Contents notes for databases

Background

Online integrating resources (databases and websites) sometimes contain component parts. The component parts may or may not be licensed separately and they may or may not be described separately (e.g., analytics). If an online integrating resource is not analyzed, the most common way to describe the contents of the resource is through a 505 contents note, and/or with analytical entries (740/730 02).

![Image of Current protocols contents](image-url)
When creating an original description for an integrating resource, catalogers add a contents notes that applies to the resource as a whole, as viewed at the time of cataloging, regardless of the local license. Patrons are sometimes confused by these contents notes, interpreting them as the reflection of the local license.

For example, a patron recently tried to access *Current protocols in mouse biology*, a component of the larger database, *Current protocols*. The catalog record contained a complete contents note and an analytical title entry but it was clear on the website that *Current protocols in mouse biology* was not a locally licensed component:

**Proposal**

In the OCLC record, catalogers may add a complete 505 contents note and/or analytic title entries to reflect the components of the entire resource, to the extent allowed by the Provider Neutral cataloging guidelines. Catalogers, however, do not have guidance on how to communicate the contents of the local license in the local catalog record.

To remedy this situation, the following policy proposals are presented for consideration:

1. **In the local record, add a general 856 $z$ note to indicate that not all content is licensed.**
   
   856 40 $z$ Only select content licensed $u$ http://...
   856 40 $z$ Some content not currently licensed $u$ http://...

2. **In the local record, revise the contents notes to reflect the local license/subscription and delete the analytic titles of the respective components for which there is no local license. (NOTE: This option would require tracking and maintenance if the terms of the local license changed)**

3. **In the local record, add a local 590 note to reflect the local license/subscription. (NOTE: This option would require tracking and maintenance if the terms of the local license changed)**

   **Approved Aug. 12, 2014 by SCFG and RMPS:**

4. **Add an 856 $z$ note to indicate that not all content is licensed for online integrating resources (databases and websites). Add specifics as needed. Optional: Also add a 590 note to reflect the local license/subscription information.**

   **Examples:**
   856 40 $z$ Selected protocols licensed only. See list below. ...
   856 40 $z$ Selected components licensed only. See below. ...
Implementation

The new policy would only apply to new resources or those being recataloged (e.g., title changes, format changes, other bibliographic changes). The new policy should be added to the “Databases (general)” entry on the UCSD eresources tracking page.