Hi Maria,

First a disclaimer. I am not a Cataloger. I am a Selector. I work with the ebooks and databases.

Pratt’s Head of Cataloging is also registered for the program.

Here are the details you asked for: (sorry if this is TMI)

One way to increase awareness of the electronic resources we buy is to put MARC records for these products into the catalog.

Pratt Library is just beginning to make this move.

Our first step was Gov Docs, which are moving to electronic formats very quickly.

Now we are moving to adding more MARC records for the electronic resources we buy from Overdrive and thorough databases..

Overdrive is our vendor for ebooks and downloadable audios.

We buy these through a statewide consortium of public libraries. Every county in the state except PG is part of the consortium. PG has its own relationship with Overdrive. [If you have questions for Overdrive, I can forward them to our Overdrive Rep.]

Overdrive provides MARC records related to our ebooks and downloadable audios. The records come to Overdrive by way of OCLC.

When we began using these records last month, we found that they come with [electronic resource] modifying the title and the link is in the record.

We are a Sirsi library.

When we added the Overdrive records to our catalog, we choose/create the following:

Home Location : (electronic)
Library: (Virtual)
Item Type: (eaudio or ebook)
Item Cat 1: (eaudio or ebook)
Item Cat 2: (Adult etc.)

We chose to use Virtual Library as the Library.
We have decided to use eaudio, or ebook as our Item cat 1s. 
Adult, Children, or Young Adult are in Item Cat 2. 
Home Location is Electronic.

Recently, I saw that a database we own [Alexander Street Press - Black Drams and Black Short Fiction] offers MARC records. These are MARC records available free at the Alexander Street Press site. The records use [electronic resource] to modify the title etc.

When we add these titles, we will probably identify them as ebooks. Going with the definition "ebook is any text base electronic resource."

But are other libraries creating new item types? ex. These might be eplays or edrama - to track statistics with a high degree of granularity.

Or maybe Item Cat 1 of Fic or Nonfiction is more useful? -- But we want the format stats too? So what is the best choice?

Since we have only just begun, we want to know what other libraries are doing and why?

We would like a heads up on problem that have come up -- relating to customer service and relating to collection statistics esp.

It would be great to hear from other SIRSI libraries about their experiences.

I personally would like to hear that adding ebooks and links to databases and downloadable audios was all very easy and very dull.

Sarah