ONIX for Serials

Glossary

Definitions of terms used in the documentation of ONIX for Serials

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Chronology
“The date(s) used by the publisher to identify the individual bibliographic unit of a serial version, i.e., the cover date.” (ANSI/NISO Z39.56 - 1996 (R2002) Serial Item and Contribution Identifier (SICI) – available from NISO www.niso.org)

Combined release
A release that combines into a single physical piece or into a single electronic object two or more parts of a serial that normally would have been released separately.

Content hosting system
A system that hosts full-text electronic content, usually searchable, from one or more e-resources from one or more publishers and makes it available to end-users. Includes online hosting services (e.g. MetaPress, HighWire Press), publisher’s own online hosting systems, full-text databases (e.g. ProQuest, EBSCOHost, OCLC Electronic Collections Online), document supply services (e.g. British Library Document Supply Service, Infotrieve). A content hosting system may deliver more than one hosted collection; for example, JSTOR hosts a number of different collections, including the Music Collection, Business Collection, General Science Collection, etc.

Coverage
An extent or scope of content of a serial version, in terms of volumes and issues and/or date ranges.

Coverage statement
An expression of the extent or scope of content of a serial version within a specified context. Depending on the context, a coverage statement might describe all issues ever published, all issues available in a particular collection, all issues included in a particular subscription offer, etc.

Electronic Resource Management System (ERMS)
Enumeration
“The non-chronological scheme used by the publisher to identify the individual bibliographic units of a serial version and to show the relationship of a bibliographic unit to the serial version as a whole.” (ANSI/NISO Z39.56 - 1996 (R2002) Serial Item and Contribution Identifier (SICI) – available from NISO [www.niso.org])

Holdings
The coverage of a serial version owned or licensed for access by an organization.

Hosted collection
A named collection of online resources, on a specified content hosting system, that can be subscribed to as a group, containing content from a number of serial versions from one or more publishers; for example, Project Muse Arts and Humanities Collection. A particular collection may be hosted on more than one content hosting system; for example, PsycARTICLES is hosted on Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, EBSCOhost, OVID, ProQuest, and OCLC FirstSearch, and each of these five combinations of hosting system and collection is considered to be a separate hosted collection. Some online serial versions are available independently of a hosted collection. For example, New England Journal of Medicine (online) may be subscribed to independently of any hosted collection.

Knowledge base
“A store of knowledge about a domain represented in machine-processable form, which may be rules (in which case the knowledge base may be considered a rule base), facts, or other representations.” (www.ichnet.org/glossary.htm). Link-resolver vendors, AtoZ list vendors and ERMS vendors often maintain a knowledge base of information about serial versions, including such information as links to content, coverage information, and administrative and descriptive metadata. Each local implementation of a system may use those portions of the global knowledge base that represent the holdings of the implementing organization.

Online Publisher
An organization that hosts or distributes online content. This may or may not be the same organization as the publisher of the work, and it may or may not have the same name as a content hosting system.

Release
Any part of a serial issued as a discrete physical piece or as a discrete electronic object. A release may be a normal issue (or a volume, for monographic series or sets), or a supplement, or an index, or an individual article; or it may be a combined release.

Serial product, subscription product
An entity that can be subscribed to for a specified price. A product may contain one or more serial versions, representing one or more serial works. Examples of serial products include:
New England Journal of Medicine [print only]
Adult Education Quarterly [print plus online]
Nature Research Package [includes several journals]

Serial version
A particular manifestation of a serial work. For example, New England Journal of Medicine (print), New England Journal of Medicine (online).

Serial work
The intellectual content of a serial publication, often referred to as the “serial title.” For example, New England Journal of Medicine. A serial work may exist in multiple serial versions.

Subscription product
See Serial product