Welcome to the December issue of MassCat Musings, a brief monthly e-mail from MassCat Cataloger Dodie Gaudet.

I’ve discovered some tips and tricks to search for bibliographic records in the MassCat catalog; now it’s time for me to share them with you. Watch your e-mail at the beginning of each month to learn faster and easier ways to find the bib record you need. The more records you locate, the fewer request forms you’ll need to fill out saving typing for you and getting materials ready for patrons faster.

Here’s the first one:
Paw Prints, Turtleback, Econoclod and other companies are re-binders, not publishers. They take paperback books (usually children’s books) and put a hard cover on them so the books will last longer. These books do NOT need a new bibliographic record even though they have a new ISBN (International Standard Bibliographic Number) on the back. Make sure you look at the title page (for the publisher) and verso (for the ISBN).

If you find a bib record that matches, but you have the rebound version, add your library’s holdings. If you want, you can send an e-mail to me (dgaudet@masslibsystem.org) with the name and ISBN of the re-binder. I will include the additional ISBN in the bib record so that the book will be searchable by ISBN regardless of rebinding.

If you run across this situation and have questions, please let me know. I’m happy to walk you through the process.

Till next month,
Dodie