

Open Meeting Synopsis: London Book Fair, Tuesday 16 April 2013

Please note that the following is not a formal set of minutes, merely a synopsis of the discussion points.

Updates on ONIX for Book

Graham Bell provided an update on ONIX for Books:

- 1) we continue to issue new codelist revisions and to make small updates to the schemas [the latest version of the ONIX for Books codelists, 21, was approved by the ONIX International Steering Committee meeting immediately prior to the members open meeting, and has since been published on the EDItEUR website];
- 2) we have begun to coordinate an ongoing training programme, which has now been conducted in several different countries with the support of several different EDItEUR members, and which has been useful in encouraging more standardised implementation and a good pool of knowledgeable users;
- 3) we have continued with the development of the ONIX for Books 3.0 Schematron (an advanced method of xml validation now available for ONIX 3.0 on the website) and with an optional reply message in ONIX (the idea being that a recipient of an ONIX message can confirm the status of the ONIX data that they have been sent. (eg. it's unusable, it's fine, or it's mostly fine but here are some errors.)

Graham also reminded members of the sunset date for ONIX 2.1 at the end of 2014, and explained the implications.

ICEDIS

Tim Devenport updated the meeting regarding EDItEUR activities in the serials world, including the latest ICEDIS meeting at UKSG in Bournemouth the previous week. A significant development has been the publication of the Structured Name & Address model. In the serials subscription world many organisations are still using completely unstructured or poorly structured name and address data, which cannot be usefully exchanged with trading partners. This model has been developed as a data interchange standard in response. It has the capability of incorporating identifiers such as the ISNI (and, where appropriate, the ORCID). ICEDIS has also developed a New Orders message in XML, and has been collecting code values for ONIX for an imminent release of serials Codelists Issue 6. [Codelists Issue 6 is now available on the EDItEUR website.]

Tim told members about the recent decommissioning of the ICEDIS website, and the migration of its content onto EDItEUR's own site.

Our priority for 2013 is implementation (a change from the last few years, when we have been more focused on developing new specifications). We will be publishing updated and extended implementation documentation in the near future, and training and implementation workshops will begin shortly.

A key development arising from the meeting is 'the beginning of the end' for the original ICEDIS fixed-format message specifications. Members at the meeting raised the issue as part of a discussion about the ICEDIS renewals message specification and its replacement with an XML equivalent (based on a minor modification of the new subscription message). Members showed some enthusiasm for beginning a wide-ranging programme aimed at sun-setting the fixed-format messages. A paper for discussion will be released before ICEDIS meeting at the Frankfurt Book Fair.

Lastly, Tim highlighted the onset of Open Access publishing. EDItEUR may be involved in the creation of a new transactional standard regarding payment for such publications.

EDItX

Francis Cave updated the meeting on progress with implementation of EDItX messages. A German requirement to revisit names & addresses in consumer direct fulfilment has been met leading to a minor addition to schema.

EDItEUR has now agreed a set of updates to the BISG flat format for digital sales reporting. Len Vlahos of BISG confirmed that some key players in the United States have started using this format for reporting; and Uwe Janssen of KNV reported that in Germany a number of publishers and e-book retailers have announced their support for the format and one publisher is aiming to convince Amazon to adopt it! Luc Audrain of Hachette Livre noted that on digital products no-one in France currently uses any standard sales reporting format.

Identifiers

Stella Griffiths spoke about the latest news on ISBN. The International ISBN agency has signed a contract with CINECA to provide a new database and website; work has already started. This project is much needed to overhaul our complete technical infrastructure. In other news, three new agencies have become properly operational in recent months – Myanmar, Oman and Afghanistan. This year's ISBN AGM will be in New York in September, at which we hope many Latin American agencies will participate, as well as BISG.

Julian Sowa of Nielsen Book spoke about latest ISTC developments. The forthcoming Board Meeting of the International ISTC Agency will include discussions about governance: there are currently founding members only on the Board, but this may be opened up. Julian noted that currently 200,000 ISTCs have been registered (representing over a million products.) A functioning web service now exists to enable any licensed system to request an ISTC "on the fly". Anyone can use this facility get an ISTC one-at-a-time rather than having to apply in batches.

Mark briefly noted that ISNI registrations are continuing to increase, and NISO has announced that it is adopting the ISNI name identifier.

Major Projects

Sarah Hilderley spoke about the Enabling Technologies Framework project, now entering its final phase. The most significant output from this project is the Accessibility Guidelines, version 4 of which will be issued to coincide with the DAISY conference in Copenhagen in June. In addition, two online learning modules are now available on the EDItEUR website. The second module, entitled *What is an Accessible Format?*, was published after October's Frankfurt Book Fair. Two more modules will be published shortly: *Accessible Images* and *Accessibility Metadata*; others are in the pipeline for publication before the end of the project, including *Accessibility Features of EPUB3*.

Related initiatives include our participation in the Accessibility Action Group in the UK, our completion of an 'accessibility audit' for an ebook platform provider, continuing involvement in the TIGAR project, and our promotion of the accessibility agenda in a variety of conferences and seminars: Tools of Change New York, the E-Accessibility Forum in March, an accessibility conference for libraries and education in London in February, and lastly the London Book Fair seminar organised by PLS, RNIB and EDItEUR. The latter featured a demonstration of readers who required a whole range of accessibility features and attracted an impressive audience of 175 people.

Michael Hopwood provided an update on the Linked Heritage project, which is also shortly to come to an end. Our first two reports are available on the EDItEUR website and the third report will follow once it has been approved.

EDItEUR's role within Linked Heritage has been to explore issues relating to the integration of commercial content metadata into Europeana. To this end, we recently have been working with publishers to see how far they might engage and to determine what metadata might be made

available; we have also produced mappings between schemas such as ONIX and those used in the Heritage sector. The final task relates to the development of a business case for commercial content providers to engage with Europeana. In this context, copyright and licensing issues have inevitably been at the forefront. The CC0 Creative Commons licence (adopted for its metadata publication by Europeana) implies that any organisation contributing their metadata has essentially to waive all rights in their metadata records. Some contributions of commercially-sourced metadata may be possible but scale and scope are likely to be restricted to very specialist heritage publishing and to heritage organisations; and the depth of contributed metadata will be limited.

Tim Devenport presented DCH-RP, a project of academic networks investigating the potential of cloud storage in digital preservation. EDItEUR's role will be bridging the academic institutions in the project with the world of publishing. We will also look at whether there are circumstances in which commercial publishers might be interested in contributing in this project and we are exploiting the fact that the preservation of digital content is mature within the serials world, through CLOCKSS and Portico.

Brian Green spoke about ARROWPlus. ARROW is a tool to facilitate diligent search for possible orphan works in Books in Print databases, rights databases etc. ARROWPlus has extended the reach of the project to countries currently without such database infrastructure, mostly in eastern Europe. EDItEUR has been working on business requirements and business plans for sustainability.

Giulia Marangoni of AIE confirmed that ARROW is about to become a legal entity. The service will thus be enabled to outlive the project.

Any Other Business

Mark then talked about priorities for EDItEUR in the coming year. We will primarily be looking at implementation of existing standards in the coming months, particularly pushing implementation of ONIX 3. Implementation will also be the main focus on the serials side, along with the work on the replacement for the fixed-format subscription renewal message.

Francis Cave and Mark Bide talked about ONIX-PL. This message format is for communication of licences in the libraries sector. It is so far relatively under implemented, but JISC have now completed a major implementation. They have developed a database of their own standard licences (ELCAT), and NISO has been funded by Mellon to undertake a similar but more wide-ranging project.

Some of the major projects EDItEUR has worked on are approaching their end. However, there are several new projects in development which are designed to include EDItEUR. So far, it is unclear which of these will go ahead.

Lastly, Mark commented upon the growing relationship EDItEUR has with the International Digital Publishing Forum, with whom we shared a stand at London Book Fair for the first time in 2013.

Mark closed the meeting and thanked delegates for their attendance. The next Open meeting will be held on Wednesday 9 October 2013 at Frankfurt Book Fair (provisionally Room Alliance.)