



Minutes of Open Meeting

14.00-16.00 Tuesday 21 April 2009, Victoria Room, London Book Fair

Present

Friedemann Weigel, Harrassowitz (Chair)
Liv Berg, Den Norske Bokdatabasen
Mark Bide, EDItEUR
Francis Cave, EDItEUR
Frans Cladder, Boektrust, NL
Sydney Davies, Booksellers Association of UK and Ireland
Laurent Dervieu, Electre
Simon Edwards, BIC
Gerald Fiani, Electre
Manfred Gravelius, MVB Germany
Brian Green, EDItEUR
Stella Griffiths, EDItEUR
Michael Healy, BISG
Peter Kilborn, BIC
Wendell Lotz, Ingram Book
Giulia Marangoni, mEDRA/AIE

David Martin, EDItEUR
Vincent Marty, Dilicom
Paola Mazzucchi, mEDRA/AIE
Tuula Pelkonen-Tiri, Kirjavalitys
Simonetta Pillon, Informazioni Editoriali
Renée Register, OCLC Inc US
Martin Robert, BTLF
Mike Ruel, Bowker US
Gabriella Scipione, CINECA/mEDRA
Heidi Segtraun, Den Norske Bokdatabasen
Julian Sowa, Nielsen/ISTC
Aija Vahtola, National Library of Finland
Stephanie Van Duin, Hachette Livre
Bob Van Volkenburg, OCLC Inc US
Andy Weissberg, Bowker US
Olaf Winslow, EBF/Danish BA

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 15 October 2008 at the Frankfurt Book Fair were noted and approved. There were no matters arising that would not be covered elsewhere on the Agenda.

2. EDItEUR – organizational issues

2.1 New Staff members

Mark Bide briefed the attendees about the organizational changes that had recently taken place at EDItEUR. Brian Green had stepped down as Executive Director and would now fully allocate his available time within EDItEUR to his role as Executive Director of the International ISBN Agency and Mark was now the Executive Director of EDItEUR. In addition, Stella Griffiths had joined as Associate Director – sharing her time between EDItEUR and the International ISBN Agency.

2.2 New governance structure

Mark Bide stated that recommendations would be made by the EDItEUR Management Committee concerning the future governance of EDItEUR and that he proposed, subject to further revision, to unveil the new structure of EDItEUR at the Frankfurt meeting.

2.3 Strategy

There would be few changes to the previously very successful formula, but Mark Bide stated that, going forward, there would be a slightly greater emphasis on marketing and communication, as well as on providing more support for implementation. It was also recognised that it was now necessary to recognise the reality of media convergence, particularly in online delivery channels, and therefore to look beyond the boundaries of

the immediate publishing sector, and to work with standards organisations in the other media to build standards coherence across the content industries as a whole.

3. Reports on EDItEUR development activities

3.1 ONIX International Report

3.1.1 ONIX for Books

Mark Bide congratulated all those involved, most particularly David Martin, Francis Cave and Brian Green on the release of ONIX 3.0. He also apologised for some problems which had occurred as a result of changes in Web Hosting arrangements (which are themselves preparatory to the launch of a new EDItEUR web site).

David Martin provided an oral update on ONIX for Books noting that there were still a few outstanding matters to be resolved. Code list Issue 9 had been published, and discussions continued with national groups and others with expertise in these areas about the proposed code list Issue 10 for which the planned release date is June 2009. There would be further documents available on the website in due course to supplement the information already available, in particular to incorporate guidelines and best practice examples for handling sets and series, other multiple item products and digital items.

It was noted that release 3.0 included a number of aspects of enhanced functionality:

- removal of redundant elements
- improved description of digital products
- improved handling of multiple-item products and series
- improved descriptive capability related to marketing collateral and other supporting resources
- improved handling of availability and supply channels in different markets (without disadvantage to those operating in a single market)
- recognising the introduction of ISTC (products can be related to works)
- feasibility for more efficient updates (replacing “blocks” within a record rather than the entire record)

In addition, W3C schema and ISO schema languages (RelaxNG) afforded the possibility for more sophisticated validation.

David Martin reported that interest had been expressed in the possibility of extending ONIX to cover the description of sheet music and this would be followed up over the next six months subject to evidence of interest and demand.

Renée Register stated that OCLC had already prepared a mapping from ONIX to MARC and planned to make this more widely available by sharing it with EDItEUR.

Delegates from the US proposed that ONIX 3.0 should be presented and promoted at appropriate forthcoming conferences in North America. BookExpo America was suggested and it was agreed that BISG would look at how best to do this. EDItEUR offered marketing collateral. Andy Weissberg emphasised that more aggressive outreach concerning encouraging publishers to adopt ONIX 3.0 was needed. It was agreed to prepare a white paper outlining the business case.

3.1.2 ONIX for Serials

Mark Bide explained that the ICEDIS group (part of EDItEUR since 2000) had originally been formed in the 1980s to define formats for data transfer of high volumes of subscription orders on tape between

agents and serials publishers. Serials-related messaging using ICEDIS formats had been very successful over a sustained period, but the Committee now recognised that it was essential to move these to .xml formats and a Roadmap for this work was in development. A development of the ONIX SPS (pricing information) message to meet ICEDIS requirements would be implemented this summer by some publishers.

ONIX for Serials was likely to be extended to cover any type of subscription product (including, for example, e-books) and may need to be rebranded in due course.

3.1.3 ONIX for Licensing Terms and the ACAP project

David Martin stated that the initial format for ONIX for Licensing Terms, ONIX-PL (ONIX for Publication Licences) v1.0 had been released and published, accompanied by OPLE 1.0 the editing tool to support the creation of ONIX-PL encoded licences. More supporting material would also be published on the website with an estimated completion of June 2009. A number of OPLE installations are already in place and the main impetus going forward will be on “closing the circle” to ensure that publishers can send licences and libraries receive them.

The ONIX for IFRRO formats (ONIX-RP and ONIX-DS) are now on a “care and maintenance” footing and initial implementations are underway.

The ACAP project has been running since 2007 and v1.1 of the protocols for usage and web permissions policies for web crawlers (which like v1.0 draws on ONIX for Licensing Terms) is in preparation.

It had been agreed that EDItEUR would provide some services and expertise to the Arrow project (Accessible Registers of Rights Information and Orphan Works towards Europeana) which was also related to communication of rights and permissions information.

3.2 E-commerce message development and maintenance

Celia Burton has been retained by EDItEUR to undertake a review of EDI activities, starting with a questionnaire to ascertain which messages have been implemented, where and how widely they are used. This will be followed by the development of a Roadmap for future developments.

3.2.1 EDItEUR EDIFACT message implementation and maintenance and 3.2.2 EDItX (XML/EDI) progress

A small change to the trade order format for EDItX had been requested by a UK user and a new version had been issued.

An initial request had been received from Germany for a new sales report format. The current (though not recently updated) digital sales format had been reviewed and it had been decided to produce and publish a distinct “sales reporting format”, covering both physical and digital sales reporting. Individual circumstances would dictate which format was most appropriate.

In the area of manufacturer to publisher communication, Peter Kilborn reported that BIC has now published v1.1 of its “advance shipping notice” message. This is available from the BIC website (www.bic.org.uk) and others are welcome to make use of it.

3.2.3 Web Services

Peter Kilborn reported that BIC's web services standards were available from the BIC website. A new version (1.2) of the price and availability standard was about to be published; and work on returns authorisation messages was also under way at the request of Bertrams.

Michael Tamblyn reported interest from BookNet Canada in the implementation of web services.

3.3 Radio Frequency Identification

3.3.1 ISO Working Group on standards for library RFID systems

Brian Green reported that the ISO standard DIS is now with national bodies for voting. As library requirements in this area were irreconcilably different from those of the trade, it had been reluctantly agreed to propose two separate standards.

3.3.2 Working group with GS1 on RFID standards for trade use

Brian Green reported that the standard intended for use by the trade was being prepared in collaboration with EPC/GS1 and would simply carry a serialised ISBN for each item. It was essential that the uniqueness of the number was preserved, and as intermediaries might be managing and inserting tags, it was essential to allow for this possibility in the standard. There was a possible early adopter identified: Wiley in the US were interested in applying RFID to combat pirated copies, re-imports and resale of review copies.

4. Reports on ISO identifier developments

4.1 ISBN

Brian Green reported that there are continuing problems in getting publishers to agree to implement the policy of issuing separate ISBNs for each separate digital format in which a publication is made available. Although it had been proposed that if separate ISBNs were not allocated by the publisher that the distributor could assign ISBNs, it was apparent that some publishers in the US had been putting pressure on intermediaries not to do this. This was creating difficulties, particularly for libraries. A continuing programme of education was essential.

The first prefix within the 979 range had been assigned to France and would probably come into use in the autumn.

In response to a query it was clarified that the .xml file of prefix ranges was currently only on the International Agency development site but could be made available as necessary to interested parties.

It was also reported that an issue had been raised concerning whether and how to assign ISBNs to publications that predated the standard (in the context of the Book Rights Registry). The numbers involved had been estimated by OCLC to be c. 77million in terms of their holdings alone.

4.2. ISTC

Julian Sowa reported that the standard had been published in March 2009 and that the International ISTC Agency had been formed last summer. Registration Agencies would pay a licence fee to the International ISTC Agency. The agencies would be sector and territory independent (registrants would be encouraged to go to their local agency but this would not be mandatory) and there would be a central repository for metadata rather than it being held by each agency. So far, Nielsen and Bowker had been appointed as agencies with further agencies in Germany, The Netherlands and Norway expected to follow shortly. The first ISTCs would be allocated in the next month or so.

4.3 DOI

Paola Mazzucchi gave an update on ISBN-A (the actionable ISBN). The Italian agency has fully implemented this and provides registration services. The metadata workflow is ONIX based. Bowker

have implemented a different business model and estimated that they would be issuing c.9million ISBN-As in the very near future.

4.4 ISNI

Andy Weissberg reported that Bowker has now joined the consortium of OCLC, British Library, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, CISAC, IFRRO. The draft standard is in progress and is due in December. ISNI will identify names including pseudonyms (www.isni.org). Discussions continue about whether the identifier should be paid for or free and how to manage registration.

5. Reports from members and proposals for new work to be undertaken by EDItEUR

It was suggested to consider further suitable mechanisms for accreditation of standards implementation.

6. Any other business

There was no other business.

7. Date and location of future Open Meetings

Open meetings had traditionally been held at the book fairs in London and Frankfurt. In light of the discussion at the meeting it was proposed to hold a third open meeting in 2010 in the US. This would be further investigated with suggestions so far being ALA midwinter, BookExpo America, ALA annual meeting.