

Music Business Association –  
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# Acronym Salad

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# Identifiers





How many hats?

# Disclaimer

- I do work for several of these systems
- The views expressed here are personal
- Not attributable to my clients or anyone else!
- Believed objective

# Today's Acronym Salad

- ISWC
- ISRC
- ISNI
- ORCID
- ISLI
- GTIN/EAN/UPC
- DOI
- What does it mean
- What does it do
- Who looks after it
- Issues
- What's going on



# ISWC



- International Standard Musical Work Code
- ISO 15707
- Identifies music compositions
- CISAC is registration authority
- National/regional registration agencies
- Well managed, de-duplicated
- Available through web page, no API

# ISWC (cont)



- Concern at time to issue
- ISO revision under way
  - To reflect current process
- CISAC review under way
  - Pressure for more access





INTERNATIONAL STANDARD RECORDING CODE

# ISRC



- International Standard Recording Code
- ISO 3901
- IFPI is registration authority
- National registration agencies (RIAA in US)
- Assigned by users, no technical compliance
- IFPI/SoundExchange portal to codes in circulation
  - Not comprehensive, no API

# ISRC (continued)

- ISO Revision under way
- Fraught: pro- and anti- registry views
- Comments sought by ISO National Member Bodies
- Registration Authority under review
  - ISO seeks comments on issues with current arrangements



# ISNI

- International Standard Name Identifier
- ISO 27729
- Identifies names of creators
- ISNI-IA is registration authority
  - Includes CISAC and SCAPR
  - Note bridge to IPI and IPD
- Several (new) music-focused agencies
- Centrally assigned under library principles

# ISNI (continued)

- Currently data-mined – moving to registration based
- Open database with search API
- Needs more music names
- New registration agencies
  - Iconoclaste
  - ArtistID
  - Numerical Gurus/ISNI-US

ORCID

Connecting Research  
and Researchers

# ORCID

- Open Researcher and Contributor ID
- Publication/grant focused
- Avoids collisions with ISNI
- Not really interoperable
- Relevant to curricular music?





# ISLI

ISLI  
Registration  
Authority



- International Standard Link Identifier
- ISO 17316
- Identifies links between things
- New (2015)
- ICIA (HK Based trade association) is registration authority
- Possible application to work-recording links



# GTIN



- Formerly EAN.UCC
- aka UPC
- Governed by “GS1”
- Local GS1 Offices
- Identifies products in the supply chain
- Compatible with ISBN (books), ISMN (sheet music) and ISSN (periodicals)



# DOI



- Digital Object Identifier
- ISO 26324
- Generic Persistent Identifier
- International DOI Foundation is registration authority
- Applicable to any situation needed resolvable identifiers

# DOI (continued)



- Existing agencies include:
  - Crossref – scholarly publications
  - Office of Publications – EU documents
  - EIDR – movie/TV industry media
- Tentative application to Biology specimens
- Tentative proposal for ISRC overlay
  - Optional registration to make ISRC resolvable

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