



Updated 12/4/13

## Encore Background

Encore is a single-search platform to access eBooks, databases and physical material collections. A discovery tools subcommittee of the Resource Sharing Committee met 16 September to discuss with our Innovative representative the benefits of implementing Encore to help improve our search interface prior to implementing a mobile application. Dissatisfaction with the WebPAC Pro search results was the impetus so the subcommittee was then tasked to investigate libraries using Encore and compare search results with our WebPAC Pro interface.

## Encore Test

Unlike WebPAC Pro, the Encore interface does not default to index search selection. Users of an Encore version of midhudsonlibraries.org will be either using a default keyword search that includes applicable subscribed databases, eContent and our online catalog or select an advanced search to pre-filter. Like Sierra, the Encore result screen uses facets to narrow down a keyword search. Searches were conducted using the MARINet OPAC from California, a test database supplied by Innovative and our current OPAC. **CAVEAT:** The flaw in this test is that we cannot completely recreate the variables (bib records being searched and customized indexes being set) to understand how our database will return results if Encore were to be implemented.

## Encore Findings

Uniformly the Encore results (MARINet, and the test database) outperformed our current WebPAC Pro interface. See the full Encore evaluation summary to see specific tested results. Encore uses RightResult (the Encore discovery algorithm) that affect ranking for popular titles with many copies.

## Encore Overdrive API

Innovative announced in April an enhanced API integration with Overdrive allowing patrons to use Overdrive's downloadable content within the standard catalog, including downloading content, placing holds and tracking checkouts. All through the My Account feature included with Encore.

## Database Integration

Encore uses a federated search to include database content for an integrated online experience. They have recently partnered with the EBSCO Discovery Service (EDS) to improve metadata for relevant database articles by using Ebsco's indexing. The advantage here is improved article results across many (not only Ebsco) databases. **CAVEAT:** Several popular databases will not work with Encore, including: Mango, Cypress Resume, Job Now, Gale Testing and Chilton's. Those sites will continue to require a separate login URL.