

Report on the Meeting on Common Issues for Information Identifier Systems

February 2-3, 2000 -- Paris

On February 3, 2000 an invitational meeting of representatives from various identifier systems and projects was convened at the Bibliothèque nationale in Paris, under the auspices of the TC 46/SC 9 Secretariat. The purpose of the meeting was to bring the interested parties involved with identifiers for "information items" together in order to discuss mechanisms to address the issues that they share in common.

Participants at the meeting included representatives from ISO/TC 46/SC 9, the ISSN International Centre, the ISBN Advisory Panel, the International ISRC Agency, the International ISRN Agency, the ISAN project, the ISWC project, ISO Central Secretariat, EDItEUR, the Uniform Code Council, the World Intellectual Property Organisation, the National Bibliography Numbers project of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries, NISO (representing the SICI standard), the Indecs project, EAN International, OCLC, the International Publishers Association, the International DOI Foundation, MPEG's Intellectual Property Management & Protection (IPMP) project, and ISO/TC 154. Representatives from the IETF's URN project and from the W3C were unable to attend.

The representatives of ISO identifier systems also met separately on February 2nd to prepare for the larger meeting. At the pre-meeting of ISO identifier systems it was agreed that there was a need to improve the coordination of efforts in some areas. As an initial step the group decided that further work should be done to compile a list of the data elements used within each system, including the definitions and function of the data elements that are registered within these systems.

The emphasis of the joint meeting on February 3rd was to address issues affecting the interoperability of information identifier systems and determine methods for dealing with common issues or requirements among the various groups involved. Although it was apparent from the discussions that there was an urgent need to improve the inter-operability of information identification in the e-commerce environment, it was not immediately clear how that goal could be achieved and where that work could be progressed given the diversity of the interest groups involved. Nevertheless, there was general agreement that a common understanding of semantics and a definition of common vocabularies for the metadata associated with information identification was needed. This work is already being done under the umbrella of the Indecs project and to some extent within the Dublin Core initiative. It was also clear that there is a pressing need to bridge the gap between ISO and the world of Internet standardization.

The meeting identified a number of key factors affecting the usability of identifier systems in an e-commerce environment, including:

- clearly delineated scopes for each identification system.
- a set of data elements for describing each item registered within an identifier system;
- a common understanding of the meaning of each data element in its particular context;

- information on the status of the various data elements (i.e. the “signature” on each data element; who supplied the data and in what context), because such statements can have legal and economic implications in the e-commerce environment;
- the ability to protect some data elements from unauthorized access or misuse.

As a starting point for future work, it was agreed both the Dublin Core scheme (including qualifiers) and the Indecs analysis of Creation Types would be distributed to all participants. Participants would then map their own sets of registration data to these schemata to arrive at a composite picture of the registration data for identifier systems and the potential for their interoperability.

Participants agreed to meet again, although the proposed follow-up meeting was postponed until there were results from the tasks assigned at this first session. The date of a follow-up meeting has not yet been set.

Reported by:

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ISO/TC 46/SC 9 Secretary

May 9, 2000

List of attendees**Invitational Meeting on Common Issues for Information Item Identifier Systems****February 2000 -- Paris**

- **Mark Bide**, EDItEUR (mark@markbide.co.uk)
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- **André Chaubeau**, FIAPF, Convenor for ISO's ISAN (International Standard Audiovisual Number) project (achaubeau@fiapf.org)
- **Sophie Clivio**, Technical Officer, ISO Central Secretariat (clivio@iso.ch)
- **Christine Deschamps**, Chairperson, ISO TC 46/SC 9 "Information and documentation -- Presentation, identification and description of documents"; President, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (Deschamps@bu.univ-paris5.fr)
- **Annick Duflos**, CISAC Document Manager (re: ISWC implementation) (annick.duflos@cisac.org)
- **Elizabeth Giuliani**, BNF/AFNOR [host organization] (elizabeth.giuliani@bnf.fr)
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- **Keith Hill**, Music Alliance UK / Indecs project (keith.hill@prs.co.uk)
- **Paul Jessop**, IFPI Technology Dept. (paul.jessop@ifpi.org)
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 - **Niels Rump**, Chair of Functional Requirements Working Group of Secure Digital Music Initiative; MPEG activities on Intellectual Property Management & Protection (rump@intertrust.com)
 - **Godfrey Rust**, INDECS Project [Interoperability of Data in E-Commerce Systems] (godfreyrust@dds.netkonect.co.uk)
 - **Albert Simmonds**, Openly.com; for the ISBN Advisory Panel (albert@openly.com)
 - **Jane Thacker**, Secretariat, ISO TC 46/SC 9 “Information and documentation -- Presentation, identification and description of documents” (jane.thacker@nlc-bnc.ca)
 - **François Vuilleumier**, Chairperson, ISO TC154 “Processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration”
 - **Monica Walsh**, EAN International (walsh@ean.be)
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 - **Amélie Fresneau**, ISSN France/Bibliothèque nationale de France
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 - **Patrick LeBoeuf**, Bibliothèque nationale de France
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