

Newsletter June 2009

ONIX for Books v3.0

ONIX for Books 3.0 has now been released. This is a major new release embodying a number of important changes and is the first since 2001 that is not backwards-compatible. We have taken this step because the changes in the requirements expressed by ONIX users were too extensive to be made without fundamental structural changes to the message. Major changes include much more sophisticated management of information about digital products; we have also been able to deal with some known problems with the description of series, sets and multiple-item products of all kinds. ONIX 3.0 takes a completely revised approach to this; however, it does not significantly affect the description of straightforward single-item products. We have also added better support for the wide variety of “marketing collateral” that publishers now provide for their titles.

The full specification and schema for 3.0 is available on the EDItEUR website (www.editeur.org) together with supporting material including issue 9 code lists (the issue 9 lists apply to both release 2.1 and 3.0). The Issue 10 code list has been drafted and is currently out for review and comment with the ONIX national groups and is expected to be published by the end of June. A number of further documents are in development and will complete the suite. One of the outstanding documents is a set of guidelines on how to define digital items in v3.0; this will be released with the issue 10 code lists.

We expect the first implementations of ONIX 3.0 in early 2010.

With the release of ONIX 3.0 the ONIX for Books International Steering Committee has confirmed that ONIX 1.0 will no longer be supported.

Further plans supporting the wider implementation of ONIX for Books include the forthcoming publication of an FAQ page on the website.

Other work in progress

We have a number of other active projects, the most significant of which are:

- **ICEDIS (International Committee on EDI for Serials)** which came under the EDItEUR umbrella in 2000 brings together business and technical representatives from the world’s leading journal publishers and subscription agents. There is ongoing work on developing the ICEDIS serials price message with the current focus being on technical and implementation questions. It is anticipated that the new message will be finalised in time for live use from July 2009.
- **A strategic review of which EDI messages are currently being used** and the extent to which published standards have been modified to meet specific users’ requirements particularly concentrating on their implementation in the book trade (a review of EDI for serials will follow later). The first stage of this is a questionnaire

which has been developed by Celia Burton on behalf of EDItEUR. The deadline for responses is **12 June**. If you have not received a questionnaire and would like to contribute, please contact Celia (celiaburton@totalise.co.uk).

- **The EDItEUR website is undergoing a facelift** which will give it a new look and feel. It will still incorporate all standards specifications and schemas for download but within a revised, clearer site structure. The new website should be live by the end of June. In the meantime we will continue to maintain and fully support the existing website and its associated documents.
- **EDItEUR has started work on its contribution to the ARROW Project** (see <http://www.arrow-net.eu/>). ARROW – Accessible Registries of Rights Information and Orphan Works towards Europeana – is a project of a consortium of European national libraries, publishers and collective management organisations, also representing writers through their main European associations and national organisations. ARROW aims to support the EC's i2010 Digital Library Project by finding ways of identifying rightsholders and of clarifying the rights status of a work (including, for example, whether it is "orphan" or is out of print). This will enable libraries as well as other users to obtain information about who owns and administers rights in a work and where they can seek permission to digitise and/or make the work available. Key to achieving this objective is interoperability, standards deployment and stakeholder involvement. EDItEUR is acting as a consultant to the project on standards and interoperability; and expects to be developing a number of specialist ONIX messages to support ARROW workflows.

EDItEUR Meetings at London Book Fair

- **EDItEUR Management committee meeting**
The main items discussed by the committee related to proposed changes to the governance structure and future funding model for EDItEUR. We expect to have a changed constitution in place before the end of the year.
- **EDItEUR Open meeting**
The minutes of the Open Meeting are attached with this Newsletter.
- **ONIX for Books International Steering Committee**
Most matters of note concerning ONIX for Books, including the release of ONIX 3.0, are covered separately in the ONIX for Books section of this Newsletter. However, a related item discussed at the committee was that some countries have expressed an interest in how sheet music can be fully described using ONIX 3.0. This could be implemented as an extension to ONIX 3.0, probably simply by developing specialised code lists (although some additional elements may be necessary). EDItEUR is interested in hearing from any parties that might wish to implement such a scheme as we are still at the stage of gauging the level of demand for this (please contact mark@editeur.org)

Forthcoming events

- **17 June 2009**

“ePublishing Conference: Challenges of the publishing industry in the digital era: standards and interoperability”

The [European Commission](#) together with [CEN](#) and [FEP](#) have organized a seminar aimed at exploring critical standards and related challenges in relation to electronic publishing. The seminar, in which EDItEUR will participate, will address issues such as publishing workflow and production software, metadata standards, distribution and end-user requirements. Audience participation and panel reactions will explore how an improved standards effort will help electronic publishing to achieve its full potential.

The seminar will be held in the Breydel Building (BREY, Av. d'Auderghem, 45, Brussels) on European Commission premises on 17 June 2009. For further information:

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/ict/policy/standards/epb09_en.htm

- **13 October 2009**

EDItEUR International Supply Chain Meeting – Frankfurt Book Fair

The 31st annual International Supply Chain Specialists Meeting takes place on Tuesday 13 October 2009 at the Frankfurt Book Fair, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm (precise venue to be confirmed).

As usual, the meeting will consist of a series of presentations focusing on all aspects of the book and serials supply chain for both physical and digital products and on the opportunities presented by technology. Although the programme is nearly complete if you are interested in making a presentation, please contact us as soon as possible by email (info@editeur.org) with a brief description of your proposed topic.

We are inviting delegates to make a contribution towards the cost of the meeting (to include lunch and all refreshments). The fees are £110 for members of EDItEUR and £150 for non-members. If you would like to register for the event please email info@editeur.org requesting a registration form or access the form via our website (www.editeur.org).

Thank you.

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