

REPORT TO CDNL 2005

1 . ISSN : the Network and the Register (December 2004)

- 76 Member Countries
- 1,159,384 records
- + 33,559 records
- 26,131 electronic resources

2 . Issues of relevance to CDNL

a) ISSN Standard revision

The ISSN standard (ISO 3297) is under revision.

A working group (ISO/TC46/SC9/WG5) was set up within ISO/TC46/SC9 in October 2003 to work towards this revision. The CD is being prepared and should be distributed for comments to SC9 members at the end of October 2005.

The working group includes representatives from the publishing world (Elsevier, Wiley, Periodical Publishers Association, EDItEUR), subscription agents (ASA, Swets), other standards (ISBN, ISTC, ISWC, DOI, OpenURL), standardization organizations (AFNOR, ISO/TC46/SC9), collecting societies (CISAC), Crossref, Bowker, EAN International, and the Library and ISSN Network communities.

The main change regards the definition of a new and additional function for the ISSN system, enabling to group (or "collocate") the various media versions of a publication through a mechanism called the "collocating number"¹. This new function comes in addition to the present function of the ISSN system, which enables to differentiate between various media versions of a resource. This new function answers needs very strongly expressed by the members of the Working Group, who wish to use the ISSN at those two different levels of identification. An update on this point will be provided.

An informational annex will be added to the standard, regarding the "best practices" for using ISSN in relation with Open URL and as DOI suffixes.

Web site : <http://www.lac-bac.gc.ca/iso/tc46sc9/wg5.htm>.

b) New formats and new tools for ISSN users

Following the implementation of the ISSN Portal (a completely new computer system) at the ISSN International Centre, UNIMARC and MARC21 are now processed by the system, and can be provided to the users of the ISSN Register.

XML formats (ONIX for Serials, Dublin Core - OAI profile and ISSN profile - MODS, MARCXML) are now also implemented.

The ISSN Portal is accessible on the Web and through the Z 39.50 protocol; it implements OpenURL (source and target).

ISSN National Centres have started implementing and using the client part of the software, which enables to run the usual functions of an ISSN National Centre.

c) Broadening of the ISSN Network

Some countries still do not have a National ISSN Centre. The National Libraries of these countries are strongly encouraged to host the ISSN National Centre, and should not hesitate to contact the ISSN International centre (tel: (33) 1 44 88 22 20, fax (33) 1 40 26 32 43, e-mail issnic@issn.org).

¹ Wording not definitely fixed at the time this report is written

Ms Françoise Pellé
Director
ISSN International Centre
France

Address (please print): 20 rue Bachaumont, 75002 PARIS, France

Telephone and fax details: Tel : (33) 1 44 88 22 20, Fax : (33) 1 40 26 32 43