

Newsletter September 2009

New EDItEUR website

Our new website (still at www.editeur.org) was (quietly!) launched at the start of August. It still incorporates all standards, specifications and schemas for download but within a revised site structure. With an eye on good navigability we have showcased EDItEUR's main areas of expertise more clearly than before by identifying more prominently the separate strands of ONIX work in all its flavours as well as our involvement in wider international standards development. Our collaborative projects also have their own menu area. For the first time we have a dedicated events section and we would, of course, be happy to receive requests and copy from members to promote events of related interest. We hope that you will take a few moments to have a look at the new site and let us have any comments or suggestions for improvements. Please send comments or news of related events to Stella Griffiths at info@editeur.org.

ONIX for Books Release 3.0

In the last EDItEUR Newsletter, we reported that ONIX for Books Release 3.0 was now available. Since then, the release has been completed by the publication in July of Issue 10 of the ONIX for Books Code Lists, which provides initial values for new elements added in Release 3.0. Issue 10 also includes new codes which apply equally to ONIX 2.1.

The level of interest in ONIX 3.0 was demonstrated by three-figure audience levels at two North American webinars organised by Book Industry Study Group in August and September, with speakers from both EDItEUR and BISG. There is ample evidence that early adopters are making good progress with development work, and some companies will certainly be ready well before the start of 2010. However, we still expect that real implementation will start in the first quarter of next year.

If any other national groups would be interested in organising similar events, we would be delighted to help and to participate; please contact Mark Bide [mark@editeur.org] for an initial discussion on how best to approach this – or speak to Mark at the Frankfurt Book Fair.

During the summer we have been consulting with ONIX for Books national groups on how best to use the provisions in Release 3.0 which will permit “block” updating of ONIX metadata without re-sending a complete record. The consultation period has just ended. No significant issues arose, and at the end of September we will publish guidelines on sending updates in ONIX for Books Release 3.0.

As is inevitable with such a large package of schemas and documentation, there were a number of minor errors in the initial release, which have been corrected. We are grateful to all those who have spotted and reported discrepancies. If you are still using the materials originally released, please check the [EDItEUR website](http://www.editeur.org) and download the latest corrected versions. If you are not already signed up to the [ONIX implement listserv](http://www.editeur.org), please consider joining it now. This is where issues are most often reported and discussed, and where we circulate information whenever something new is added to the ONIX for Books pages on the website.

ONIX for ISTC Metadata

As part of EDItEUR's practice of supporting ISO and other standards in our community, we have been working with the International ISTC Agency (IIA) to develop an ONIX format to be used by ISTC registrants and Registration Agencies for two-way communication related to the processes of registering a new ISTC or amending the metadata associated with an existing ISTC. After a lengthy period of piloting a draft version of the format, the IIA recently approved the publication of Version 1.0, which can now be found on the EDItEUR website as [ONIX ISTC Registration Format](#).

ONIX-PL

Work on ONIX-PL continues to focus on developing demand for implementation. We remain convinced that it will be library-led "pull" rather than publisher-led "push" that will lead to implementation. We are continuing to raise awareness of ONIX-PL in the library community wherever the opportunity presents itself, and the joint NISO-EDItEUR ONIX-PL committee is working hard on our behalf, particularly in the United States.

The recent completed JISC RELI project has demonstrated just how powerful a communication tool a machine-interpretable license can be – and Mark Bide, EDItEUR's Executive Director will be demonstrating the RELI technology at UKSG's meeting in Edinburgh in April 2010, as well as at other appropriate events.

EDItEUR has recently been commissioned by [Eduserv](#), a non-profit supplier of IT-related services to government and education, to develop an ONIX-PL expression of the standard licence terms which Eduserv uses for the procurement of electronic resources on behalf of its clients. The ONIX expression, and any extensions to the ONIX-PL vocabulary which it may require, will be published when the project is complete.

EDItX message formats

EDItX, the family of XML-based transaction message formats developed by EDItEUR, is growing. Following publication of version 1.0 of the EDItX Sales Report last March, EDItEUR has now released the version 1.0 of the EDItX Inventory Report. This format can be used to report levels of inventory that are being managed on behalf of the stock owner, such as when stock is held on consignment. Work in progress includes an EDItX Credit Note message format, which it is hoped to release as version 1.0 later this year.

As the number of implementers of the EDItX formats increases, we aim to respond promptly to any issues that arise. Implementers are encouraged to inform EDItEUR of their intentions and provide contact details, so that we can provide you with information on format upgrades and bug fixes.

ICEDIS (the International Committee on EDI for Serials)

ICEDIS price message

EDItEUR and ICEDIS collaborated successfully, earlier this year, to introduce an updated mechanism to convey pricing details for serial resources. Following decisions in two earlier meetings, ICEDIS set up a working group of interested parties in March 2009. Collaborating

by phone conference and email, an enthusiastic group of publishers and agents worked over a period of about three months, from inception to sign-off of a new ICEDIS Price Message.

The standard itself is a member of the ONIX for Serials family – in fact, it is a specialized instance of the ONIX SPS (Subscription Product & Subscriptions) message. The new XML standard was created by EDItEUR consultants, based upon the expressed business needs, and then modified and fine-tuned following paper prototyping and initial test file generation.

The Price Message can deal with simple and complex business models, including of course online resources, packaged products (with full detail at both component and header level), “list” and “tiered” pricing models, etc. Considerable interest has been expressed in bringing the Price Message into widespread use during 2010’s pricing exchanges and beyond – with big benefits in prospect in terms of eliminated keying, greater accuracy and faster updating.

The ICEDIS Roadmap

EDItEUR has been working closely with ICEDIS on standards and procedures to better support the serials sector. Bringing together many of the leading agents, publishers and systems vendors, ICEDIS is increasingly well placed to articulate pressing needs in the serials supply chain and to provide a sounding board for message development. This is proving to dovetail very effectively with the standards consultancy and management services that EDItEUR provides for ICEDIS.

September saw the delivery of an EDItEUR report and recommendations entitled the “ICEDIS Roadmap”. A series of business use cases was defined and a questionnaire sent to the ICEDIS membership to establish which cases have the greatest priority for implementation. Fifteen organisations responded, providing a clear and comprehensive overview of current challenges across the serials landscape. Following debate at the October ICEDIS meeting in Frankfurt, it is hoped that the Roadmap will live up to its name and provide a useful framework to guide serials efforts over the next few years.

Top of the priority list by some distance were two topics – the provision of a new Price Catalogue-style message and a return to improved handling of Claims and Claims Responses – both of which are reviewed elsewhere in this Newsletter. Other prominent requirements related to improving information flows for subscriptions to Online Resources, a general enthusiasm for a system of unique Institutional Identifiers and potentially new messages to support the aims of [Project TRANSFER](#).

Claims and claim responses

The perennial problem of how best to deal with serials claims has kept this issue at the forefront of concerns for libraries, agents and publishers. This was recently reinforced in responses to the ICEDIS Roadmap questionnaire (described elsewhere in this Newsletter): once again, Claims and Claims Responses were within the top two priorities for those responding.

Given the widespread interest in seeking a better way to manage claims, EDItEUR has submitted a briefing paper for discussion at the October ICEDIS meeting in Frankfurt. Apart from reviewing the background, sadly familiar to many participants, it is proposed that ICEDIS launch a new initiative on Claims – establishing precisely what business partners seek

to achieve and then moving to re-examine the processes and messaging in place to support these aims.

Other work in progress

We have a number of other strands of work keeping us busy at the moment.

Rights information

We have two similar projects where there is a requirement for messaging related to licensing and rights repositories.

EDItEUR is subcontracted by the [ARROW Project](#) to provide standard messages to support the workflow involved in libraries seeking permission to digitize books. This large European project is in part a response to the challenge of licensing orphan works (ARROW is an acronym: *Accessible Registries of Rights Information and Orphan Works towards Europeana*) but is more critically about tracing rightsholders wherever this is possible. The partners in the project are not only publisher and author organizations, but also several National Libraries and Reproduction Rights Organizations (RROs). More can be found on the website.

At the same time, the Book Industry Study Group has established a committee to consider the requirements for rights related messages in respect of the “Book Rights Registry” which it is anticipated will be established if the Settlement of the Google Book Search class action is approved. EDItEUR is collaborating closely with BISG in this initiative, and it is anticipated that we will be involved in the design of the messages developed in response to these requirements.

It is obviously critical to many of our constituencies that all these messages should be congruent with other messages in the ONIX stable (including, for example, ONIX for Books and ONIX for RROs).

We expect a lot of development in this area over the next three months.

Identifiers for eBooks

Many of our readers will be familiar with the challenges facing the ebook supply chain with respect to product identification. Mark Bide has been making presentations on this issue – at the BISG Members Meeting in New York in September; and a week later in a BISG webcast to an online audience of around 200 people. In November Mark and Brian Green will be together at the Charleston Conference in the US, discussing the same issue with the library community.

If you have any comments on this or other topics in which we are engaged, please do not hesitate to make contact [mark@editeur.org]

Fact finding about EDI

We have been undertaking two research projects into EDI implementations and directions, one in books and one in serials. We have not yet got all the results correlated but we expect to publish these reports – and roadmaps built on them – before the end of the year.

Forthcoming events

12 October 2009: ICEDIS meeting – Hotel Savigny, Frankfurt City

This meeting is for ICEDIS members only (or by invitation). If you would like to find out more about ICEDIS and its work, please see <http://www.editeur.org/59/ICEDIS/> or contact us at EDItEUR (info@editeur.org)

13 October 2009: EDItEUR International Supply Chain Seminar – Frankfurt

The 31st annual International Supply Chain Seminar takes place on Tuesday 13 October 2009 at Frankfurt, between **10.00 am and 4.00 pm** (Room EUROPA, Hall 4.0). The meeting includes 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. The seminar programme is available at: <http://www.editeur.org/3/Events/Event-Details/31>.

Pre-registration for this event is essential - 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 webpage for this event <http://www.editeur.org/3/Events/Event-Details/31>.

13 October 2009: EDItEUR ONIX for Books International Steering Committee 1630 – 1830 Room Good Will, Hall 4.0

Amongst the items for discussion will be implementation timescales for ONIX 3.0, the release of code list 10 and possible extensions of ONIX to cover sheet music including the establishment of a pilot study.

14 October 2009: EDItEUR Open Meeting 1400 – 1600 Room Concorde, Hall 4.0

All members of EDItEUR are invited to attend the Open Meeting at the Frankfurt Book Fair to hear about and discuss EDItEUR's recent development activities as well as those in related areas of standards development and book supply chain initiatives. There is no need to pre-register, simply go to the meeting venue.

15 October 2009: EDItEUR Management Committee Meeting 1000 – 1200 Room Good Will, Hall 4.0

This meeting is open to members of the EDItEUR Management Committee only.

4-7 November 2009: Charleston Conference – Issues in Book and Serials Acquisition

The Charleston Conference is an informal annual gathering of librarians, publishers, electronic resource managers, consultants, and vendors of library materials in Charleston, SC, in November, to discuss issues of importance to them all. Registration: <http://www.katina.info/conference/registration.php>

Thank you.

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