

May 2015

Report of the International ISRC Agency Registration Authority for ISO 3901

Since the 41st ISO TC 46/SC 9 meeting in May 2014 in Washington DC, the International ISRC Agency has continued to meet its obligations under ISO 3901:2001.

The Implementation of ISRC

The appointment of seven new National ISRC Agencies in the past year means that the work of the International ISRC Agency is now reinforced by dedicated operations in 57 territories. The Recording Industry Association of Korea (RIAK) has been appointed as National ISRC Agency for South Korea. This follows from high level discussions and acknowledgement is due to experts from the Korea Copyright Commission and the outgoing SC9 Chair, Professor Sam Oh, for their work towards this long-sought outcome. Other new National Agencies are in Barbados, Dominican Republic, Panama, Paraguay, Jamaica and Indonesia.

The International ISRC Agency has created a new and expanded website for ISRC, now translated into the Spanish language, as part of a programme to improve ISRC implementation across the Latin America region.

The uptake of ISRC throughout digital supply chains has contributed to a ubiquitous use of ISRC. Record companies supply ISRC alongside recordings or as part of the metadata for effectively all the recordings they release, and this data is widely used in the management of repertoire, in rights management and in reporting.

Software

The International ISRC Agency has implemented a new system for managing the allocation of registrant codes to producers in territories that lack a National Agency. This software encompasses an online application process and a new database system. A number of quality-control mechanisms are implemented into the software. The underlying database uses web-services, enabling it to be extended as a facility for National Agencies that would like to use it rather than develop a local system.

Revision of ISO 3901

The process to revise the ISO 3901:2001 standard is underway. There are a number of different views on the direction that the revision should take. Presently the focus of work in WG 10 is on requirements gathering and the Convener has issued a call for ISRC use cases on behalf of WG 10. IFPI continues to participate actively in the process, in parallel to its duties as International ISRC Agency, and has extended its Mirror Committee to further aid coordination between the recording industry and WG 10 as the work continues. The International ISRC Agency is pleased that the Worldwide Independent Network (WIN) is now directly participating in the work of WG 10.

Integration of ISRC with Other Systems

The International ISRC Agency continues to work with partners across different industry sectors seeking to extend and consolidate the use of ISRC. Engagement with the main collective management organisations has been a focus of this work through the past year. Recording companies supply ISRC data very widely, and a focus of current work is on further extending the use of this data to meet the needs of other industry sectors in areas such as managing repertoire data, improved reporting and generally as an aid to interoperability, efficiency and accuracy.