutePDF Writer or similar program) or take a screenshot and paste it into MS Paint. Now it is possible to Export the report as a PDF (or Word doc, Excel spreadsheet, or Rich Text Format file). It looks like the "Excel 97-2000 (Data Only)" option will be nice for anyone who wants to run reports and crunch numbers.

### **Average Booking Usage By Branch Report**

A new report Average Booking Usage By Branch is a simplified version of the average booking duration report. It shows the percentage of time used broken down by branch and workstation types.

**SCLS Notes:** Buggy. No option to select Branch. Doesn't pull anything up. Service Request filed.

## Exception Dates By Branch Report

A new button has been added to the branch definition page. This button will access a booking exception report which will display all the exception dates that are applicable to this branch.

**SCLS Notes:** When a library has an exception to its normal schedule of open hours, the library must enter a Booking Schedule Exception to let Library Online know about this change of hours. This report will provide an easy way to see which dates have already been entered as exception dates for your library.

**Things to note:** The report is run from System->Branch Administration-><your library>  
Under the "Branch season section", click on the button to "Search exception dates".

The report will give you a list of exceptions dates entered for your library which will include:

- Date
- Status (Open or Closed)
- Open Time From
- Open Time To

This report does not give you an easy way to enter new exceptions. Entering Booking Schedule Exceptions must still be done through Bookings->Booking Schedule Exceptions (as your library's administrative user).

Example of report:

Branch Booking Exception Dates Information			
Booking Exception dates for [Branch Name]			
Exception Date	Status	Open Time From	Open Time To
Dec 31, 2010	Closed		
Dec 26, 2010	Closed		
Dec 25, 2010	Closed		
Dec 24, 2010	Closed		
Nov 26, 2010	Closed		
Nov 25, 2010	Closed		
Jul 05, 2010	Closed		
May 31, 2010	Closed		
May 30, 2010	Closed		
Apr 04, 2010	Closed		

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Done