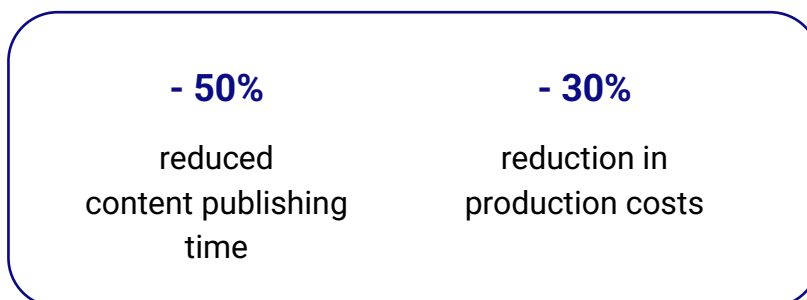# American Library Association

Customer: James Hennelly

Company: Qmerican Library Association

Original Article: https://componize.com/case-studies/american-library-association/

> **- 50%**
> reduced content publishing time
>
> **- 30%**
> reduction in production costs

"Going forward, we will seek to improve services and systems used by both subscribers and authoring groups. Dakota Systems has been selected to provide technology services as we make changes to the content management and authoring systems in the coming months."
James Hennelly - *Managing Editor*
American Library Association

The Challenge

The **American Library Association** (ALA) is the oldest and largest library association in the world. In 2010, the ALA released the **Resources Description and Access** (RDA) for the first time to provide libraries with a more effective standard for descriptive cataloging as well as instructions and guidelines for formulating bibliographic data.

ALA stakeholders engaged our partner Dakota Systems to design a solution to enable geographically dispersed teams of authors to collaborate easily and efficiently. Specifically, the system needed to support new content creation and upload as well as:

- Content sharing,
- Online editing,
- Review and approval workflows, and
- Advanced translation management functionality.

A Collaborative Solution

Over the course of the past few years, the ALA has worked with Dakota Systems to successfully complete several projects in support of a variety of publishing initiatives. The primary goal of the most recent effort was to tie these past projects together within a unique repository to manage the RDA XML content, output transformations, and streamlined workflows.

This custom solution provides ALA with:

- Supports SMEs distributed worldwide,
- Automated processes for translation management,
- Offers non-technical authors a fully customized web-based authoring tool, and
- Publishing to web and print.

The result is an end-to-end publishing solution using Componize CCMS as its core product to support the publication to multiple outputs for print, e-readers and web.

The big wins? Non-technical authors can contribute to the content directly from their web browser and ALA customers can browse the RDA toolkit online.

The Future

The future holds new challenges and improvement for the RDA toolkit.

"Componize was the perfect tool for our project. Easy to learn and integrate, we also benefited from Componize excellent support. We are glad to be Componize integration partners and anticipate a very successful relationship."
Eric Fox - *Business Development Manager*
Dakota Systems

The Results

The American Library Association, one of the oldest and largest library association in the world asked Dakota Systems to help them for several publishing initiatives.

Among the challenges, the ALA needed a common platform for its members to collaborate on the new cataloging standard RDA, Resource Description and Access. The RDA is being evaluated in several countries and has been already adopted by:

- USA Library of Congress
- British Library

- Library and Archives Canada

- National Library of Australia

- Deutsche Nationalbibliothek

Current translations are available or work in progress to Chinese, French, German and Spanish