studied electrical engineering at the Technion University and worked for years in the electronics industry, and as an Elscint service engineer in the United States for seven years. Defining exactly the optimal market for his products and then adapting his capabilities and rate of growth to this condition was a fact which allowed him to be set up on a frugal basis without requiring foreign investment. He credits his success to defining exactly the optimal market for his products and then adapting his capabilities to this condition.
ALEPH FEATURES

Integration
All aspects of the system are completely integrated. A one-time entry of information eliminates duplication and erroneous data. Information is entered and corrected in real-time, and the users receive instant, comprehensive and accurate information.

Modularity
ALEPH is modular, so that an institution can easily decide to use only those components that are relevant to its needs.

Table driven and user defined
ALEPH is a table-driven system, which enables the users to define parameters and tailor the system according to their specifications, without need for programming expertise. The application can be modified after the system has been operational.

Flexibility
Because of its flexibility, ALEPH can be adapted to any type of institution, such as library, museum, archive, research center, etc.

ALEPH was developed at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem by a team of Programmers, Analysts, and Librarians. It is currently installed at all institutions of higher education in Israel, as well as in many other private and public institutions in Israel and abroad.

ALEPH FEATURES

- ALEPH is a software product designed and developed for management of libraries, information centers, Archives and museums.
- ALEPH is a generalized, table driven system that enables libraries and other institutions to meet their information handling and retrieval requirements accurately and efficiently.
- ALEPH was planned as a user-oriented system to provide easy access together with sophisticated information retrieval capabilities according to CCL ISO 8777 standards.
- ALEPH can be adapted to any type of institution, such as: library, museum, archive, research center, etc.
- ALEPH can be tailored to various applications and types of materials, e.g. books, articles, reports, publications, slides, drawings, stamps, microforms, patents, personnel files, school courses, etc.
- ALEPH has been developed at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem by a team of Programmers, Analysts and Librarians. It is currently installed at all institutions of higher education in Israel, as well as in many other private and public institutions in Israel and abroad.
- Installations range from the DIGITAL VAX family of mainframe computers with hundreds of terminals, to independent users of personal computers.

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operator alerted. In a multi-site environment, the operator is alerted also if an item has been returned to the wrong location.

- Management of item related activities: Display reader information, change due data, register or display holds placed on an item. In a multi-site environment, a hold can be restricted to a particular location or to trap the first copy returned at any location. When an item with a hold placed is returned, the details of the first reader on the hold-list is displayed.
- Management of reader related activities: Record reader details (status, expiration, etc.), display reader information (all present and past loan transactions, fines due, etc.), generate notices for renewals, overdoes, recalls.
- PC is used as a stand-alone backup system to register transactions if the main system is not available.
- Photocopies management.

Acquisitions

- Relevant order information: Vendor, order data, estimated arrival data, price, etc.
- Acquisition related correspondence (orders, claims and others).
- Information, control and follow-up procedures: vendor details and terms, settlement of invoices, allocated vs. actual budget, etc.
- Budget control.
- Currency table

Inter-library loan management

- Loan policy for Inter-library loans is defined by the library.
- Remote libraries can display holding's information (availability, return date, status, location, etc.).
- Orders and requests for hold or photocopy delivery from remote libraries is transferred in a transparent mode.

Periodicals control

- Acquisition of subscriptions and single items, with immediate update of fund information, and warning if funds are about to be exceeded.
- Provisions for renewal of subscriptions.
- Provisions for recording frequency, volume and issue information in order to enable the system to predict forthcoming issues and to identify missing or overdue issues.
- Creation and maintenance of routing list, including priority level.
- Reports of completed volumes ready for binding, handling binding details.

QALEPH - Electronic Mail

- Remote users can send off line queries to an ALEPH database using standard EMAIL protocols such as BITNET or VAX MAIL.
- Queries can be sent to QALEPH at any time. However, the information center controls the hours during which the queries are submitted to ALEPH.
- Replies to the Users are sent by return electronic mail to their address.

Import and export utilities

- ALEPH can import data to all ALEPH files: documents, authorities, copies, circulations, borrowers, vendors, orders etc.
- ALEPH can import and export utility adds new records, and corrects, updates and replaces existing records.
- A Check-match is performed according to the USBC matching algorithm of bibliographic records.
- The export utility downloads records from ALEPH files to external files.

File security and integrity

- Each application determines password clearance and authority levels for protection of information. The search functions can be accessed by all users, while update transactions require a valid password and an appropriate level of authorization. Thus, the integrity of the data will not be hampered by unauthorized users.
- ALEPH saves all updated transactions, thereby enabling the system to recover all files if necessary due to power failure, operational errors, etc.
- ALEPH includes a set of procedures for checking/detecting/correcting errors in data files. The procedures are in addition to the standard VMS tools.

HARDWARE CONFIGURATION

- ALEPH operates on a wide range of Digital VAX family of computers under VMS, starting from the VAX STATION and up to clusters that can support hundreds of terminals.
- ALEPH operates on the UNIX 5 operating system.

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