CORE was originally intended for publication as a NISO standard. However, following a draft period of trial use, the CORE Working Group and NISO’s Business Information Topic Committee voted to approve the document as a Recommended Practice.

Cost of Resource Exchange (CORE) Protocol Published as a NISO Recommended Practice

NISO’s latest Recommended Practice is Cost of Resource Exchange (CORE) Protocol (NISO RP-10-2010). This Recommended Practice defines an XML schema to facilitate the exchange of financial information related to the acquisition of library resources between systems, such as an ILS and an ERMS. CORE identifies a compact yet useful structure for query and delivery of relevant acquisitions data.

CORE was originally intended for publication as a NISO standard. However, following a draft period of trial use that ended March 2010, the CORE Working Group and NISO’s Business Information Topic Committee voted to approve the document as a Recommended Practice. This decision was in part based on the lack of uptake during the trial period as a result of recent economic conditions, and was motivated by the high interest in having CORE available for both current and future development as demand for the exchange of cost information increases. Making the CORE protocol available now as a Recommended Practice allows ILS and ERP vendors, subscription agents, open-source providers, and other system developers to implement the XML framework for exchanging cost information between systems in their planned development cycles.

A standing committee has been created to monitor the uptake of the Recommended Practice, provide support and outreach on the protocol, and conduct an annual review of the document with the aim of making future recommendation for re-release as a standard publication. Anyone interested in implementing the CORE Recommended Practice, joining the standing committee, or in receiving additional information should contact NISO.

For more information, visit the CORE webpage: www.niso.org/workrooms/core/.
BISG Issues Best Practices and Roadmaps for the Book Supply Chain

The Book Industry Study Group (BISG) has issued four new and revised best practices or roadmaps for handling books in the supply chain.

**Recommended Best Practices: On Sale Date Compliance**, version 1, defines best practices to enable the simultaneous availability of new releases to consumers from all consumer purchasing sources, such as online or bricks-and-mortar retailers with the goal of maintaining a “level playing field” for all trading partners. Available from: www.bisg.org/what-we-do-12-143-recommended-best-practices-on-sale-date-compliance.php


**Roadmap of Identifiers**, version 3.0, is an update of BISG’s educational tool that provides a graphic presentation of the relationships between key identifiers used by the book industry. It includes a description of each of the identifiers displayed on the roadmap. Available from: www.bisg.org/what-we-do-18-32-roadmap-of-identifiers.php

**Roadmap of Organizational Relationships**, version 2.0, is complementary to the identifier. It provides a graphic presentation of the various organizations as they relate to each other, and to the processes, functions and/or identifiers they service. Available from: www.bisg.org/what-we-do-18-33-roadmap-of-organizational-relationships.php

DAISYpedia Offers Implementation Advice for Digital Talking Book Standard

The DAISY Consortium has produced DAISYpedia, a wiki designed to assist in and support the implementation of the DAISY/NISO standard ANSI/NISO Z39.86, Specifications for the Digital Talking Book, and the new DAISY Online Delivery Protocol. The DAISYpedia offers how-to guides, step-by-step instructions, and training materials on creating publications in DAISY format.

Top level categories on the site are: Introduction to DAISY; Reading the DAISY Way, which includes information about applications and playback devices; Publishing the DAISY Way; and Accessibility, Digital Publishing, Emerging Technologies.

Content in DAISYpedia is created and added to by DAISY experts and the DAISY Community. Those with knowledge or expertise in using the DAISY standard are encouraged to become DAISYpedia editors.

View DAISYpedia at: www.daisy.org/daisypedia

Call for Comments: Revision of Encoded Archival Description (EAD)

The Society of American Archivists Technical Subcommittee for Encoded Archival Description (EAD) is calling for proposed changes to the current version, EAD 2002. The EAD Document Type Definition (DTD) is a standard for encoding archival finding aids using Extensible Markup Language (XML). The EAD Elements section of the tag library contains descriptions of 146 elements.

The deadline for change proposals is February 28, 2011. To propose changes, complete the form at: http://www.archivists.org/standards/ead/eadRevisions.asp. A separate form should be completed for each change suggested, with a brief description and the rationale for the proposed change. Comments may also be sent by e-mail to ts-ead@archivists.org and should include the information in the form.

For more information, visit: www2.archivists.org/news/2010/call-for-comments-revision-of-encoded-archival-description-ead
Survey Conducted to Learn Current Practice in Using Standardized Journal Article Version Terminology

Online publishing allows for the release of multiple versions of journal articles—and these growing practices are redefining our concept of “publishing” and the “version of record.” A NISO survey released in July 2010 to publishers, repository managers, librarians, and other stakeholders aimed to find out if metadata identifying journal article versions is needed, how such metadata—including the recommended metadata terms in the NISO Recommended Practice, NISO RP-8-2008, Journal Article Versions (JAV): Recommendations of the NISO/ALPSP JAV Technical Working Group—is currently being used, and what the future might look like. A report of the survey results will be available shortly.

Some Key Findings Include:

When asked if standard terms should be applied to journal article versions, the answer was a clear “Yes”: 92.1% agreed there should be, and only seven (3.7%) disagreed.

When asked who should ultimately be responsible for providing this metadata, results were a bit more mixed. A majority of respondents (51.9%) felt that it is the duty of the journal publishers; 11.1% thought the duty should be assigned to repository managers; 10.1% thought it was up to journal editors; and only 2.1% assigned that task to librarians. There were a large number of “Other” responses (24.9%); many indicated there is no single group that should hold this responsibility. In looking at the written responses in this category, it was clear that the survey omitted one important player as potentially responsible: the author.

When asked about current practices, and whether “your journal, repository, or publishing program distinguish[es] among multiple versions of a single article,” only 25.7% indicated that they do not distinguish multiple article versions. For those that do, 28.3% use version terms, 26.7% use publication dates, and 8.0% use numerical number identifiers other than DOIs. In addition, 60 write-in responses were given under “Other.”

When it comes to adoption, lack of prioritization was the most commonly cited obstacle, followed by challenges with current version policy, resistance to changes in current production workflows, and challenges with current collections policy.

Lettie Conrad, Online Product Manager, SAGE Publications and designer of the NISO survey reviewed the survey results at NISO’s December 13th Open Teleconference call.

For a recorded audio of the call, visit: www.niso.org/news/events/2010/telecon/
NARA Provides Guidance on Managing Records in Cloud Computing Environments

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has issued Bulletin 2010-04 to federal agencies to formally articulate NARA’s view of agencies’ records management responsibilities and considerations when managing records in cloud environments.

NARA cites the National Institute of Standards and Technology’s definition of cloud computing as “a model for enabling convenient, on-demand network access to a shared pool of configurable computing resources (e.g., networks, servers, storage, applications, and services) that can be rapidly provisioned and released with minimal management effort or service provider interaction.”

NARA identified several records-related issues that agencies using cloud computing could encounter including: the possible inability to implement records disposition schedules and manage records throughout their life cycle, lack of architecture and standards that will ensure the trustworthiness and sustainability of records, difficulty of totally removing or in migrating records, unidentified contingencies in the event the cloud provider goes bankrupt or out of business.

Among other recommendations, NARA states that agencies should include their records management officer in the planning, development, deployment, and use of cloud computing solutions. Although written for the government, anyone considering outsourcing records to the cloud will find this document of value.

Read the full bulletin at: archives.gov/records-mgmt/bulletins/2010/2010-05.html

LAC Canada Publishes File Format Guidelines for Preservation and Long-Term Access

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) has issued version 1.0 of the guidelines for the supported file formats for their Trusted Digital Repository (TDR).

Two levels of support are designated: 1) Recommended, which are the formats LAC believes are sustainable over a long period of time, and 2) Acceptable for transfer, which are the most commonly used formats from the Government of Canada collections that LAC will be preserving in the TDR. As part of the process for accepting files in the TDR, formats are normalized into one of the recommended formats to create the preservation master.

Criteria used for determining the recommended formats included: openness/transparency; adoption as a preservation standard internationally by national libraries, archives, and other memory institutions; stability/compatibility; dependencies/interoperability; and standardization, i.e. the degree a format has gone through rigorous formal standardization. The guidelines provide details on each of these criteria for meeting different rating levels.

Specific formats are listed in the categories of text, audio, digital video, still images, web archiving, structured data: databases, structured data: statistical and qualitative analysis, structured data: scientific, geospatial, computer aided design: technical drawing, computer aided design: CASE, and source code and scripts. For text, for example, recommended formats include EPUB, XHTML, XML, HTML, MIME, ODF, PDF/A, RTF, SGML, and plain text.

View the full guidelines at: www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/digital-initiatives/012018-2210-e.html
LC Study Assesses State of Sound Recording Preservation and Access

The State of Recorded Sound Preservation in the United States: A National Legacy at Risk in the Digital Age, commissioned by The Library of Congress (LC) National Recording Preservation Board, documents the state of recorded sound preservation in the United States and warns of a serious national problem. Already, “many important recordings have been lost or have become unplayable since the introduction of recorded sound in the late-nineteenth century.”

Authors Rob Bamberger and Sam Brylawski emphasize that “there is no correlation between the risk to sound recordings and their age. Recordings created in digital formats are at particular risk.” Their report describes the current state of the problem, the complex technical landscape involved with recording preservation, the need for education to train professionals in audio preservation and archives management, and the obstacles that U.S. Copyright Law places on sound recording preservation.

The report was mandated in 2000 with the passage of the National Recording Preservation Act, which established a National Recording Preservation Board and a National Recording Registry under the auspices of the Library of Congress. One of the tasks assigned to the new Board was this study on sound recording preservation and restoration. A National Recording Preservation Plan, also mandated under the Act, is scheduled for completion by the end of 2010. It will make specific recommendations for addressing the complex problems revealed in the current study.

The full study and related reports are available from: www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub148abst.html

MPS Shares Results of Librarian Survey on Usage Statistics

MPS Limited, a Macmillan company, conducted a survey of librarians in September 2010 “to understand more about how usage statistics, and in particular COUNTER-compliant usage statistics, are being used.” A total of 313 librarians, mainly from the UK, US, Australia, New Zealand, mainland Europe, and Canada, responded.

The survey’s key findings were:

» For 86% of respondents, usage statistics influence their purchasing decisions.

» 97% of librarians use usage statistics, with 87% of librarians using COUNTER-compliant usage statistics for e-journals and 66% for e-books.

» 48% of those who aren’t yet using COUNTER-compliant usage data for e-books expect to be doing so within the next year.

» 90% of librarians stated that COUNTER-compliant usage statistics are vital or important for e-journals and 74% find them vital or important for e-books.

For the complete survey results, visit: macmillanpublishingsolutions.com/AboutUs/librarian_survey.aspx?utm_source=PR20101020&utm_medium=pdf&utm_content=Counter&utm_campaign=Librarian-Survey
The two top potential impacts of new search and discovery technologies that respondents selected were in forming collaborative knowledge networks and linking data sets to published research.

Elsevier Online Opinion Survey Reveals Researchers Ready to Push Scientific Search and Discovery to the Next Level

This past summer Elsevier asked its ScienceDirect users to respond to an online survey on the future of search and discovery and received 1200 responses from 100 countries representing 20 different fields. 97% indicated that open data was very or somewhat important to the future of search and discovery and 80% agreed that the availability of APIs will be critical to enabling solutions for finding and accessing data. Over 2/3 expressed interest in being involved with the development of such solutions, but less than 1/3 thought their organization would support their involvement. No one type of proposed application was a clear leader; interest was shown in “customized search (18%); those that extract data to elicit more meaningful insight (17%); apps that show content which trusted peers find valuable (16%); those that provide personalized content delivery based on my interests and background (16%); and apps offering analytical tools that are able to target trends, look at historical research output and text/data mine to create semantic relationships across scientific content (16%).” The two top potential impacts of new search and discovery technologies that respondents selected were in forming collaborative knowledge networks and linking data sets to published research.

Highlights of the Future of Search and Discovery survey were shared during an Elsevier-hosted webinar. Interested parties can register to view a replay of the webinar.

Read the full release about the survey findings at: www.elsevier.com/wps/find/authored_newsitem.cws_home/companynews05_01700