I serve as the academic library observer on the Evergreen Indiana Executive Committee.

Here is the latest on the project.

Currently there are 69 libraries that are members of the project. 63 of these are public libraries (mostly small to medium size). 49 of the libraries are up and running with Evergreen. These 49 libraries have about 548,000 people in their service areas and the system has 396,000 patrons in the system. There are 3.1 million items and 1.8 million bib records. Evergreen is now the second largest public library system in the state; only IMCPL is larger.

By June of next year there will be 60 libraries live with 690,000 residents in the service areas of these libraries.

The first school library will go live in Evergreen about the turn of the calendar year. School will introduce many complex problems for the project, but could open up new levels of collaboration between schools and public libraries.

It appears that the decline in interlibrary loan activity through the State Library service center can be directly attributable to the direct borrowing between libraries in the Evergreen system.

SLIS Indianapolis has a couple of grants to study the effect of Evergreen on the internal operations of Evergreen libraries and the impact on patrons.

David

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³Somebody has to do something, and it's just incredibly pathetic that it has to be us.² - Jerry Garcia