



CASE STUDY

# Enterprise Discovery at the Architectural Association School of Architecture

*How the AASA chose SirsiDynix Enterprise  
for their discovery needs*



# Profile

*Libraries and Archives are major resources at the Architectural Association, consisting of the AA Library, the AA Photo Library and the AA Archives.*

The collection in the AA Library, founded in 1862, contains almost 46,000 volumes, including rare and early works, books, periodicals and journals, CDs/DVDs including access to online indexes and JSTOR. Library services are open to all members of the AA. The AA Library has been utilising SirsiDynix software since 1997 to manage their collection.

In 2013 the AA went to market to look for a discovery solution that would open up the collections from the AA Library, the AA Photo Library and the AA Archives to their end users. In 2014 the AA selected SirsiDynix Enterprise as the best fit for their collections.



*The AA chose Enterprise because it was the discovery tool that was able to cover most of our needs, to improve access to the collections through one interface and to be user-friendly.*

*Eleanor Gawne*

*Head Librarian at the AA  
Director of  
Library & Research Services*

# *Why choose SirsiDynix Enterprise?*

When asked the AA's reasons for choosing Enterprise Eleanor Gawne, Head Librarian replied that "The AA chose Enterprise because it was the discovery tool that was able to cover most of our needs, to improve access to the collections through one interface and to be user-friendly. We were inspired by other institutions such as the University of Reading, who were able to combine searching across collections on Enterprise. We also wanted to be able to customise the public interface to make it look part of the AA, and ensure functions such as single sign-on, request and My Account module, were integrated. With Enterprise, we also liked the search techniques, display options and ease of navigating."

SirsiDynix Enterprise provides the AA with a modern, intuitive, google like search interface that provides easy access to the interesting and unique collections and information resources maintained within the organisation. Data is harvested from the library management system (SirsiDynix Symphony),

the photo library system (iBase) and the archive system (Calm) on a regular basis. The Enterprise implementation included expert data consultancy of each of the databases to ensure that the data was formatted to suit the research needs of the student and staff of the AA. One search on Enterprise will surface the metadata from each of the collections and lead the end user back to the original data source.

Also included in the implementation of Enterprise is expert consultancy on the look and feel of the interface. Enterprise is highly customisable. The knowledge and skills of the SirsiDynix Consultants coupled with the design aesthetics at the core of an organisation such as the AA has led to a very successful Enterprise implementation.

To view the AA's Enterprise please go to <http://aasa.ent.sirsidynix.net.uk/client/default>.

## *The Project from the Customer's view point*

"We purchased Enterprise in the second half of 2013 with a scheduled full launch for the 2014/2015 academic year, giving us time to perfect the look and functionalities to match our requirements. The aim of the project to create an AA Collections search portal. The first part of the project dealt with the general functionality of Enterprise as well as matching the look of the main AA website.

The next part focused on exporting from two other systems, and importing data into Enterprise. The data from the Photo Library and the Archives having very different records and requirements, made the project all the more difficult but the SirsiDynix consultants were very successful in integrating all three sets of data. They achieved more than we had expected originally with the archive records, allowing them not only to connect to other archival records from within the detail record display but also display where a record lives within the collection, showing the hierarchy

of an archive record. The delivered script runs impeccably and records are downloaded regularly in a matter of minutes.

The last part of the project is now focused on transferring the content of our AA library pages into rooms in Enterprise as we would like to stop using web pages and allow users to remain with Enterprise for all library needs.

Possibly in the future if budgets allow, we will integrate EBSCO Discovery in Enterprise alongside our collections results.

### ***WHAT IS ENTERPRISE?***

*Enterprise brings out the full potential of all your content with a single search that spans your databases, physical catalog, and digital catalog. It gives you accurate, human-friendly results and a customizable look-and-feel that integrates with your website.*

*Enterprise offers fuzzy matching to improve search results and "Did you mean" features to combat misspellings.*

SirsiDynix staff were very professional and helpful, answering questions even outside the actual project time. For example, Janet Bream was able to help us prepare the export of data from iBase and Calm ahead of time and the entire team was flexible when we had to delay the second part of the project, thanks to Sonia.


The remote training, which covered end-user searching, administration and rooms content, was well delivered and timely."

Eleanor Gawne, Head Librarian at the AA

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## GET IN TOUCH!

*Would you be open to speaking with someone at SirsiDynix? Would you like to see Enterprise in action? We'd love to show you around Symphony and Enterprise so you can see if it's a good fit for you and your library. Contact us today!" Since both case studies focus on Enterprise, we should be good to use the same language for both.*

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